

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV) <sup>5</sup> Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you-unless, of course, you fail the test?

If we were to examine the context of the above verse, it becomes clear that the Christians in Corinth must have been closely observing the apostle Paul and testing him to see if his message lined up with his actions and deeds. Here, he turns the tables suggesting that each one of them ought to examine their own hearts to make sure they are living in the faith. As 2017 comes to a close, we all might benefit from examining our walk with the Lord.

What are some ways that we can examine ourselves to see whether we are in the faith? Scripture offers us some good suggestions. Do you have the witness of the Holy Spirit in your heart (Romans 8:9, 16)? Do you love your brothers and sisters in Christ (1 John 3:14)? Do you practice righteousness (1 John 2:29, 3:9)? Do you live in the world but not of it (1 John 5:4)? Do you forgive others as God has forgiven you (Colossians 3:13)? Do you love God above all others (Deuteronomy 6:5)? Are you experiencing the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)? Do you experience peace that transcends all understanding? (John 14:27)? These are just a few of the "tests" or reminders of what God wants us to be in Christ!

Remember, it is by faith that we are saved, and this not by our own works or effort. The above list is not meant to discourage us or make us think that we need to try harder, but these things are found as we press into Christ Jesus through prayer, meditation on the Word and placing our faith in Him. In the coming New Year, may we continue to praise our Lord and walk in His power, provision, promises and love. As 2017 becomes history and we step into 2018, may we be found in the faith and passing the test of faith! Have a blessed New Year FBCG! Love to all, PC



Fusion January Newsletter

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Happy New Year! 2018 is here! We pray everyone had a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. We have some changes coming up in FBC including a change in our website information. Please be sure to check the FBC webpage calendar for youth events, or you can visit our Fusion Youth Ministry Facebook group and stay up to date that way. We also send out text messages and emails so please make sure you give us your information in person or on a permission form so we can communicate events, changes and things of that nature. We look forward to this year ahead!

Upcoming Fusion events for January, February, and March:

#### January

Jan 1st: Dead-line sign-up for Bowling

Jan 6th: Baptism class 9am-11:30am

Jan 7th: FUSION birthday/game night 6pm-8pm

Jan 14th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

#### Jan 15th: FUSION BOWLING NIGHT 6:30-8:30pm

#### Jan 21st: FUSION PARENTS MEETING

#### Jan 21st: FUSION 6pm-8pm

Jan 25th: Youth Sunday practice 6pm-8pm

Jan 26th: Youth Sunday practice 6pm-8pm

Jan 27th: Youth Sunday practice 9:30am-11:30am (lunch afterwards for students involved)

#### Jan 28th: YOUTH SUNDAY !!! NO FUSION

Jan 28th: Snow tubing sign-up deadline

#### February

Feb 4th: NO FUSION (Superbowl Sunday)

Feb 4th: High school retreat sign-up deadline

Feb 9th: FUSION snow tubing night @ ski liberty 6:45pm-9pm

Feb 11th: FUSION birthday/game night 6pm-8pm

Feb 18th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

Feb 25th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

#### March

Mar 2nd-3rd: High School Retreat (Planet Wisdom)

For more information about these events please find us on Facebook at Fusion Youth Ministry, check out our Fusion Youth table in the youth building, or see Pastor Matt.





#### MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE -

#### **VOLUNTEER IN AWANA**

Children look forward to AWANA all week! It's where they hear the gospel and learn the Bible in a fun setting, complete with games, theme nights, and special events. But AWANA can't happen without dedicated volunteers who serve each week. Volunteers make all the difference in these children's lives.

Whether you like to teach, be a listener, work with kids, play with puppets or keep records, we have a place for you. One thing is for sure – you will have fun!

#### Help us reach more kids with the gospel!

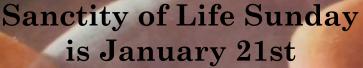
At FBC, AWANA is held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm September 6-April 11.

