

# BRIDGING THE GAP

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS CHURCH OF GOD

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**Sunday, October 29, 2006, will be Friend Day.**

It will be "A CELEBRATION OF FRIENDS YOUR FRIEND WON'T WANT TO MISS!"

The purpose of this special day is to invite and bring friends to our morning worship service for a time of celebrating and strengthening friendships. People you may wish to invite include family members, other relatives, friends at work, neighbors, social contacts, friends at school, new people in the community and business friends and acquaintances.

Remember, the success of this day depends upon the initiative and dedication of each person in our church family. Your participation is needed to make this an exciting experience in building friendship.

## GOALS OF BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY:

1. To encourage each member of the congregation to bring a friend to Sunday Morning worship service.
2. To increase the morning worship attendance on this special day. OUR GOAL IS 200!
3. To provide an opportunity for friends to find answers to their needs.
4. To renew the spiritual enthusiasm for reaching out to our friends and relatives.

## SPECIAL SPEAKER FOR FRIEND DAY!

John O'Leary will be our guest speaker. John's life is proof of the power of the human spirit. As a nine-year-old, he was burned over 100% of his body and given less than one percent chance of surviving the first night. He endured months in the hospital, surgeries, years in therapy, and the lost all of his fingers to amputation. Despite the odds, John overcame these challenges to achieve many successes in life. He is a college graduate, runs his own real-estate development company, works as a chaplain at a children's hospital, began a non-profit organization created to spawn volunteer opportunities throughout the community, is active in the Big Brothers, Big Sisters Program, and is a professional speaker. John views balance of home and work crucial to any real achievement. He considers his greatest successes to be his marriage to his wife, Beth, the birth of their first child, Jack, and the relationships they enjoy with their family and friends.

**WE ARE ALL CALLED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS!**

PLEASE HELP TO REACH OUR GOAL OF 200 IN OUR MORNING SERVICE ON THIS SPECIAL DAY. START NOW INVITING YOUR FRIENDS!

Enjoy The Journey,  
Pastor Clayton

### Fall Change of Dates for Fresh Services!

Saturday Night "Fresh" Services are now moving to Sunday nights beginning Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. The October dates will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. November dates to be announced. The 'Fresh' Saturday evening services have been very successful. They have been exciting and very well attended. We have had several visitors outside the church as well. Denise did a wonderful job of leading the worship and has now returned to college. We will be using some music from DVDs with lyrics. The services, atmosphere, and dress are causal. This is a great opportunity to reach more people in our community. Bring a friend or two! I am continuing a series of life applications learned while in Nicaragua. I have spoken on sending, touching, discipleship, and prayer so far. If you haven't been to a service yet, please make time to come and see. 'Fresh' service will continue at 6:00 pm. on announced Sunday evenings this fall and winter. It is amazing how God works in our services. We have people of all ages attending from one year old to eighty plus years so don't miss a service!

Pastor Brian

### SERMON OUTLINES FOR OCTOBER 2006

#### October 1

MORNING SERVICE: Pastor Clayton  
He is my King!  
Children's Moments by Pastor Brian

EVENING SERVICE:

Fresh Service  
Pastor Brian

#### October 8

MORNING SERVICE: Pastor Clayton  
Refilled after Failure!  
Children's Moments by Pastor Clayton

EVENING SERVICE:  
Basic Training by Pastor Clayton

#### October 15

MORNING SERVICE: Pastor Clayton  
Spiritual Hiding – God Don't Look at Me!  
Children's Moments by Pastor Brian

EVENING SERVICE:  
Basic Training by Pastor Clayton

#### October 22

MORNING SERVICE: Youth Sunday

EVENING SERVICE:  
Fresh Service  
Pastor Brian

#### October 29 Friend Day 2006 Goal 200 people

MORNING SERVICE: Guest Speaker  
John O'Leary  
Children's Moments Hand Bells

EVENING SERVICE:  
Basic Training by Pastor Clayton

### Board of Trustees

The Board is currently writing a financial policy and procedure manual for the church. As we complete certain items, we will publish them here in the newsletter. Please find attached the policy for Scholarships at Church of God Colleges and Universities.

