

Facets *of Fellowship*

MARCH 2008



THE NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor's Perspective — Be a Teller of the Truth

By Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

The outreach books we make available for you to give to those in your life who do not know Jesus Christ as Savior are not intended as a substitute for engaging those people in conversations that center on the gospel of His death and resurrection. The Bible is clear in telling us that it is its own message that God uses to convince people of the truth and bring them to living faith in Jesus.

In telling you that, I am reminded of Frank Morison—a well-educated British lawyer whose thinking had been shaped by the German critics, all of whom openly denied the possibility of miracles. In an effort to disprove the Christian belief that Jesus was miraculously raised from the dead, Morison set out to write a book. But the book he wrote was radically different from the book he planned. *Who Moved the Stone?* turned out to be a de-

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
Romans 10:17

fense of the bodily resurrection of our Lord. In his own words, Morison “discovered one day that not only could he no longer write the book as he had once conceived it, but that he would not if he could”—and that this change of heart had happened, “not suddenly, as in a flash of insight or inspiration, but slowly, almost imperceptibly, by the very stubbornness of the facts themselves.”

Here's my point: If there is someone in your life that you've been trying to convince about the validity of Christianity—the truthfulness of its claims and therefore of that person's need for Jesus Christ—by all means, give them an outreach book, but don't neglect to sit down with them and give them the facts. The facts have been recorded and preserved in written form that they might hear the truth and have the opportunity to believe.

Partnering with Our Missionaries

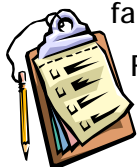
The 11th annual International Student Ministry will be held on March 8-13, as Fellowship hosts international students from Purdue University during their spring break. This partnership with our missionaries, Paul and Geri Briggs, enables students to visit our nation's capital, while affording us the privilege of sharing with them the love of Christ through word and action.



This year 24 students and chaperones will be coming. Each evening the students will participate in a Bible study designed to plant and water the seeds of the gospel in their lives. Please pray for the testimony of our host families, and for Paul Briggs and Pastor Lindholm as they lead the Bible studies.

Reaching Out to Our Community

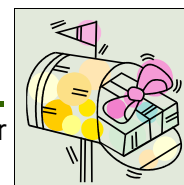
As Easter approaches, many unbelievers become more open to discussing the spiritual life that is only available through a living relationship with our Savior. Outreach books are available in the church foyer for use in telling others the good news about Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. Please take several copies of these books and share them with those who need Christ. Also, remember to invite friends and family to our Easter services (including the breakfast at 9:00 AM).



Fellowship's Spring Festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 17. A planning meeting will be held at the church on Monday, April 7 at 7:00 PM. Please plan to attend this meeting and share your suggestions for improving this annual outreach to our community.

Encouraging at Home and Abroad

Thank you to all those who donated items for the care package for Bob Jordan! Continue to pray for Bob as he serves the Lord and our country in the Middle East.



Wegmans

The next fellowship time for our ladies will be lunch and shopping at Wegmans (11620 Monument Drive) on Saturday, March 15 at 1:00 PM. We will meet at the store's front entrance. If you haven't experienced Wegmans before, you really need to check it out!



Congratulations to our clubbers who participated in the Sparks-A-Rama and Awana Games on Saturday, February 23! Our Sparks team finished in 2nd place, and our Truth & Training team won their event. The players from Fellowship were Walter and Carrie Cuddington, and Michael and Rachel English. Through this exciting event, the gospel was shared with clubbers and their family and friends.

Sharing Our Faith

The following is an account of a recent opportunity one of Fellowship's members had to share his faith:

I listed our vehicle on Craigslist and got an email from a man named Peng Peng who wanted to know if I'd accept his offer for the car. In his email, he indicated he's from "C'ville" and said he wanted to come by the next day for a test drive. I sent him directions from Centerville (which is about 45 minutes away). Anyway, he and a friend who drove him showed up the next day, and I asked him how long it took him to get here. He says two-and-a-half hours! Well he came all the way from Charlottesville, as he is a graduate student at UVa. He tells me he's only been in the States since August and doesn't know much about cars...I went over the car and he's taking notes as I talk about the maintenance I've done on it and what he'll need to continue to do to keep it running well. He was like a sponge taking it all in. When we went for a test drive, he had trouble just putting the automatic transmission in drive. Too funny, but I was helping him out as much as I could and trying to be polite. As we drive I begin telling him how I've interacted with Chinese students before but from Purdue, and they comment how Purdue is the

place to go for Chinese students who are coming to the States to study. As I talk about the furniture giveaway that Paul and Geri Briggs do at Purdue and the Bible studies they lead, Peng Peng and his friend tell me that they also have benefited from a church giving away furniture at UVa. Pretty cool indeed. Anyway, Peng Peng and I email back and forth a little now...I'd love to see the Lord work in his life.

Evangelism Seminar

Friday, April 18
(7:30 to 8:45 PM)

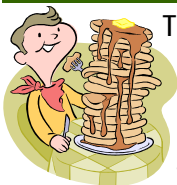
Saturday, April 19
(8:00 AM to 1:45 PM)

Do you desire to be a witness for Christ in this way? Perhaps your zeal to share the gospel with a sin-sick world needs to be re-ignited. Or perhaps you have a heart to tell others the good news of Jesus Christ but feel ill-equipped to carry out the task. Regardless of our situation,

each one of us could benefit from learning strategies and methods for sharing our faith.

That is why missionary Paul Briggs is coming to Fellowship on April 18-19 to lead an Evangelism Seminar. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this opportunity to become a better ambassador for our Savior. There will be a small charge of \$15 per person to cover the cost of the book "The Gospel and Personal Evangelism", as well as lunch on Saturday. Please sign up for the seminar in the church foyer.

Serving our Men



The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 29 at 8:00 AM. All men and young men are invited to this time of fellowship around a home-made meal, together with a challenge from God's Word designed to equip our men to serve the Lord in

the home, workplace, neighborhood and church. Our speaker will be Rev. Steve Szasz, who serves with the US Army in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains.



Calendar

Mar. 7	Baltimore Blast Christian Youth Night
Mar. 8-13	International Student Ministry Missionary Paul Briggs
Mar. 9	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar. 11	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Mar. 15	Women's Wegmans Lunch (1:00 PM)
Mar. 23	Easter Services (10:45 AM & 6:00 PM) Breakfast at 9:00 AM
Mar. 29	Men's Breakfast (8:00 AM)

Money Matters

February Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$5,361
Weekly Need	\$5,568
Year-to-Date Giving (General Fund)	\$46,360
Year-to-Date Budgeted Need	\$44,544
Year-to-Date 50@1 Giving	\$2,515