

### Greetings,

As I prayerfully look around the body at FBCG, I am again reminded that we are the family and Bride of Christ, a work in progress, a Holy People belonging to God. My heart has been truly touched as I have learned of recent acts of kindness, love and generosity by members of our church family to one another. Afterall, as sons and daughters of God, we are called to build up the Body of Christ and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

As we settle into the summer months, my prayer is that we will look for even more opportunities to care for those around us. The needs are endless: some need yard work, others need help financially, while others may need an encouraging prayer, word, visit, card, call or meal. Others may just need a smile or to know that you care.

Recently, we all received updated church directories (contact the office if you did not get yours). – Is there someone missing that you have not seen in a while? Why not call them and let them know that you miss them? Purpose to pray with them. Perhaps, as you prayerfully go through those pages and pictures, God will lead you to pray for someone specifically, or He may prompt you to invite them over for a meal, or jot down a note of praise. To be sure, FBCG is a special place, not that we are yet perfect, but I am amazed at the quality of Christ followers here who are living with Jesus!

God's grand design for the church is that we will walk with each other through this challenging life, being rooted in Him, growing in Him and serving with Him, until He returns.

May it be so, PC

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:9-10 (NIV)

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this": 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength".

The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' "There is no commandment greater than these."



## Fusion July 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.

June was a very busy, but fruitful month! We had about 19 students daily during our 5th annual hometown missions week! God did some great things as we served in our community and I believe new relationships were made and God opened doors to new possibilities for future ministry. A huge thank you to Sharla Reiter, all the high schoolers and middle schoolers and their parents/grandparents for bringing them to and from church everyday so that they could participate in missions week.

We also had a high school girl's night, where Faith and the girls made canvas paintings that were incredible! They had a good time and Faith looks forward to that night every year! On that note, we have a high school guy's night coming up in August that should be a good time! The youth will be doing a night at the South Mountain Fair this year for FBC'S booth. Our night will be Tuesday July 30th, and the time will be decided closer to the date, but it will be in the evening so please mark your calendars for that night!

Below are some upcoming happenings!

#### July

July 7th: NO FUSION, 4th of July weekend

July 14th: FUSION Birthday Game Night Cookout at HURDA'S 6pm-9pm

July 21: FUSION 6pm-8pm

July 28th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

July 30th: Youth run booth at South Mountain Fair (time is TBD but in evening)

#### August

Aug. 2nd-3rd: High School Guys Night 6pm-9am (drop off at 6pm Friday night, dinner is provided, hang out time, sleep over, breakfast, pick up at 9am Saturday morning)

Aug. 4th: FUSION OBSTACLE COURSE/Birthday game NIGHT!!! 6pm-8pm

Aug. 11th: FUSION 6pm-8pm

Aug. 18th: FUSION 6pm-8pm (Sign up & payment deadline for Uprise Fest!)

Aug. 25th: FUSION PIZZA & SWIM PARTY AT HOLTZOPLES! 6pm-8pm

\*If your student (s) is involved in extracurricular activities such as sports, music, drama, etc please give me or Faith a copy of their schedules/dates if they would like us to come watch them. We love supporting our students in this way and really love seeing them in their element!

For more information about these events please find us on Facebook at Fusion Youth Ministry, email us at <a href="mailto:fusionfbcg@gmail.com">fusionfbcg@gmail.com</a>, check out our Fusion Youth table in the youth building, or see Pastor Matt.