\*\*\* To volunteer or for further information, please contact Neil Tate at 717-226-7378, Melanie Tate at 717-515-0591, or mntate90@gmail.com. \*\*\*

[Volunteers are cleared to work with children and youth].







# FBC Wild Game DINNER

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th @ 5:30

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GETTYSBURG 1015 CHAMBERSBURG RD 717-334-2564 Guest speaker Steve Sorenson



Great Food! Great Fellowship DOOR PRIZES & MORE! BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

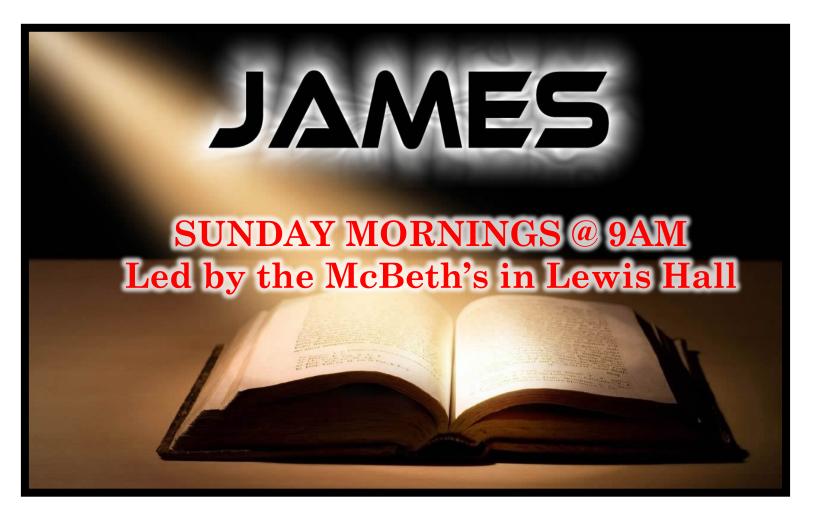
Steve Sorenson received the 2015 "Pinnacle" Award from the Professional Outdoor Media Association. Sorensen won the NRA "Best of the Best" Award for Outdoor Writing!

> Dave Poe will be teaching a 6 week bible study beginning on Sunday, February 18th @ entitled



#### NEW TESTAMENT STUDY

#### Take a walk through the New Testament on Sunday mornings @ 9 am. Wanda Gallimore leads this study.





Youth snow tubing ~ Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> ~ 7-9 pm @ Liberty Mountain ~ PERMISSION SLIPS DUE ON JANUARY 28TH

#### PLEASE KEEP OUR HAITI TEAM IN PRAYER

THE FBC HAITI TEAM WILL BE LEAVING ON JANUARY 18 AND RETURNING ON JANUARY 26. PRAY FOR HEALTH, SAFE TRAVEL, PROTECTION AND FOR LIVES TO BE CHANGED. KEEP THIS TEAM LIFTED UP IN PRAYER THROUGH THE WEEK.







A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Have you been having a feeling or desire to get involved, be part of something bigger, or to be used by God, but teaching just isn't your thing? We are looking for individuals who have a heart to help the less fortunate, who can bring structure, organizational skills, planning, ideas, and creativity to the ministry of Operation Christmas Child in our area! There will be a planning meeting on January 21, and we need all hands on deck to start planning for the new year. If you are feeling God's tug on your heart to become involved with this incredible, life changing ministry, please follow the Holy Spirits leading and come to the meeting after the second service in the back of the sanctuary. We are one body in Christ and every part is just as vital as the next!

"A must read for anyone who wants to know what's going on in this world today!" DR. TDM LAHAYE, beinelling coasthor of the Left Behind write.

