

BRIDGING THE GAP

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS CHURCH OF GOD
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From the Pastor's Desk

50 Day Spiritual Adventure

This month we will begin an eight-week growth series that involves every area of the church. And it's based on a very specific theme. This year's topic really touches something in the heart of many Christians. It is called "Untapped Miracles for Tapped-Out Christians." I'll be addressing this topic during my weekly sermons, and we'll be building our worship service upon the Adventure themes. Then, in addition, adults, teens, and children will be working through Adventure journals. We'll be talking about eight specific miracles that can give us new energy to tackle the problems of today. Some of the miracles are finding tension's good side, Christian hospitality, prayer with fasting, and telling our stories. There are eight in all. You will have a chance to dig deeper into these 8 themes

by completing a daily journal. It includes Scripture readings on weekly topics, a short prayer, and questions that help apply Scripture to life. It will be a very exciting time of personal and church-wide growth as we begin to find new energy in our faith.

Each 50-Day Spiritual Adventure is built around eight weekly themes. This year the adventure will focus on the energy available to worn out or tired Christians We will study these eight miracles:

1. **Finding Tension's Good Side**
2. **The 24/7 Church**
3. **Christian Hospitality**
4. **Pulpit/Pew Mutual Support**
5. **Prayer with Fasting**
6. **Telling our Stories**
7. **The Wider Kingship**
8. **The Living Christ**

The Adventure has involved more than 3.5 million people here in North America since its creation in 1980. The Adventure is also used in India, Nepal, South America and other countries around the world. So on February 18 our Church will begin the journey of "Untapped Miracles for Tapped-Out Christians." You don't want to miss this exciting time of studying God's word together.

Enjoy The Journey,
Pastor Clayton

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.

Sunday School Spotlight

We are almost through the first month of the New Year! Are you sticking with your New Year's Resolution(s)? One of my resolutions is to take time to read more. We have a great library right here at church.

We are blessed to have a great staff of Sunday School teachers. Thank you for your dedication and giving of your time and self! Also, thank you for the way you have made your classrooms warm and inviting and in keeping with the theme. If you have not seen the classrooms, check them out! They are awesome! In some of the classrooms you can follow what the lessons have been by looking at all of the visuals.

We were able to recognize 15 people for Perfect Attendance last quarter with a Certificate. Brother De Hart's class almost had all with perfect attendance with 6 out of the 8 members achieving that goal.

My prayer as we start a New Year is that we would have a revival of the Heart and a renewed love for God that puts Him first. Our relationship with God is not based on how we feel about God, but what we know about God based on how He reveals about Himself in Scripture. I believe God has many Blessings in store for His people.

Jayn Willeford
S.S. Superintendent

Change of Address

Phyllis Fields' mother had been comfortably moved to Maryville Manor. Her new address is as follows:

Verla Logsdon

(See someone at the church.)

Schnucks eScrip Fundraiser for the Youth Group

The Youth group has added another way for you to help our group raise funds for State Youth Conventions and this one doesn't cost you anything!!!

All you need to do is pick up a Schnucks eScrip Community Card from the Youth Group or from Schnucks Grocery Store Customer Service. You register the card either by calling 1-800-931-6258 or going on-line to www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp. You tell them that you want your card to support the Fairview Heights Church of God Youth Group and then just show them your card at the check-out anytime you make a purchase at Schnucks. Our Youth Group will earn 1-3% of your purchases each month. It's free. No Catch. Just use your card!

You can even get extra cards to give to friends, family, co-workers and ask them to sign-up as well to support our group. If you have any question, just see Jim or Candy Niemeyer or a youth group family. We again thank-you for your support!

Candy and Jim Niemeyer

Jr. High/Sr. High Youth Group

Donut Fundraiser

Blood Sugar feeling a little low on Sunday mornings? Need a cup of coffee without the caffeine? Then be sure to visit the Donut/Coffee table in the basement. Our Youth Group will be happy to assist you. Our group provides the coffee free of charge (donations accepted), and a donut only costs 50 cents. Profits from this fundraiser go to pay registration fees for State Youth Convention. Parents, please be sure to advise the children that the donuts are not free as we must sell at least one dozen to pay for the expenses of that day. The other dozen we sell is where we make our profit.

Soda Machine Fundraiser

We are aware that the soda machine (diet coke) may be taking your money or giving you 2 sodas for the price of one. If you get 2 sodas, please place the extra soda on the table and we will reload. If you don't get a soda, please see Jim or Candy Niemeyer for either a refund or a soda. (Candy has the key to the machine with her). We will be attempting to fix the machine as soon as possible. The machine should also be able to take your dollar bills at this time and make change.