God Bless, Pastor Matt & Faith:)

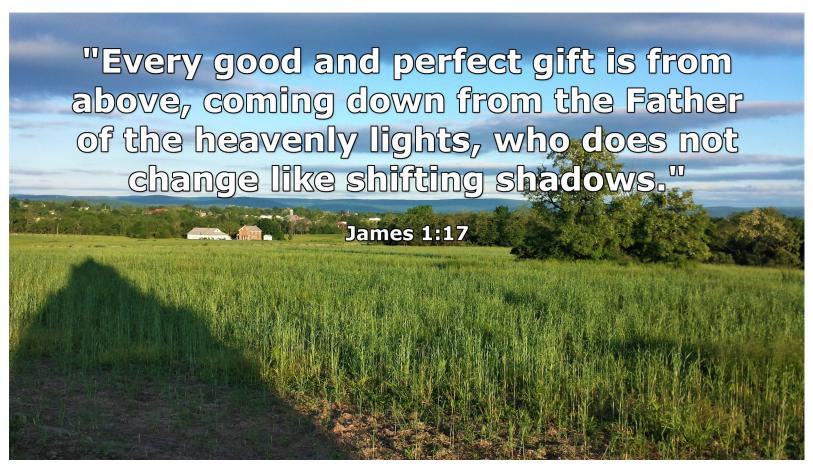
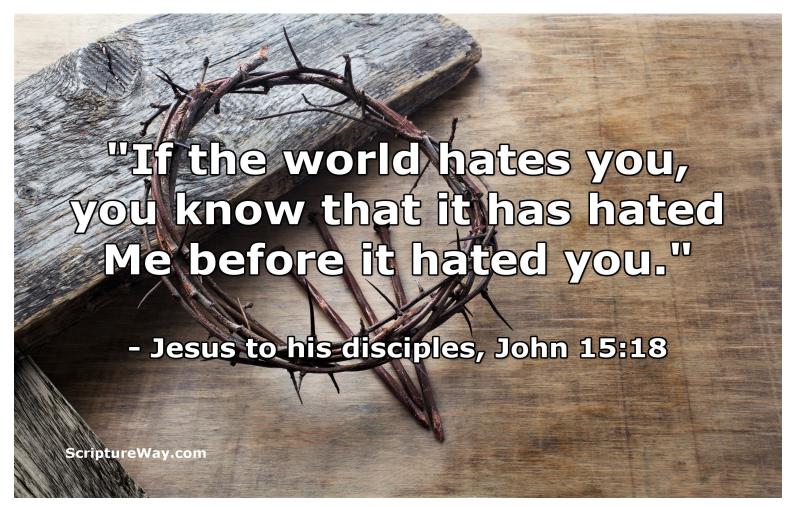


Photo by Whitney V. Myers (www.ScriptureWay.com). The steeple of FBCG is visible above the "J."



# Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ hath set you free, and be not again entangled in the yoke of slavery. Gal 5:1

The following article by Chris Gehrz (taken from his blog and edited for length) does a good job of describing the difference between the freedom we celebrate on the fourth of July and the freedom we have in Christ. Enjoy!

# Freedom in Christ (Galatians 5)

Posted on July 2, 2018July 4, 2018 by Chris Gehrz

It's appropriate for Christians to join our fellow citizens in celebrating the freedoms we enjoy this country, and the sacrifices it took to secure them. But we are here to worship God, who so loved the entire world — no favorites, no exceptions — that he sent us (all) his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

But the freedom that we enjoy in Jesus Christ is much more important than the freedom that we'll celebrate on the 4th. To understand our freedom in Christ, let's turn to Paul's epistle to the Galatians, starting with ch.5, verses 1 and 13-15. For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.... For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

"For freedom Christ has set us free": what a stirring phrase! But what does Paul mean? For *what* freedom has Christ set us free?

I think Paul has in mind at least three types of freedom in Christ, depending on which preposition follows the word. And all three are fundamentally different from what freedom means in the American experience.

## Freedom From

"Freedom from" is maybe the oldest version of freedom in American history. As the Freedom Trail crosses into downtown Boston, it passes a statue of Samuel Adams, founder of the Sons of Liberty. Adams once said that "The natural liberty of man is to be *free from* any superior power on Earth." For Adams and other Patriots, the Revolution was about freedom *from* tyranny, freedom from a government that levied taxes, quartered soldiers, and made laws unjustly.