> A Complete Overview of Bible Prophecy and the End of Days

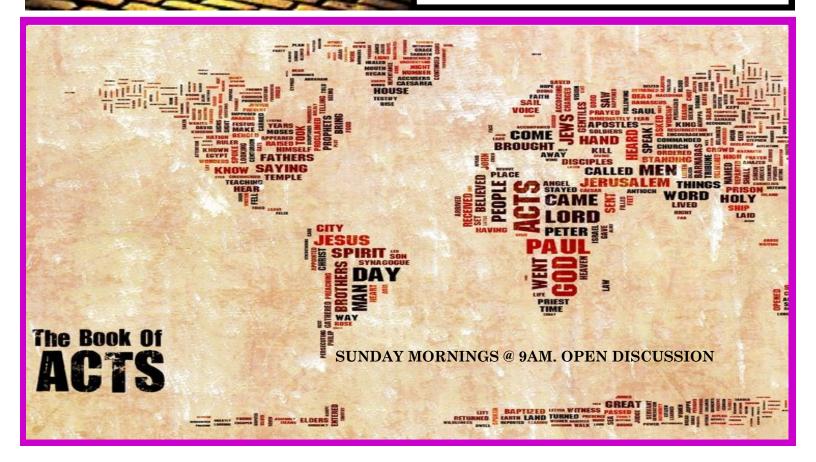


#### MARK HITCHCOCK

#### Sunday Mornings 10:30AM

This new study takes you through the prophecies foretelling the end times.

Led by: Mark Punchard



#### A Note from Cindy Rice...

Dear First Baptist Church,

I just want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, meals, phone calls, and visits. I am so thankful to God for the improvement I have seen in my health, and for the doctors He provided to help me. I had my gallbladder removed last spring, and after surgery developed a colon infection. Over the 8 1/2 months of illness, I lost over 40 pounds, became malnourished, and lost most of my muscle. The infection would not clear after 2 tries with the correct antibiotic, so they decided to try another medication (not made for this problem) as a last ditch effort, mixed with the probiotic Florastor. By God's grace, this seems to be working. It clearly showed me that God's hand was in it, using the off-label medication that was not designed for this infection to help me. I am now trying to rebuild my nutrition and muscle, with God's direction and help.

God says, "Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10) Brian and I have been amazed at God's grace, strength, help, and encouragement. We learned so much more about His promises and His faithfulness in keeping them during this difficult time. He says, "I will not leave you nor forsake you." (Joshua 1:5c), and "Praise the Lord; praise God our savior! For each day he carries us in his arms." (Ps. 68:19). We felt His presence with us during this 8 1/2 months, many time we felt that He carried us in His loving arms. He knows the entire situation so much better than we do, and His timing is perfect, allowing what is best for us and conforming us to the image of His Son. We are so thankful to God for everything that He brought us through and for His healing, His love, and His faithfulness through it all. All thanks, glory, honor, and praise be to God!

In Christ,

Cindy Rice



#### Life Together Groups Spring 2018

W] W]	HO: HAT: HERE: HEN:	Bob and Shirley Smith Multiple topics, call for availability 528-4348 Smith's home - 640 Buttonwood Rd. York Springs Sunday nights 6:30 - 8:30pm
W W	HO: HAT: HERE: HEN:	Kevin and Mary Ann Filler Abundant Living in the End Times Thomas home - 320 Montclair Rd. Gettysburg Sunday nights 6:30-8pm
W W	/HO : /HAT: /HERE: /HEN:	Van and Kristen Weber Book of Romans; study the Roman road to salvation Weber home - 71 Regiment Dr. Gettysburg Wednesday nights 6:30-8:pm
W W	/HO: /HAT: /HERE: /HEN:	Pastor Carl Men's Bible study of the book of Hebrews FBC Music Room Thursday mornings 5:30-7pm
V	VHO: VHAT: VHERE:	Wanda Gallimore Women's Bible study titled "Deeper Still" Gallimore home - 85 Apple Way Rd. Gettysburg

Every other Thursday 12-2:00pm

WHO: Pastor Carl
WHAT: Bible study on the book of Judges
WHERE: FBC Music Room
WHEN: Thursday mornings 9:30 - 11am

WHEN:



#### CAM (College Age Ministry) January Newsletter

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope"

Happy New Year! It is great to have everyone back home for a bit, and those who could not come home for a visit, we miss and will continue to pray for. The discussions, questions, statements and laughs with this group are amazing and we feel blessed to be able to invest into this age. Below are upcoming events and happenings for CAM so check 'em out!

