

# BRIDGING THE GAP

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS CHURCH OF GOD

5500 Old Collinsville Road Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208

(618) 632-1438

Rev. Terry L. Clayton, Senior Pastor

Rev. Brian Pope, Associate Pastor

[www.fhcoq.org](http://www.fhcoq.org)

Volume X No.12

July 2006

## IN THIS ISSUE

From The Pastor's Desk.....	1
Sermon Outlines for July .....	2
Details!.....	2
Coffee House Studies.....	3
Saturday Evening Services.....	3
Help Wanted! .....	3
News from Senior Adult Class .....	3
JOY Class.....	4
Storage .....	4
Charitable Contributions.....	5
Youth Camp Financial Assist. ....	5
Faith Weaver Friends .....	5
To Think About .....	6

We are to demonstrate it before everyone. That includes children, spouses, employers, neighbors, slow drivers, people who make mistakes, senior citizens, and most of all, God!

In fact, patience is a by-product of love: 1 Corinthians 13:4 "Love suffers long and is kind, love does not envy, love does not parade itself, and is not puffed up."

One of the greatest examples we have in the Bible is Job. He didn't sit down one day and make up his mind to be a patient person. He never tried to bargain with God for that virtue. So how did Job become a patient person? The secret is found in the original term in James 5:11 "Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord, that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful." The word endurance is the key, which means to abide under. Job rested and endured under the load of suffering. He determined that he would abide under the blast furnace of affliction regardless of its heat. The result was patience. That explains why Paul says the trials and tribulations bring about patience and perseverance within us. Romans 5:3-4. "And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulations produces perseverance, and perseverance, character, and character hope."

Patience is a quality of heart that can be greatly enhanced with deliberate practice. One way to deepen your own patience is to create actual practice periods; periods of time that you set up in your mind to practice being patient. You can start with as little as five minutes and over time build up your capacity for patience.

Start by saying to yourself, for the next five minutes I won't allow myself to be bothered by anything. I'll be patient. Once you reach little

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### "A Rare and Remarkable Virtue!"

Have you ever said: "Lord, give me patience and I want it right now!" We live in a world that lacks patience. Remember what Galatians 5:22-23 says: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control: against things there is no law."

Notice the fourth on the list. Patience. The original Greek term comes from a compound word which means long or fair. Generally speaking, the Greek word patience is not used in regard to things or events, but of patience in regard to people. This beautiful characteristic of Christ is very important for all of us as Christians.

milestones of five minutes of successful patience, you will begin to see that you do indeed have the capacity to be patient even for longer periods of time. Over time you may even become a patient person. Being patient allows us to keep our perspective. We can remember even in the midst of a difficult situation that the present challenge isn't life or death, but simply a minor obstacle that must be dealt with. So without patience, the same problems can become a major emergency. It is really not worth all that worry. Whether you need to deal with children, your boss, or a difficult person or situation, patience is beneficial. If you don't want to "sweat the small stuff," improving your patience level is a great way to start. May we all learn to be more patient with each other. Because after a hundred years, what does it really matter?

Enjoy the Journey  
Pastor Clayton

## SERMON OUTLINES FOR JULY 2006

**Saturday JULY 1**  
**Evening Service 5:30 Pastor Brian**

**July 2      5 Star Award Sunday**

MORNING SERVICE: Pastor Clayton  
"What Kind of a Player Am I?"  
Text: 1 Galatians 5: 1-13

EVENING SERVICE:  
No evening service because of the holiday

**Saturday July 8**  
**Evening Service 5:30 Pastor Brian**

**July 9      Sunday Services**

MORNING SERVICE: Pastor Clayton  
"A Man Called Naaman"  
Text: 2 Kings 5:1

EVENING SERVICE:  
Video from Jim Cymbala on prayer in the church

**Saturday July 15**  
**Evening Service 5:30 Pastor Brian**

**July 16      Sunday Services**

MORNING SERVICE : Pastor Clayton  
"Who is your Daddy?"  
Text: 1John 3 :1-3

EVENING SERVICE: Bible Study

**Saturday JULY 22**  
**Evening Service 5:30 Pastor Brian**

**July 23      Project with a Purpose**

MORNING SERVICE Pastor Clayton  
"Is the Power Back On?"  
Text: Acts 1:8

EVENING SERVICE:  
Outreach at Charles Gardens

**Saturday JULY 29**  
**Evening Service 5:30 Pastor Brian**

**July 30      Communion Sunday**

MORNING SERVICE : Pastor Clayton  
"Are You Jesus?"  
Text; Matthew 16:13-17

EVENING SERVICE:  
"Special Event Sunday"  
Family fun Night; softball, games, ice cream

### Details!

**July 9-** Special video by Jim Cymbala, Pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle Church This is a very moving message on the power of prayer. You don't want to miss this presentation starting at 6:00 P.M.

**July 23-** We will go to Charles Gardens for a service. We will be playing hand bells, singing and sharing. We will meet at the church at 6:00 P.M. to plan the service for the evening. We are to be there at 6:30P.M. for about a 20-30 minute program. Everyone is needed to be a part of this outreach!