Which we should celebrate... but that's not at all what Paul means by freedom from. On the contrary, Paul assumes that Christians will be persecuted by those in power... and yet remain free in Christ. Meanwhile, we Americans know

how easy it is to live in political freedom... and yet be a slave to our worst impulses.

In his greeting, Paul wishes the Galatians the grace and peace of "the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to set us *free from* the present evil age" (1:3-4). If God kept a record of our sins, the psalmist asks, "who could stand?" But with God "there is forgiveness" (Ps 130:3-4). In Christ we are *free from sin*, free from everything we think, say, do, and leave undone that keeps us enslaved to the powers of this world (Gal 4:3,8-9) and in rebellion against God. That was a recurring theme for Paul, as he took Christianity farther and farther from the place where it was born. In Acts 13, he tells people in the city of Antioch — both "Israelites, and others who fear God" (v 16) — that through Jesus "forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you; by this Jesus everyone who believes is set free from all those sins from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses" (vv 38-39).

Before Christ, all we had to modify our behavior was law — and the carrots and sticks that come with following and breaking laws. But Paul teaches that the law cannot stop us from wanting to sin. Only faith in Christ can make us righteous in God's eyes (Gal 2:16) and start to change our hearts from the inside out.

But some Jewish Christians — the so-called Judaizers — want Gentile converts to join them in continuing to honor the old laws — including the ancient one requiring men to be circumcised. Apparently, they've persuaded some Christians in Galatia, because Paul says right away that he's "astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel" (Gal 1:6). If righteousness actually came through the law, "then Christ died for nothing" (2:21). "For in Christ Jesus," he concludes. "neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love" (5:6).

That's not the end of the story; that's just Paul's argument to one church. We need to read the theology of Galatians 5 alongside the history of Acts 15. Paul returns to Jerusalem to make his case to the leaders of the church, including Peter, who agrees that the Judaizers are "putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear" (v 10).

The church decides: we are free, no longer staggering under the burden of laws that can never really release us from the slavery of sin, but accepted as God's children, free heirs of his promises.

If that's all there was to freedom in Christ, it would still be wonderful. But Paul's just getting started. For freedom in Christ is more than freedom *from*. Freedom in Christ is freedom *to*.

## **Freedom To**

Again, this is a kind of freedom that's familiar to Americans. Most of us take for granted that we are free *to* think, *to* believe, *to* speak, *to* worship. We might even think that we should be free *to* do whatever doesn't hurt someone else or limit their freedom.

But if you're not a white man, that's a kind of freedom that has taken decades and centuries to develop.

If you've seen the movie *Glory*, you know that many of those troops — both white officers and black enlisted men — died at Fort Wagner; the Confederates didn't take prisoners in that battle. But it was worth the risk and worth the cost; almost 200,000 African Americans flocked to the Union cause. For they knew that it wasn't just that they had to be free *from* slavery; they had to be free *to* work for fair compensation, *to* own property, *to* get an education; free *to* vote, *to* hold office, *to* fight for their country; free *to* participate as citizens.

Likewise, freedom *in* Christ is more than freedom *from* sin's bondage. It is freedom *to* live as citizens of the kingdom of God.

Not freedom to do whatever you want. In Galatians 5, Paul warned that we shouldn't use our freedom in Christ "as an opportunity for self-indulgence" — which is exactly what Americans often want *freedom to* to mean. No, Paul says, freedom in Christ frees us to do what Jesus said was the whole purpose of the law in the first place: "to love your neighbor as yourself" (Gal 5:13-14). In Christ, we are free *from* the sin-distorted love of self and free *to* practice selfless love of others.

How do we do that? First, by sharing this good news with everyone! It's a joy to come hundreds of miles to talk about Jesus Christ with people who are at once strangers and friends. The church's decision against the Judaizers made Christians free to truly bring the Gospel to all the world: to be Christ's witnesses not just to Jerusalem and Judea, but to far-off places that had never even heard of Moses and his law. Within two chapters, Paul is <u>in Greece</u>; by the end of the book, he is <u>in Rome itself</u>, "proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance" (Acts 28:31).