Jan 1st: NO CAM (New years day)

Jan 8th: CAM 6:30pm-8pm

Jan 15th: NO CAM (fusion bowling night, CAM moved to Tuesday that week)

Jan 16th: CAM 6:30pm-8pm

Jan 22nd: Help at Bethel Food Pantry 4pm-7pm

Jan 29th: CAM 6:30pm-8pm

Feb 5th: CAM 6:30pm-8pm

Feb 12th: CAM 6:30pm-8pm

Feb 19th: CAM 6:30pm-8pm

Feb 26th: Help at Bethel Food Pantry 4pm-7pm

If you are in college or age 18-25yrs old, please feel free to come see myself, Faith, JR and Robin Crushong, or Jaime and Rick Rivera to get plugged in to our Monday evening bible study (currently studying Chip Ingram's *Overcoming Emotions that Destroy*) and our Sunday morning class, or find us on the CAM Facebook page.

Pastor Matt & Faith :)

# amazonsmile

Whenever you make a purchase online, you can automatically donate money to Sonshine Preschool. This service doesn't cost you anything and your purchases remain private. When you're ready to make a purchase, visit **smile.amazon.com** instead of www.amazon.com. The price will be exactly the same. When prompted to choose a charity, choose **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GETTYSBURG.** After that, for every purchase you make, Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to Sonshine. What a great way to support our preschool as they purpose to teach children about the love of God.

## Can you guess the hymn?

Answer on last page

The Foxes found rest, and the birds their nest In the shade of the forest tree, But thy couch was the sod, O Thou Son of God In the deserts of Galilee. O come to my heart Lord Jesus: There is room in my heart for Thee!

# Reach Out! Dost Card.

It's always nice to receive a card or a phone call when you're going through a difficult time. Below are some of our members who would benefit from a call, card, or visit. Place the Stamp Here One Cent for United States, and Island Possessions, Cuba, Canada and Mexico. Two Cents For Foreign.

Linda Punchard 80 Maple Ave Gettysburg, PA Phone # 334-8672 Brenda Perrey 51 Robert Curtis Dr. Gettysburg, PA Phone # 752-9769 Wanda Miller - 15 Autumn Dr. Gettysburg, PA Phone # 487-2569 Cathy Hertz 2370 Mummasburg Rd Gettysburg, PA Phone # 339-8283 J.R. Crushong - 735 Fairview Fruit Rd. Gettysburg, PA Phone # 968-9689 Danise Kelly -1760 Shriver's Co. Rd Gettysburg, PA Phone # 717-778-8712 Brian Happel -235 Longstreet Dr. Gettysburg, PA Phone # 443-789-8005



FBC has several ministries that are need of volunteers. There is our Prayer & Fasting Calendar where once or twice a month, you pray (at home, work, wherever) and fast for our church. Fasting can be from food, tv, cellphones, etc..). Another way to serve is through our Worship Service Intercessors Calendar. Once every three months or so, you would be asked to pray for our service while it's happening. You can pray from your seat! Please contact Arla McBeth if you feel led to be part of this vital ministry.



FBC is also in need of **Greeters and Nursery workers**. Greeters are often the first faces that people see coming in on Sunday morning. Often that first impression is what determines if someone comes back. A friendly face and a handshake is all you will need! Nursery workers allow young moms to sit in church and hear the Word uninterrupted. This is often the only time a mom gets to worship. Both of these ministries are so valuable and both of these ministries should be strong and healthy. If interested, please see Ellen Van Arsdale

#### Sweet Hour of Prayer Sweet Hour L. M. D.

-Port

W. B. BRADBURY, 1816-1868



And

W. W. WALFORD

On the first Sunday of every month, a small group gathers together for a special time of prayer. Prayer time begins directly after the second service and meets in the library (Kim's office). Come out and join us as we purpose to pray for our world, our country, our town and our church. Our next meeting will be on January

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# **SUNDAY, JANUARY 7th AT 6PM**

#### The Bible Has The Answer

On Wednesday, December 6, 2017, President Trump declared that the United States would recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, not Tel Aviv. Our nation will over the next few years move our embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

This declaration stirred up a hornets nest. The Palestinians, true to form, took to throwing rocks at the Israeli soldiers who had nothing to do with it. Many other groups of people took to the streets to protest this decision. We saw this in Cairo, Lebanon, the West Bank and the Gaza strip among others.