Candy Niemeyer, Treasurer

## Fish Fry October 14

**Men 4 Him** are holding a Fish Fry from 4:30 to 7:00 pm Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Fish or hot dogs, fries, coleslaw, bread, coffee or soda will be served. Cost will be \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children under the age of ten.

## News and Views: Senior Adult Bible Class

Congratulations to Larry and Gwen Campbell on celebrating 29 years of married life. Gwen said it was the best 29 years of her life. Larry mumbled something, but we didn't really understand what he said. Just kidding! They're a lovely couple and a blessing to our church.

Ivan and Norma are looking at taking another trip on the River Barge Explorer. It would include a venture down the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. The landscape is very beautiful at this time of year.

Edna Mae announced her sister and brother-in-law are settled in after moving from Washington State to the Southern Illinois region. She is looking forward to being with her sister and doing a lot of shopping and general catching up. It's not finalized yet, but Edna Mae is looking forward to moving down in that same area. We haven't taken a vote to allow such a move but maybe reluctantly we will.

We were sorry to hear of Stella losing one of her large trees in a recent storm.

Larry was telling us he was interviewed by a reporter from radio station KMOX at a restaurant he and Gwen frequent. The reporter was interested when Larry told him he worked in a coal mine and was also an insurance salesman. The interview was on the radio twice during days broadcast. We let him sit at the front of the class after that. Also, Larry had some health tests done recently and they all came out just fine. As we all know, prayer does change things. We are rejoicing with him.

Stella, Larry and Gwen attended a SWIC luncheon on Friday, Sept. 15, 2006. Stella received her 5 year service pin. All three work in the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. They are also great workers in our church.

We were very happy to have Sylvia Davis (Norma's sister) in our class. She wanted to know if she could bring her little dog, Ginger to

Sunday School. Just kidding! She is real cutie though, loves kids.

We are happy that three from our class will be walking in the Mission Walk on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month. If you can't walk, please sponsor someone who is.

Our new quarter's Sunday School lessons are based on God's covenant relationships with Old Testament characters beginning with Noah and Abraham. A primary focus is on how God used both individuals and groups to the unfolding of His covenant program. The blessing of a covenant relationship with God comes only to those who are willing to obey Him, even when His directions appear to defy human logic. As the song says, "Trust and Obey, for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to Trust and Obey." Amen and Amen. It's an eye opening experience to see just what the Lord has in store for them that love Him. The key is that little word *Obey*.

Yet the competition for our allegiance is fierce! We know all too well of the constant and intense pressures to listen to other voices beside the Lord's. Thus the challenge rings out across the centuries to confront us in our time. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15 Let's always be sure of our priorities. God bless.

**Be Kind to the Coffee:**

A sign in a large self-serve coffee urn in a café reads: Please Don't laugh at our coffee. You may be old and weak yourself someday!

Ivan DeHart, Teacher

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

## Youth Group

Jim and I are having a wonderful time getting to know the young people of the church. Based on our meetings, we have learned that they have many questions about other worldviews that they are encountering thru their friends at school. We

are going to be looking at what those views believe so that they (the youth) can give a reason for why as a Christian they believe differently. We will be looking at several worldviews including Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodox, Judaism, Islam, Mormonism, Jehovah Witness, Wicca, and New Age. We would appreciate your prayers as we continue to meet with this group. They have very deep and challenging questions for us and I have already started doing research in order to answer them.

The Youth Group, R.O.C.K and Jr. Church will be in charge of the a.m. service on Oct. 22. We are excited to tell you about what each of these ministries is doing in the church and all of the young people will be participating in some way during that service. I will be speaking that Sunday as well about the youth culture of today and some of the ways that the Church can best minister to them.

We want to thank Marshall and Phyllis Field who hosted a combine Youth/Rock Family Picnic at their home on Sept 24<sup>th</sup>. They provided wonderful food, games and a place fellowship. They had volleyball, croquet, washers, and hillbilly golf. The hit seem to be the swing on rope tied from a big tree in the back yard with many of them trying to see how high they could go. Thanks so much!!!

Jim and I will also be attending a Youth Leader Workshop in St. Louis next month as well. It is being sponsored by the same folks that develop Faithweavers material and we are looking forward to learning more about Youth Leadership.