**July 30** - It is that time again! Family fun Night! Softball, games, hot dogs, and homemade ice cream. What a wonderful time to share with your family and friends!

### **COFFEE HOUSE STUDIES**

COFFEE, FELLOWSHIP, AND BIBLE STUDY  
WEDNESDAYS, JULY-AUGUST  
7:00-7:00P.M. FELLOWSHIP  
7:15-8:00P.M. BIBLE STUDY

Starting the first Wednesday evening in July we will be having a Small Group Study in the Fellowship Hall for the summer months. There will be a time of fellowship and then Bible Study. Each individual will have his or her own adult journal for this Discipleship Study. The topic will be "The Holy Spirit: Power to be like Jesus" written by Arlo Newell and published by Warren Press. You don't want to miss this time of fellowship and study

### **SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE**

New Outreach for our Community!  
Saturday Evening Service, 5:30-6:30 PM  
Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> on Saturday evenings from 5:30 to 5:30 P.M. will be a fresh approach for our community to worship in a family centered, casual, uplifting, inviting atmosphere. Associate Pastor Brian Pope will be leading the services with music lead by Denise Droege  
There will be Fellowship time following the service

### **HELP WANTED**

**GREETERS:** To welcome and hand out bulletins to people as they come into the church on Sunday mornings. Greeters need to be able to smile a lot and be friendly because you will be the first contact with new persons or families.

**KITCHEN SUPERVISOR:** We need a person to plan meals and enlist volunteers to help cook and serve meals during our Faith Weavers Program.

**NURSERY WORKERS:** We need help in our nursery because it is growing faster than we have staff. We especially need help during Sunday School; this is our greatest need. But also there are times that Diane needs help during the Morning Service.

As the church grows, there is also a need for more help, which is a great problem to have. So if you are looking for someplace to get involved, here is your opportunity. See Pastor Terry if you can help out in one of these vital areas. If you see a need that is not being met, let Pastor Terry know. If you have a thought or idea that you think would help our church to grow, then pass it on so that we can all work together for the glory of God.

### **NEWS AND VIEWS-SENIOR ADULT CLASS**

Stella Simms attended a 10 day family reunion with her family and two sisters. The event took place in Indiana. A safe trip was made there and back. We missed her while she was gone and much prayer went out to her during her sojourn.

Kenny went through a series of tests on 6-5-06 to find out why he suffers from dizzy spells. Once again the doctors could not find the answer. Please keep praying for Kenny, the Lord knows the answer. We call it healing mercies.

Larry and Gwen Campbell attended the annual Tilden picnic. They renewed old acquaintances, did a lot of remembering and enjoyed a lot of good food. Larry was the mayor of Tilden some years ago.

After quite a stay in the Memorial Hospital and Convalescent Center, We're very happy that Verla is able to be back at Charles Gardens. Much prayer went out for Verla and her family during this time. We're looking forward to when she can be back in church and her Sunday school class. Please continue to pray for Verla, Gene and the family

A big thanks to those in our class that worked in the recent yard sale. It was a very successful event and appreciated all those who so willingly helped.

Our sympathy goes out to Gwen and Agnes who recently lost their brother Frank Abbot. The funeral was held in Northern Illinois. Please pray for them and for Frank's family.

Hey, what think of this.....The DeHarts are going on another river trip. but this time they're going on a barge. Yes, Ivan is working in the engine room and Norma in the galley. You don't believe it? well please don't! Actually, they're leaving on July 1, 2006 for an 8 day trip on the R/B River.

Ivan is going in for consultations with Dr. Richard Lee, a heart surgeon, on Friday June 30, 2006 at the St. Louis University Hospital. They call it A-Fib surgery. It's to correct rapid heart beat. Dr. Lee has done 16 of this type of surgery with 14 being successful. If he qualifies, it will be a 4 to 5 day stay in the hospital and a couple weeks recovery after that. Please pray for him that all will go well.

The June, July and August Sunday School lessons are gearing up to be some of the best.

Unit I: Servants of God: has four sessions that focus on passages from I Corinthians. These sessions explore how the Christian community becomes God's servant people through demonstrating unity, wisdom, togetherness and ministry.

Unit II: Called to Obedience: has five sessions that also draw on passages from I Corinthians. These sessions examine how members of the Christian communities are called to be in relationships, to help the weak, to win the race, to work for the common good, and to love one another.

Unit III: The Spirit of Giving: has four sessions based on passages from 2 Corinthians. These sessions deal with the spirit of giving as an essential part of life within the Christian community. The sessions explore the nature of giving by focusing on the themes of forgiveness, generosity, witness and God's grace. The key is UNITY; it has been said, you can throw two cats over a clothes line and you will have togetherness but you sure won't have UNITY.

Come join us and see what God has for each of us.

NOTE; Be a life long or short, its completeness depends on what it was lived for.