But the kingdom he proclaimed isn't just spiritual. We are free *to* proclaim a gospel that has consequences in this world. Freedom in Christ means that we are free *to* go forth in the name of the Messiah who was "anointed to bring good news to the poor... to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18-19).

Freedom *in* Christ is freedom *to* give freedom! To free those kept in the spiritual bondage of sin and the physical bondage of human trafficking, to free those mired in poverty and hunger, to free those oppressed for no reason other than who they are, what they think, or what they look like.

Free from sin, we are free to do what Paul says is the only thing that actually counts: "faith working in love" (or making our faith *active* in love).

And that's not much like the freedoms from and freedoms to that we'll celebrate on the 4th of July. But there's an even bigger difference.

The Freedom Trail includes several churches, including the Old North Church and Park Street Church. They're not museums; both are active faith communities. As I thought about the people who have been gathering in those buildings for generations, it struck me that when Paul tells the Galatian church that "Christ has set us free," he's not making a declaration of independence; he's making a declaration of *interdependence*.

As Americans we think we're free to go our own way, but Paul says that freedom in Christ makes us, "through love... slaves to one another" (Gal 5:13). Five hundred years ago, the great reformer Martin Luther said that freedom in Christ is actually a paradox: "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

So, what does that mean? That we need to recognize one more kind of freedom.

## **Freedom With**

Freed from sin, we only have freedom to do what we're called to do if we're free with one another.

"Freedom with" is something that gets lost in translation for us. We read the Bible in a language that now only hears the word 'you' as a singular pronoun. We read it (often on our own) in a culture that tells us over and over that the individual is what matters most. But Paul isn't writing his letter to any single person in Galatia; he's writing to the members of a community, who listened to it *in community*. They would have only known freedom together; any one Galatian Christian would have heard Paul to say that when you all (plural) are called to freedom, it means that youall

(plural) are free from sin and you all (plural) are free to love in word and action.

This doesn't mean that we're ever free from conflict. Nor that we should avoid hard conversations. Paul was blunt and confrontational, even opposing Peter to his face over the Judaizers. But he hardly ever wrote a letter to a church without at some point appealing for what we might call unity in essentials, freedom in non-essentials, and love in all things.

In Galatians, that comes at the end of ch. 5. Paul tells his readers that in Christ they were free to love one another. But he knew that he was addressing a bitterly divided church. So, he continued with a warning: "If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another" (Gal 5:15). For while the fruits of the Spirit include love, kindness, gentleness, and peace (5:22-23), remaining in slavery to the sinful desires of the flesh can lead to strife, anger, quarrels, and factions (5:20).

So this week celebrate the freedoms you enjoy as Americans, knowing that, as Christians, you enjoy far greater freedoms from, to, and with — knowing that freedom in Christ gives to you *and* requires of you far more than any declaration of independence or bill of rights.

Amen.





On *Sunday, July 21st*, our VBS Families will be invited to come and see their child sing songs they learned from VBS. We are asking our congregation to invite that friend, neighbor or co-worker that you've always wanted to bring to church, but haven't yet asked. After our second service, we will be having a picnic. Please bring a dish to share and stay to enjoy some great fellowship. Michelle Stockman

8

Taken from: terasonlinechristianjourney



Ask Him AGAIN.

Ask Him again for that child to come home.

That marriage to be healed.

That mountain to move.

Ask Him again for that friendship to mend.

That work to begin.

That end-of-tunnel light to appear.

Ask Him again for the one who needs rescue, the one who needs healing, the one who needs new direction, new guidance, new focus.

Yes. Even if that 'one' is you.

Ask Him again for what you need.

For what you want. For joy in the sorrow. Help in the struggle.

A sip of living-water in the heat of your schedule...and the time to just sit at the well, Amen? Ask Him again.