What President Trump was doing was following through on The Jerusalem Embassy Act passed by congress on October 23, 1995. This act declared Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and ordered the U.S. Embassy to be moved from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by no later than May 31,1999. It had a stipulation allowing the president to issue a waiver every 6 months to keep the embassy in Tel Aviv if he determines it is necessary to protect the national security interests of the United States.

I feel it may be helpful for us to understand why Jerusalem is the center of so much controversy over the last 3,000 years. Most of my information will be taken from a book by David Hunt, a Christian apologist. He also wrote the screen play for "A Time to Run," a Christian film produced by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. The title of the book is "A Cup of Trembling, Jerusalem and Bible Prophecy."

I also have used *Jerusalem Countdown* by John Hagee for some other information. He tells in his book of his invitation to Washington D.C. to discuss the Roadmap for Peace in the Middle-East with Condolezza Rice and other national leaders. When he asked what they were going to do about Jerusalem, he was told that "Jerusalem is too controversial" and that it would not even be put on the table for discussion. The real reason for all the controversy is the desire of the Arab nations to destroy Israel. We know from Scripture that will never happen, because the Jews are God's chosen people (Exodus 6:6,7, Deut. 14:2, Isaiah 41:8, Psalm 135:4).

This is the city where Solomon built his temple; at one time, it was one of the 7 wonders of the world. It was the location that the prophets Jeremiah and Isaiah preached moral and spiritual principles to the nations of the world.

Jerusalem is mentioned in Scripture 811 times. It is called the City of David 40 times. It is never mentioned in the Koran, yet according to the Muslims it is their 3<sup>rd</sup> most important religious site after Mecca and Medina. In fact no Arab ruler or Islamic leader every made it the object of a religious pilgrimage. It is sacred to the Jews, Christians and Muslims.

According to *The Jewish Press*, the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) reports that Jews make up only about 0.2% of the world's population. Compare this with 33% fo Christians, 24% for Muslim, 14% for Hindus and 6% for Buddhists. There are at least one billion (14%) people who do not ascribe to any religion at all. Just an observation, but based on this report, two-thirds of the world does not know Jesus, and time is running out. We have our work cut out for us to share the gospel while it is yet day before the night comes when no one can work (John 9:4).

Look at all the invaders that interrupted the Jews love affair with Jerusalem. Over the centuries some of their conquerors have been the Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Seleucids, Romans, Muslim Arabs, Crusaders, and the Ottoman and British Empires.

According to Scripture the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites from Jerusalem (Judges 1:21). Joshua 15:63 says the children of Judah could not drive out the Jebusites from Jerusalem. However, in 2 Samuel 5:7 we read that David took the Jebusites stronghold of Zion (another name for Jerusalem), the same is the city of David. David conquered Jerusalem 3,000 years ago. He made it his capital, and it has been the capital of Israel ever since.

God says in the Bible that He has chosen Jerusalem that His name might be there (2 Chronicles 6:6, 7:16 and 33:7). David writes in the Psalm 132:13 that God has chosen Jerusalem. In Psalm 137:5 God says "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. Psalm 48:8 says God will establish Jerusalem forever. Solomon calls Jerusalem the city God has chosen (I Kings 8:44).

"During the Diaspora, wherever the Jews found themselves on the face of the earth, they prayed for the return to Zion, the biblical synonym for Jerusalem." Wherever they built their synagogues, they were built facing Jerusalem. "When they built a house they would leave part of a wall unfinished, symbolizing the fact that it was a temporary dwelling – until the owner could return to Jerusalem."