Ivan DeHart, Teacher

## **JUST OLDER YOUTH SS CLASS**

We have completed our "Thinking Like a Christian" Biblical Worldview Study. It was a long but eye opening study. I have donated the main text book to the Church Library as a reference. It comes with a CD that has the teaching lesson plans for any one interested in more study.

On July 2, we will start a new study on Church of God Doctrine thru our heritage music. This will be an informal study of what the Church of God believes using the lyrics of many of our songs. I invite you to attend this class if you have ever wondered who wrote these songs and why, or if you would like to know more of the early beginnings of the Church of God Reformation Movement as revealed thru our music. We will be learning together as I don't profess to know that much myself on these topics---but it is always fun to learn!

I would also appreciate the church's prayers as I prepare to be a speaker at the State Camp Meeting on July 22. My topic will be "Finances and the Christian".

Candy Niemeyer, Teacher

## **Church Storage**

The Board would like to request that no one place materials in any of the storage closets' without seeing a board member beforehand. This is particularly important for the storage room located in the Fellowship Hall (the one by the entry doors). In order to be in compliance with Fire Codes, the electrical panels must not be obstructed nor the path to get to them. Our annual inspection by the City of O'Fallon will be coming up soon and that room has once again been cleaned so that we are in compliance.

There is storage space in the garage but see a Board member first.

Thank-you for your cooperation,

Board of Trustees

Gary Hamilton, Candy Niemeyer, Bill White,  
Floyd Whittom, Debbie Pope

## Charitable Contributions

The subject of charitable contributions is of vital significance to churches, ministers and church members. For contributions to be deductible, a contribution must meet the following six conditions:

1. a gift of cash or other property
2. made before the close of the tax year for which the contribution is claimed
3. unconditional and without personal benefit to the donor
4. made "to or for the use of" a qualified organization
5. not in excess of the amounts allowed by law
6. properly substantiated.

This material is from the 2006 Edition of Church and Clergy Tax Guide. In reviewing this material, I found that we may need to clarify the requirements of #3 and 4 above. Funds donated to the church but restricted for the benefit of a private individual are not deductible. This is in contrast to funds contributed for a particular purpose (i.e. Building the Future Fund) but the charity maintains control and discretion over actual use of the funds. Funds donated with that restriction are not illegal, they are just not tax-deductible.

I (along with our Financial Recording Sec.—Floyd Whittom) will be reviewing our accounting procedures to make sure we are in compliance with current tax laws and codes so as not to jeopardize the tax exempt status of the church. I will keep you informed of any changes that we may make thru the newsletter. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding your

contributions to the church please don't hesitate to contact me.

In His Service,

Candy Niemeyer, Treasurer

## YOUTH CAMP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Please see Candy Niemeyer—Treasurer if you would like to receive financial assistance for any of the State Youth Camps this summer. (Middler Camp, Jr. Teen Camp and Older Teen Camp). There is a \$50.00 scholarship available to help offset the costs of going to camp. The Board will also try to make available the full cost of the camp for any family in need. We want to see all of our children have the opportunity to attend camp this summer!!

## Faith Weaver Friends

Wow! Thank you to all who attended our last night, May 31<sup>st</sup>. It was awesome to see all of you there to support our children and God's program. I hope you got as much out of it as I did. The energy of the kids is contagious!

Thank you to all of the workers, leaders, cooks, clean up helpers, table movers, dish washers, trash haulers, and huggers!

To those of you who are thinking about helping us this fall to lead God's program, please pray about it and let us know. We already have a few people in place, but always need more smiling, willing faces. I ask that you keep this program in your prayers.

Thank You and God Bless You,

Carmen Hamilton, Director of Faith Weaver Friends

## To Think About

### 30 BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his johnboat. Another friend studied it while playing the banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving the puzzle so involving; she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam; especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Hummana puts it, "the books are all right there in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

## Special Poem for Senior Citizens

A row of bottles on my shelf  
Caused me to analyze myself,  
One yellow pill I have to pop  
Goes to my heart so it won't stop.  
A little white one that I take  
Goes to my hands so they won't shake.  
The blue ones that I use a lot  
Tell me I'm happy when I'm not.  
The purple pill goes to my brain  
And tells me that I have no pain.  
The capsules tell me not to wheeze  
Or cough or choke or even sneeze.  
The red ones, smallest of the all  
Go to my blood so I won't fall.  
The orange ones, very big and bright  
Prevent my leg cramps in the night.  
Such an array of brilliant pills  
Helping to cure all kinds of ills.  
But what I'd really like to know...  
Is what tells each one where to go!

There's always a lot to be thankful for if you take the time to look for it.  
For example I am sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.

Contributed by Brenda Caito

### Editor's Note

Thanks for all of the emails and articles! Keep them coming. The tidbits and stories you forward are appreciated. Remember - this is your newsletter!

Please submit articles by the third Sunday of the month. You may put them in the pocket on the bulletin board in the narthex, in my mailbox, or email them to me at [dshp50@yahoo.com](mailto:dshp50@yahoo.com).

Thank you!

Debbie Porter