Ask Him again to provide springs in your land; and while you're at it,

give thanks for that land, no matter how dry it is now,

knowing He's given it to you with good purpose.

Yes. Ask Him again.

Ask Him again to dig up the soil and plant the seeds.

Ask Him again to stir up and settle, make and remake, pour out His peace that passes all understanding,

because frankly; you could use a hefty dose about now.

Yes. And Amen.

Ask Him again for all that seems lost and all that seems nowhere even near the city of possible...and ask Him believing He can.

Yes. Ask Him again.

Not because you don't think He heard you the first million times,

but because you are realizing the longer you {truly} live,

that persistence is a pretty strong faith-builder;

not to mention how close it keeps you to Him for whom all things are possible and nothing is too hard,

and because faith-based strength to persevere and closeness with your Creator is what you REALLY need.

Whew. Yes. Absolutely. Ask Him again.

With fresh eyes and a renewed spirit and a passionate resolve that He can,

and if it's His Will...He will.

And if it's not, you will keep on asking.

You will keep on seeking. You will keep on believing.

Because persistent faith is where it's at.

It fastens it's gaze on hope.

The hope that is always three steps {Father, Son, Holy Spirit} ahead,

providing the perfect focal point.

Yes. And it never disappoints. Amen.

So today; bow low, look up, and ask Him AGAIN.



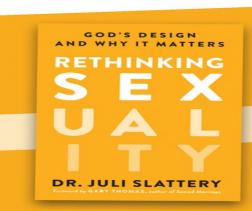


8 out of 10 of the unchurched would come to church if invited.

The Reuses would be happy to lend you the DVD, (90 min.) *The God Who Speaks: Tracing the Evidence for Biblical Authority*, produced by the American Family Assoc. Presenters include: Alistair Begg, Erwin Lutzer, Josh McDowell, R. C. Sproul and many others. We have a few copies available. They also have a copy of the book (101 pages), *Sing! How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family and Church by Keith & Kristyn Getty, which Pastor Carl used as a basis for his message a few weeks ago.* 

# If interested, please contact Ron or Pat @ 717 334-6393

**NEW STUDY!!!** 



4 Wednesday Nights from 6:30-8pm August 7, 14, 21, 28

RETHINKINGSEXUALITYBOOK.COM

**Led by Pastor Carl and Jennefer Harris** 

This study is for parents, teachers, pastors lay leaders and others who want to use their influence and relationships to direct people toward God's love and truth. More info to come



# August 16th from 6-9 pm Dinner included!

The CE board is hosting a FREE evening for parents to drop off their kids (ages 12 and under) and go have some fun! Your child will be fed and cared for. Bikes and play clothes encouraged!





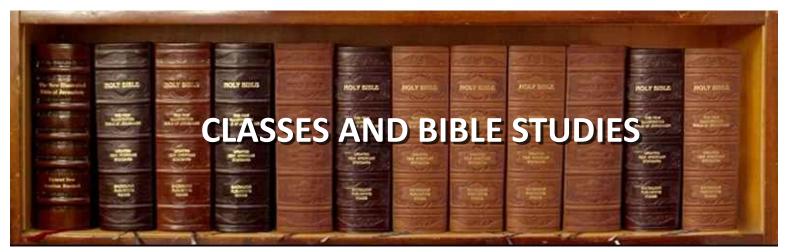


embracing the journey of Motherhood

This is a group for moms with children of all ages. Come out and celebrate motherhood and build relationships with other moms. Children can attend AWANA while you attend your group.