David Hunt writes," there are cities in today's world which are renowned because of their strategic location, their great size, their climate, natural resources or their industrial and manufacturing capability and capacity. Yet Jerusalem has none of these advantages to commend it." But there is no city better known or more dearly loved by so many people...."There is not a city of greater importance to world peace."

Jerusalem was last destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Roman army under Titus. It has been under the control of different nations 46 times over the years. It will be taken over again one more time during the Tribulation period (see Zech.12:3) which will fulfill another prophecy of Jerusalem being trodden down by the gentiles until Jesus' second coming (Luke 21:24).

An interesting event occurred during World War I with Jerusalem. The British General Edmund Allenby in June of 1917 was asked to capture Jerusalem by Christmas of that year. The night before the battle, General Allenby, a believer prayed that he could take the city without destroying the holy places. He had wired London for instructions and received a Scripture verse as a reply; "As birds flying, so will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also He will deliver it; and passing over He will preserve it (Isaiah 31:5)."

He read this Scripture verse to his troops and on December 10, 1917 with every available plane they took to the air and dropped leaflets saying, "surrender immediately, you don't have a prayer." The planes were hidden by clouds so all you heard was their noise. What the General didn't know was that the Turks believed in an old prophecy that they would never lose the Holy City until "a man of Allah came to deliver it." According to reports, the signature of Allenby on the leaflets was interpreted to mean the words in Arabic, "son of Allah." Figuring the son of Allah asked them to surrender they hoisted a white flag without firing a single shot.

Zechariah 2:12 calls Judah "The Holy Land," the only time in Scripture it is found. It also says God will choose Jerusalem ( the same as Zechariah 1:17).

God's hand is on Jerusalem. We know from reading Revelation 21 and 22 that Jesus, when He comes back, will rule from the New Jerusalem. The Bible tells us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).

According to Zechariah 12:2-8, God will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone to the nations of the world. He also will defend Jerusalem from their enemies.

What makes no sense is that the Jews are outnumbered by the Muslims almost 100 to 1, yet they are considered a threat to peace. Dave Hunt writes that when the next war breaks out it will be over this seemingly insignificant capital of one of earth's tiniest countries. An incredible prophecy is indeed being fulfilled before our eyes!

Hunt points out that without the Bible, one cannot possibly make any sense of human history. It is the God of the Bible who alone gives purpose and meaning to His creation, and He has decreed that Israel will play a key role in His plan. Jerusalem is where God chose to place His name and for which He will have the last word. Like it or not, the whole world finds itself caught in the grip of that choice.

Keep Looking Up!!!

Mark Punchard Sr.

# January



Clotaire Celius - 1 Mike Hoepfl - 3 Cathy Hertz- 4 Marshall Parsons - 4 Sharon Sheagren - 4 Cooper Rivera - 5 Dan Cortina -5 Kathy Negro -6 Bethie Celius -8 Jerry Slater - 16 Landon Harrison -16 Helen Stonesifer -18

Sue Stockman - 18 Tyler Holtzopple -18 Matt Reiter -20 Norris Flowers - 22 Tony Gipe -22 Zach Carter - 26 Hope Hess -23 Judy Giorno -25 Joy Flinn -27 Abby Hirneisen - 29 Lucille Smith -29