Building Our Future Faith Promise Drive

What is a Faith Promise? A Faith Promise is a commitment to a partnership with God. It is based on your faith that God will provide a specific amount of money. It follows the basic biblical principle of sowing and reaping, sowing always being first. (2 Cor.9:6) It is a one year commitment and is an offering over and above your tithes or regular contributions to the church.

The Blessings of the Faith Promise Offering:

- God is glorified as we give out of a grateful heart and with an attitude of joy. (2 Cor 9:7)
- The Lord meets the needs of individual believers. (Matthew 6:33)
- The Lord meets the collective needs of the local church. (Phillippians 4:19)

What is the goal of the Building the Future campaign? The Bible reminds us that by being debt free we have more to provide to others, and we are more able to use our resources as God desires in ministry. We want to be unencumbered by debt and continue to free up resources for ministry and outreach. We have set a Grace Giving Goal of \$2000 per month which will pay off our loan in 2019 instead of 2022. A Miracle Giving Goal of \$3500 per month would pay off the loan in 2012.

Faith Promise Sunday is January 28, 2007. If you did not get a chance to turn in your Faith Promise, you still can fill out your card and place in the offering plate at any time. A Faith Promise is done anonymously and is a pledge between you and the Lord. However, the Board of Trustees will be using the Faith Promise Cards to help us plan next year's budget. In order to avoid using Tithe income to pay our building loan we must have at least \$1758.72 a month in the Faith Promise Drive.

We on the Board of Trustees look forward to God's continued blessings upon His people, this congregation and this church.

Candy Niemeyer

Following is the form that was in Sunday, January 21st bulletin. It is reprinted here for those who missed it. Please cut it out of the newsletter,

fill it out, and place it in the offering plate this Sunday.

Fairview Heights Church of God Building the Future Faith Promise

Goal: Reduce the Debt in order to better use our resources for ministry, outreach and growth.

God is glorified as we give out of a grateful heart and with an attitude of joy.
(2 Cor 9:7)

A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)

Through faith, prayer and seeking the Lord's Guidance, I make a one year Faith Promise in the amount of:

\$: _____ Date: _____
____ Weekly ____ Monthly ____ Annually

I understand that this commitment is over and above my tithes and offerings and may be cancelled or revised if my circumstances change.

.....Detach this section and place in the offering plate

My Faith Promise:

\$: _____ Date: _____
____ Weekly ____ Monthly ____ Annually

For a total of \$ _____

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Angel Food Ministries, founded by Joe and Linda Wingo, is a Christian, non-profit organization dedicated to providing grocery relief and financial support to communities throughout the U.S. Angel Food had humble beginnings in Monroe, GA in 1994, serving its 34 families from the trunk of a car. Today God has multiplied this outreach effort, providing a quality, low cost grocery supplement to nearly 80,000 families across 23 states every month.

“The people curse him who holds back grain (when the public needs it), but a blessing (from God and man) is upon the head of him who sells it.” Proverbs 11:26

HERE IS HOW IT WORKS;

It's both a blessing and a bargain. Angel Food's groceries are sold by the box at \$25 per unit. Each month's menu is different than the previous month and consists of both fresh and frozen items including fresh meats, vegetables, eggs and milk. Each box has an average retail value of over \$50.

- One box of food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week, or a single adult or senior citizen for a month.
- The food is not out of date or damaged goods. This is a fresh quality product provided by the same distributors that supply our local grocery chains!
- There is no limit to the boxes an individual can purchase, and there are no applications or qualifications. Everyone can participate in the program.
- Food purchased as a donation to someone in need is a fully tax-deductible charitable donation.

CHURCHES MAY BENEFIT IN MANY WAYS

- Angel Food Ministries donates \$1.00 to the benevolence ministry of the church for each box sold.
- This ministry gives members “hands on” experience through service to others by volunteering on distribution day each month.

- This is an effective outreach to the community, giving us the opportunity to meet the physical needs of people while at the same time helping them financially. And when we meet the basic needs of our community, it opens the door to meeting their spiritual needs also.