**Begins September 4th** 





Everything Is Meaningless

The words of the Teacher, son of David

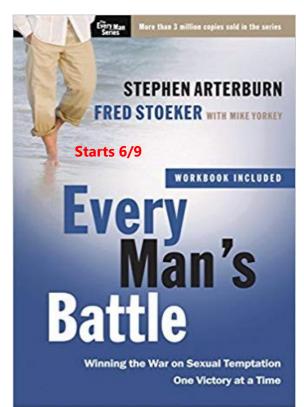
I king in Jerusalem

"Meaningless," Meaningless

Jerusalem

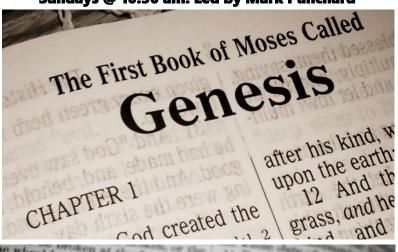
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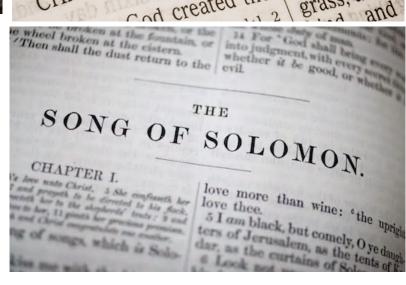
Sundays @ 9am Open Discussion in Kitchen



Sundays @ 6pm at FBC led by Phil Muskett

Sundays @ 10:30 am. Led by Mark Punchard





CAM Sundays @ 9:00 am led by Crushong, Poe, Rivera





"Christmas in July" and Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it! During "Christmas in July" you will be able to peruse a display about **Operation Christmas Child** and how you can become involved in spreading the gospel to children around the world. You will also be able to learn how to make handcrafted items for the shoeboxes. Please take time to check out the display table in the entryway.

On the display table, you will also find a basket of old film containers that hold quarters perfectly. Please take a container, or two or three, and fill it with quarters. Drop the containers into the offering plate on Sunday mornings. These quarters will be added to the Shoebox fund which is used to help fill and ship the shoeboxes to needy areas of the world.

We are hoping for each child to be able to pack a box during VBS, and it costs \$9.00 to ship each box. Shipping alone for the planned 200 boxes will total \$1,800. We thank you in advance for your generosity. Your ministry of prayer and giving can bring many to our Lord and Savior.

### We are currently in need of:

<u>School Supplies:</u> colored pencils, regular pencils, larger erasers, pencil sharpeners, blunt ended scissors for younger children, paper clips, pencil cases, bags in which to carry books. <u>Toiletries:</u> toothbrushes for 5-14 year old's, combs, soap, girls' hair accessories <u>Clothing items:</u> socks, underclothes, t-shirts, flip flops, winter hats and mittens, baseball type hats, etc.

<u>Assorted items:</u> balls, jump ropes, Frisbees, matchbox cars, yo-yos, musical instruments, heavy plastic bowls, cups, and silverware, marbles, fishing gear, tools for older boys, etc. Most of all, our shoeboxes need <u>prayer</u>. Please pray for their safe shipping and delivery to the children. Pray for the planting of many spiritual seeds and a great harvest for the Lord.

We have enough toothbrushes for younger children, sewing kits, coloring books, stuffed animals, wash cloths, and crayons.

## The Chief End of Man

"The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever."

It would be scripturally false to leave out the second phrase,

"and to enjoy Him forever."

The men who formulated this showed great wisdom and insight is saying, "and to enjoy Him forever."

Nevertheless, the first phrase is the first phrase: "The chief end of man is to glorify God."

And in Christianity we have a non-determined God who did not need to create because there was love and communication within the Trinity, and yet having been created, we as men can glorify God. If we fail to emphasize that we can glorify God, we raise the question of whether men are significant at all. We begin to lose our humanity as soon as we begin to lose the emphasis that what we do makes a difference. We can glorify God, and both the Old and New Testament say that we can even make God sad. That is tremendous."







# FBC VB\$ July 15-19

9am- 12 noon
Ages 4- 6th grade
\$ee Kim Gipe to volunteer





The National Christian Choir
Coming to Gettysburg High School on Saturday, July 6th, 2019 at 4pm.
Don't Miss this SPECTACULAR Concert!