# plug in & serve





#### **MISSION: TO CELEBRATE MOTHERHOOD**

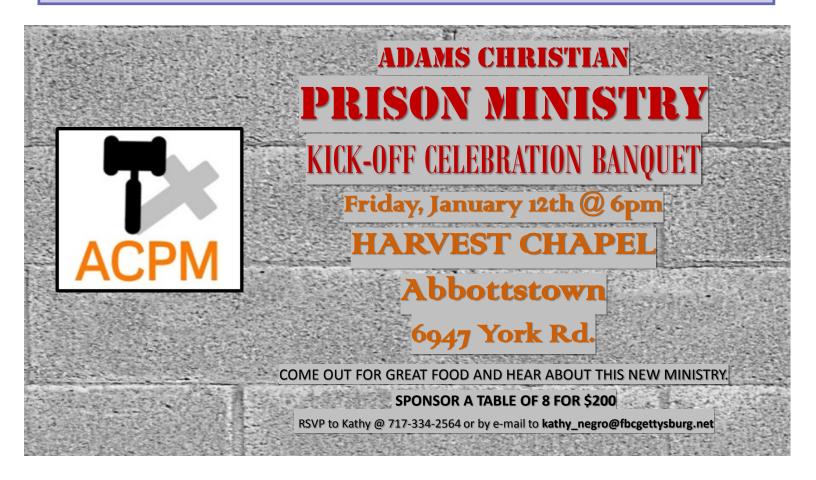
# Meet together to laugh, cry and embrace the journey of being a mom.

All meetings include childcare for under 3 and participation in AWANA for 3-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

MEETINGS BEGIN WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17 FROM 6-8 AT FBC

#### BAPTISM CLASSES...COMING SOON

Shirley Smith will be offering a baptism class for children ages 6-11 on *Saturday, January 6 from 9 -11am.* Matt Rice will be offering a baptism class on the same day and time for youth ages 12-18. If you are interested in these classes, please contact either Shirley or Matt. There will be a baptismal service on *Sunday, January 14, 2018* during our contemporary service.



#### **Our Ministry Team**

Senior Pastor Rev. Carl G. Harris pastorcarl@fbcgettysburg.net

Youth Pastor Pastor Matt Rice pastormatt@fbcgettysburg.net

Director of Music Stephanie Punchard spunchard@fbcgettysburg.net

Secretary Kathy Negro kathy\_negro@fbcgettysburg.net

Administrative Assistant Kim Gipe kim\_gipe@fbcgettysburg.net

SonShine Christian Preschool sonshine@fbcgettysburg.net

> Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Mailing Address: First Baptist Church 1015 Chambersburg Road Gettysburg, PA 17325

> Telephone: 717-334-2564 717-334-7721

**<u>Fax:</u>** 717-334-6711

CHECK OUR WEB SITE www.fbcgettysburg.org

### January EVENTS

January 1 OFFICE CLOSED

January 2 PRESCHOOL RESUMES Pre-k & 3's Intercessors - 5:45 Board Meeting 6:15 Official Board -7:30

> January 3 PRESCHOOL RESUMES 4's AWANA

January 4 Lay Visitors meet @ 11:00am

> January 5 Staff Christmas Party

**January 6** Baptism Class (children) 9 -11:30am Baptism Class (Youth) 9 -11:30am

> **January 7** Healing Service - 6pm

January 12 Adams Christian Prison Ministry Banquet 6:00 @ Harvest Chapel

> January 14 Baptismal Service @ FBC SECOND SERVICE

January 15 & 16 NO SCHOOL ~ MARTIN LUTHER KING

> January 18 HAITI TEAM LEAVES

January 21 SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY Thomas Henry preaching

January 26 HAITI TEAM RETURNS



January 28 Youth Sunday FBC HYMN SING -6:30 -7:30pm Dessert @ 7:30 for Steph's last day before sabbatical

#### **SUNDAY CLASSES**

**BOOK OF JAMES** Led by Mac and Arla McBeth Sundays @9:00am in the preschool room

**"If" by Mark Batterson** Turn past regrets into joy- Sundays @ 9:00 am

> **Ask** by Ravi Zacharias Led by Rivera's and Crushing's 18-25 year old's Sunday mornings 9:00am

Basic Bible Knowledge New Testament Study Led by Wanda Gallimore Sundays @ 9:00am in Lewis Hall

> **The End** by Mark Hitchcock Led by Mark Punchard Sundays @ 10:30am

BREAD PICK -UP Holtzople - 6 Hess/VanArsdale - 13 Merson - 20

Gipe - 27