Jim and Candy Niemeyer, Youth Leaders

## Nicaragua

The highlight of my mission trip to Nicaragua was Meeting Pastor Guillermo in Jinotepe. He is the first person to start a Church of God (Anderson IN) in Nicaragua. What an exciting man! I may not speak Spanish, but I could feel his passion

for the people of Nicaragua and for God. The things he has accomplished in fifteen months are nothing short of a miracle. No person can do it by himself. Pastor Guillermo started with Bible studies. Then he bought ground, built a church, a parsonage, and a fellowship hall all while tending to the needs of the community. Pastor Guillermo is already going to Granada, a nearby town, and leading Bible studies in anticipation of starting another church there.

I asked what we (Dave Pollard and I) could do to help him. Pastor Guillermo has found a house to rent in Granada for \$100 a month. He would like to rent it and move somebody in to start that church. We took a leap of faith and told him we would cover it. I truly believe that this man could be the person to start numerous churches in Nicaragua. If a man is doing the will of God and doing it in a mighty way, how can we not do everything we can for him? We initially need \$1200 to rent a house for a year. We also will need money to support a pastor, start a church building, and to send three cases of Bibles (soft cover Spanish text) to give to converts for home use. If you would like to be part of the evangelism outreach through Pastor Guillermo, you can make donations through the NiCE foundation (Bill & Shirley Beltz).

I would like to learn enough Spanish so that I may sit and talk with the Pastor better on my next visit. Yes, there will be more visits. I was thinking about it; at first I was called a Men's Pastor, then Youth Pastor, now Associate Pastor. Does this mean I will be called a Mission Pastor if I continue to speak of the mission field? I couldn't think of a better title. We are all working on a mission field. My prayer your mission field is for the Lord.

Pastor Brian

## FaithWeaver Friends

To God be the glory! We started with 12 children and we now have 21 enrolled! Praise God! We have been growing and learning together. I am so proud of all the workers and children God has

called to be a part of his program. The meals are also going great. Thank you Brenda and Ruth! If anyone would like to help please let them know! Remember we eat at 6 until 6:30 and clear up so we can start on time at 6:45.

Please be sure to continue to support our food pantry. We can help so many with just a little. If you have any questions, just ask! Thank you for your support and prayers.

One Who Praises God,  
Carmen Hamilton

## Five Finger Prayer

1. [Your thumb](#) is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a "sweet duty."
2. The [next finger](#) is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The [next finger](#) is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.
4. The [fourth finger](#) is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly comes our [little finger](#) - the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you." Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

## R.O.C.K. Cries Out!

Hello church friends! R.O.C.K. wants you to know we are here and busy. We had a great time at Marshall and Phyllis Field's home Sunday. (By the way, it was Marshall's birthday.) We had a great time. We ate wonderful home cooked food; the meal was great. We played games such as volleyball, sack swing, croquet, hillbilly golf, washers, baseball, and lots of neat outdoor things. We created chalk pictures, stuffed a scarecrow, and threw walnuts. What fun. Thanks to Matt, David, Brian, and Benjamin for pushing us all day long. A big heartfelt thanks goes out to our hosts for a wonderful party (even if we had to bring our parents).

We have really comfortable chairs in our church room and like hanging out there just talking. We have learned some, but we like the fun stuff the best.

We have plans made for the rest of the year: In October we are going to have a fall party at the Pollards; In November we will be hanging out at the Fullers; In December we are going to Rosewood Care Center to sing and visit with our friends there; and in January we are planning a mission project that we will need help from our church family to do.

R.O.C.K. (Rally Our Christian Kids) is a cool place to hang. Our group is for children 8 to 11 years old. Feel free to stop by anytime. (We love candy!)

Carol Pollard

**Walk for Missions** was Saturday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> at Longacre Park. At newsletter deadline time, we had 27 people signed up to walk! They are: Kim, Caycee, Hannah and Carrie Brooks, Diane and Christine Taylor, Alysia Ball, Gwen Campbell, Jayn and Jennifer Willeford, Matt Cain, Austin and Caitlyn Barnes, Ruth and Warren Pope, Candy Niemeyer, Carolyn Eilers, Jody Jackson, Phyllis Field, Adam and Shannon Peiffer, Megan Hamilton, Belinda Floyd, Pastor Clayton, Floyd Whittom, Alisa Eskridge-Vaughn and Stella Simms. We are still accepting donations and would appreciate your support. Thank you.

Stella Sims