# M.O.P.S. WHEEL DAY

**August 7, 2019** 

10am -1pm

**FREE LUNCH!** 

**Hot dogs and Burgers!** 



CONFERENCE COMING
THIS FALL HERE AT
FBC..... MORE INFO TO
COME!

# GOD ON THE GROUND

Saturday, August 24th 3-7pm Food, Fun, Fellowship. Bring the Family!

Gettysburg Recreation Park



Pierson Beard - 5

Dick Gallimore - 6

Paul Jay - 6

Tom Paull - 8

Bob Negro - 9

Gabriel Harrison- 11

Hannah Henson - 12

Kylee Roden - 12

Adrienne Holsopple – 15

Derek Tate - 15

Mac McBeth - 15

Grace Lustig - 16

Kate Shay - 16

Ella Beard - 21

Daniel Miley - 22

Edward Holsopple - 22

Benton Celius -23

Andrew Hirneisen - 26

Sally Guise - 28

Makenzie McGlaughlin - 29

Neil Tate - 29

Ron Miller - 31





Carl & Jennefer Harris-4

Andy & Kristen Hoffman-30

Todd & Rebekah Hirneisen-5

Dennis & Sherry Weber -30

Tony & Kim Gipe-10

Kevin & Mary Ann Filler-18

Matt & Sharla Reiter-22

Ric & Jaime Rivera-26

Ellen & Charles VanArsdale-26

Josh & Jaime Henson-29





The Cyclers are coming!!! The Cyclers are coming!!! Join us for our second annual celebration as we host this great group of cyclers. We'll be having a dinner of BBQ Ribs and other great food and providing a place of overnight rest and relaxation for this group while hearing about their ministry.

Come out for a great dinner and make some new friends.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 1ST DINNER AT 5PM



On the 2nd Sunday of each month, FBC'S SHOEBOX GROUP holds a short meeting in the music room following the second service. Also, on the second Monday of each month, there is a 'Make-it Monday' at the Rohrer's home and the purpose is to make items to go into the boxes. Everyone is invited to both activities. For questions, please call Fran Rohrer



Join us on Sunday, July 21st when our own Michelle Stockman will be here sharing. This will be a great time to catch up with Michelle and see what she's been up to and hear about her work in Belize. We will be having a church wide picnic following the second service, too. Bring a dish to share and come out to enjoy some fellowship. Also, on July 28th, our own Lexie Tate will be here sharing for the first time at both services. Lexie will be sharing about what God is doing her in life and how she eventually hopes to serve in Central Africa with Pioneers.

### **Our Ministry Team**

**Senior Pastor** 

Rev. Carl G. Harris pastorcarl@fbcgettysburg.net

**Associate Pastor Intern** 

Sean Fitzgerald fitzgerald08@fbcgettysburg.net

**Youth Pastor** 

Pastor Matt Rice pastormatt@fbcgettysburg.net

**Director of Music Intern** 

Lilly Poe lilly\_poe@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-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Fridays 8:30 -12:30

**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 & FACEBOOK PAGE**

www.fbcgettysburg.org

**BREAD PICK-UP** Holtzople - 1 Hess/VanArsdale - 8 Merson - 15 **Gipe - 22** Holtzople - 29



Tuesday, July 2 NO BOARD MEETINGS

July 4

Office Closed - Holiday

July 7

No Sweet Hour of Prayer No Youth Group

July 9

Hot Summer Nights 7-8 pm Meet @ Starbucks

July 10

Lay Visitors 1:00 pm

July 14 Youth Cook Out @ Hurda's 6 -9 pm Possible Congregational Meeting

July 15 -19

VBS Week! ROAR!

**July 21**FBC Kids singing VBS songs @ 2nd service Invite a Friend Sunday/Michelle Stockman sharing

July 23

Hot Summer Nights 7-8 pm Meet @ Starbucks

July 28

Lexie Tate sharing at both services

**July 29- Aug 2** 

Walking Stick Ministry @ South Mountain Fair

ANSWER TO HYMN: In the Garden

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the 20th of the previous month.