SAMPLE MENU FROM JANUARY

- (6) 5oz. bacon-wrapped beef filets
- (1) 2 lb. boneless pork roast
- (1) 2lb. fully cooked frying chicken
- (1) 2lb Salisbury steak entrée
- (1) 2lb. boneless/skinless chicken breasts
- (1) 1 lb. flame-broiled meatballs
- (1) 16oz. bean soup mix
- (1) 16oz. pasta sauce
- (1) 16oz. pasta
- (1) 7.5oz macaroni and cheese
- (1) 24 oz. French fries
- (1) 16oz. green peas & carrots
- (1) 15oz. diced Bartlett pears
- (1) 14oz peanut butter
- (1) 8oz. pancake mix
- (1) dessert item
- (1) 7oz. brown and serve sausage

ALL FOR THE LOW COST OF \$25.00

For those who ordered February boxes pickup will be February 12 from 11 to 12 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to bring your own box.

To order for March contact Bill Beltz (288-6078 or email him at billbeltz@hotmail.com) between Feb 12 and Feb 24. More contact information and the list of March items will be available soon.

Men 4 Him Valentine Celebration

An invitation is extended to all of our church family for a **Western Celebration Valentine's Banquet on Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m. February 11th**. Entertainment will be provided by The Dan Moore Family. Come enjoy a little bluegrass music and a western meal. Come

dressed in your finest western attire and be ready for a rootin' tootin' good time!

Antique items are needed to decorate for the western theme. Horseshoes, water pumps, saddles, kerosene lamps, etc. would be appreciated to help us set the scene for this family fun event.

Bill White

Thank You

I want to thank the church and the Board of Deacons for this month's 5 Star Award. I felt so unworthy after some of the previous 5 Star people.

I love the great kids in my Jr. All-Star Christians Sunday School Class. I truly receive more blessings being with them than they could even get from this teacher.

I also want to thank Adam for all his help with the J.A. C.'s. Hopefully, being with him and the kids will help me form feeling so old.

What a great job Carmen does with the Faith Weaver Friends on Wednesdays. She was sweet enough to give me the fun "Surprise Station." Thanks to Victoria Pope, we have a good time showing the F.W. Friends that the Lord should always be their friend.

One of the best things about our church is the dedication of the Pastors to the children, and it is my blessing to be part of that. I want our kids to love coming to church and to love the Lord.

The only "bad" thing about the 5 Star Award is finding little notes around the house from my husband, Ed. He signs all of the notes "The Lone Star."

Thanks again,

Becky Ball

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM SENIOR ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Let me begin by saying our class title includes ALL people 55 years of age and older. Does this include you? If so, we invite you to become part of our loving, caring and outgoing group of folk who keep a spring in their step and a joy in their hear by knowing that our God is good all the

time. The Campbells journeyed to Florida to become part of the winter snowbirds, however, they came back early. After all, our winters here have not been bad. We missed them even though we were gone for a short time. The DeHarts were surprised to receive the 5-Star Award for December along with a nice withdrawal from the church's ATM. The ATM was put together in such a fine fashion that Ivan wanted the plans to be used in the ATM at the new branch being built in Lebanon. It was all much appreciated, and you just can't beat our church family. What love!!!!!! We're all much pleased and happy that Stella has recovered from the shingles. If you have ever had those, you know what she went through. Our prayers were with her. The DeHarts celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on December 4, 2006. Our congratulations go out to them. Verla has moved to a very nice nursing home in Maryville, IL. Continue to pray for Verla and her family. The nursing home is not that far away and we're sure she would appreciate a visit or a card. Edna Mae has visited with her son in Chattanooga, TN for a couple weeks. Her son is a minister in the Church of God. What a gritty lady, all that way and back by herself. We enveloped her in prayer; He does answer prayer for traveling mercies. Needless to say, we're always glad to have our classmates back when they leave us for awhile. *****
Wow! Unit II of our Adult Sunday School lessons is something to shout about. We're looking at who Jesus is and how he gives us a clearer picture of who God is. It focuses on Jesus' words, including various "I Am" statements which appear in the Gospel of John. (This happens to be the favorite book of our teacher and others.) It points out the Jewish antagonists were not as free as they supposed. He stated they were slaves to sin and that their only hope was in embracing him as the truth that could set them free. Folks, that's our mission today. As Jesus said when he was 12 years old, we too must take up the cry, "Know you not I must be about the master's business." Our lessons this quarter are loaded with thought provoking questions, comments and challenges for our daily living. Discussions are great and we thrive on them. Come and be a part of studying God's precious word and let's grow together while fulfilling the "Great Commission". *****

Ivan DeHart, Teacher