

# Facets of Fellowship

THE NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

JULY 2010



## Pastor's Perspective — Misplaced Confidence

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

Many who lived in Jesus' day put their trust in their family heritage for a right relationship with God. Their confidence was misplaced. In John 8:31-47, Jesus made it clear that the only way to have a right relationship with God is through self-abandoning faith in His Son. Some of those who heard His words took them to heart and believed. Others rejected them and continued in their estrangement from God. At the risk of the later, but in the hope of the former, I should like to ask you: What assurance do you have of a right relationship with God—that you do in fact belong to Him in a living, personal relationship?

If your answer is something like, "I've always felt that way" or "I've always been a Christian" or "I was raised in a good home" or "I've tried to live a good life," then I'm concerned for your eternal spiritual well-being because you are telling me that you have never experienced a sense of need with regard to salvation. Salvation is not just for heaven, it is *from* sin. The need for rescue is implied in the very meaning of the word "saved."

In order to be saved a person must come to the point where they say from the heart, "I'm in grave peril of

perishing under the wrath of God for my sin. I stand in need of the rescue made possible by Jesus through His death on the cross which I now accept as full payment for my sin, and Him as my only Savior."

One of my great concerns is that children who have grown up in a Christian home and even in our church family would have a misplaced confidence and conclude that their relationship with God is inherited from their parents, passed down along family lines, or is somehow absorbed by being among Christians. That's not what we teach, but it might be what some believe.

Parents are responsible to teach their children about God, about sin, and about salvation from sin by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. But it remains that each child and every person regardless of age must become a member of the family of God through personal faith (individual belief) in Jesus Christ as Savior.

Parents, are you confident that your children know the Lord? What are you doing to teach them? Boys and girls, young people and adults, are you confident that your standing in God's family is through personal faith in Jesus? Sometimes confidence can be misplaced. Salvation is something to be sure of.

*John 8:36*

*...if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.*

## Diving for God's Treasure

By Pastor Stuart A. Odom, VBS Director

We're getting ready to "Dive on In!" to an exciting life-changing adventure. In this underwater Vacation Bible School, we will undertake a *Seaquest: Diving for God's Treasure*. Students will be encouraged to dive into God's Word and find valuable treasure for their lives. The greatest treasure is God's gift of His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Students will also discover the treasures of being loved by and loving God, confessing sin and rejoicing in God's forgiveness, and learning from the Bible how to please

God with our lives. And we will see how God meets our every need as we give Him first place in our lives and use our time, talents, and treasures to serve Him.



**Vacation Bible School**

July 26-30  
9:00 to 11:30 am

Each day in Bible school we will also worship God in song, complete fun crafts designed to reinforce the daily lessons, and enjoy games and snacks. And we will learn how we can help and share the good news of Jesus Christ with children whose lives have been devastated by the January earthquake in Haiti.

All children 3 years old to 6th grade completed are invited to attend Bible school. Registration forms can be picked up in the church foyer or printed online at: [www.honoringGod.org](http://www.honoringGod.org). Please invite children from your own neighborhood.

Our desire is to see the Lord reach whole families with the gospel through this ministry.

Cookies are needed and can be placed on the counter in Fellowship Hall. Please check the weekly bulletins for a listing of needed craft supplies.

## KidsTime

During the summer evening worship services, following a time of worship with their families, our children ages 3 to grade 5 go to the Fellowship Hall where they enjoy *KidsTime*. This ministry is led by Denise Odom, with help from Cesaria Hoggard. This year's series is *Parable Quest: 13 Transforming Stories Jesus Told*. The excitement of an Amazon rainforest is combined with learning to follow Jesus in a life-changing adventure. The everyday objects and real-life situations in the parables help children discover how God's Word can transform their lives. The lesson is then reinforced through a game, craft, object lesson, or other activity. We look forward to seeing you and your children each Sunday evening this summer!

**2010 Bible  
Memory Challenge**

Our verse for July is Psalm 146:1-2: *Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.*

# Celebrating a Great Year in Awana

By Doug Mount, Awana Commander



I've worked in Awana for 15 years, but my first year as Awana Commander was a huge learning experience as I learned many of the details of the program and thus gained a lot of respect for the team of leaders and LITs God has assembled for this ministry. The Directors work extremely hard and put in many hours each week in preparation, while the leaders and LITs are invaluable in making each club night extremely successful. I'm honored to serve the Lord in this capacity. Some highlights from our 2009-10 Awana year:

This year our Awana program committed to partner with the National Capital Region Awana missionaries, Bill and Judi Bianco and financially support them. These faith-based supported missionaries assist churches in starting an Awana program, hold ministry conferences and many Awana events, like the area Sparks-A-Rama and Awana Games competition held each year. Love offerings are received at our Award Ceremony in May and at the Christmas Party in December.

Our Sparks club claimed 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the annual Sparks-A-Rama competition in March as 16 Sparks participated. Our Truth and Training club sent 13 clubbers to participate in the Awana Games and for the 13<sup>th</sup> year in a row we finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place. Congratulations Clubbers!

This year we began a 3-year program for our Leaders-In-Training (LITs). Each LIT must be at least in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, an active member of Fellowship Baptist Church, and participate in our regular worship services and Sunday School hour. In short each LIT will:

- Serve one year in each club under the leadership of the Club Director,
- Plan and lead 2 Council Time messages each year,
- Participate in 4 Bible Study sessions and complete homework assignments each year.

In those Bible Study sessions this year we studied Christian and Servant Leadership, the fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23, and writing/sharing our personal testimony. During this year God was pleased to work in the life of one of our LITs who re-dedicated their life to Him. Please pray for God to bless this ministry as we continue with our LIT program.

# Reconnecting with the McMillens



Our missionaries, Phil and Kitty McMillen, will be in ministry at Fellowship on Sunday, July 18. Phil and Kitty are preparing to return to Africa, where Phil will serve as regional ministry coordinator for Gambia, Liberia, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Cameroon.

During their visit, the McMillens will be teaching our youth Sunday school class, sharing a testimony in the morning worship service, and giving a ministry presentation during the evening service. This will be the last time that we see Phil and Kitty, as their plan is to

transfer to Africa this fall. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about God's work around the world, and be an encouragement to the McMillens. A love offering will be received for this missionary family.

# Money Matters

General Fund giving averaged \$5,446 per week for the first 5 months of the year, but fell to only \$4,552 during the month of June. Please remember the needs of our church this summer and pray for the Lord's provision. On a very positive note, we praise the Lord for the generous love offerings received for our missionaries George and Arlene Blood (\$861) and for Pastor Lindholm's missions trip in October (\$3,194).

# Calendar



July 13	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
July 16/17	Fellowship in Homes (Deacon Groups)
July 18	Missionaries Phil & Kitty McMillen (AM & PM Services)
July 26-30	Vacation Bible School (9:00-11:30 AM)
July 28	Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30 PM)

June Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$4,552
Weekly Need	\$5,290
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$138,027
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$137,546
Year-to-Date Building Fund Giving	\$1,760