

# Facets *of Fellowship*

OCTOBER 2007

THE NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH



## Pastor's Perspective — Good Intentions or Positive Impact?

By Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

This Saturday, Christian men from across America will be gathering on the National Mall to publicly declare their allegiance to Jesus Christ and commit themselves to passing on their faith to the next generation in keeping with Psalm 145:4. Some from our church will participate in the event as we did ten years ago when the first such gathering occurred, but what we do will have little meaning if we forget on Sunday. The testimony that matters is the one that is seen from day to day.

The organizers of the gathering are careful to affirm this, but I want to use the occasion of this article to say it. If all that we have is an event—a once every ten years convocation—then the next generation will not be told of the mighty acts of God; at least not in a way that's convincing. The same is true if our Christianity is only permitted to invade our lives for a few hours once a week. Such valuing of the Lord is without positive impact.

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the believers at Ephesus, he talked to them about the danger of lost opportunity and the need for godly wisdom in the conduct of daily life. In no area of life are the stakes of failure greater than in Christian fatherhood. When we bring our sons and daughters home from the hospital as newborns, we think of all the years that lie ahead and how we will use them for the Lord, but before we know it, those years are gone, and with them the opportunity to really advantage those years for Christ.

*Be very careful, then, how you live...making the most of every opportunity...*

**Ephesians 5:15-16**

Men, whether you go to the Mall this Saturday or not, I challenge you to use the occasion of the day to dedicate yourself to a daily pattern of life that commends to your sons and daughters the surpassing worth and preeminence of Jesus Christ. As they see that life message in you, God will use it to produce succeeding godly generations.

## Men's Ministries Spotlight

Twenty-six men and sons attended the men's breakfast on September 22, our third such event this year. We are thankful for the strong participation of our men as we seek to strengthen them, that they might serve as God's leaders in the home, church and workplace. We were pleased to have our missionary Nathan Patefield with us for this breakfast, and he challenged us to move outside our Christian "bubble" to bring the gospel to the lost who are all around us each day.



On October 6, men are encouraged to participate in Stand in the Gap 2007 from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the grounds of the Washington Monument. Details are available at [standinthegap2007.org](http://standinthegap2007.org).

Fellowship's men (and young men) will be going to Great Falls Park on Saturday, October 13 for hiking and lunch. Meet at the church at 9:00 AM to carpool, bring a bag lunch, and invite a friend.

## Focus on Youth Ministries — Part One of Three

By Stuart Odom, Associate Pastor

As an adult and a parent, as well as a pastor, I often think back to my experiences growing up in my church youth group. The teen years were a special time for me as the Lord worked in some significant ways to shape my values and priorities for Christ. As I grew physically, mentally and emotionally, and of course spiritually, it became clear that living for Jesus Christ was more important than anything else in the world.

As I ponder these things, I think how I would like to see these same things taking place in our youth group. I have some very specific goals for our young people. First, I would like to see them develop spiritual disciplines, including daily Bible reading, prayer, Scripture memory, ministry in the church, and witnessing. Second, the

youth should be equipped for the challenges of today and the future by grounding them firmly in sound biblical doctrine. Third, I want the youth group to grow into a unified cohesive group, evidenced by loyalty to our church, each other, and other Christians. Fourth, they should have instilled within them those qualities that will enable them to assume leadership positions in the local church. Fifth, it is important to build strong relationships between members of the youth group, and between the teens and the rest of their church family. And sixth, the youth need to be equipped to share their faith in a clear manner with their lost friends.



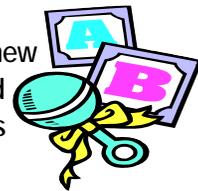
To accomplish many of these goals, there are two regular weekly gatherings for the youth: Sunday night PRIMETIME and Wednesday evening Bible study. I will share more about these in my next article.

# Women's Ministries Highlights



Fifteen ladies attended the women's retreat on September 14-15, which was held at Wendy Marshall's home in Stafford, VA. We enjoyed a good time of fellowship with one another and with our speaker Dawn Patefield. Dawn shared concerning her life and ministry on the mission field, and how she has learned to rely more fully on the Lord while facing trying circumstances. The ladies were challenged to allow the Lord to move them out of their comfort zone, realizing that He is able to sustain them as He leads them to carry out His work.

All of our ladies are invited to a baby shower brunch in honor of Mary Ann Monk and her new baby boy, Silas, on Saturday, October 20. Please meet at the Bob Evan's restaurant in Springfield at 11:00 AM. As is our custom with second babies, Women's Ministries is collecting contributions toward a gift card for Mary Ann, allowing her to purchase those items she needs.

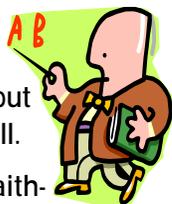


Once again this year, Women's Ministries is sponsoring a project designed to encourage our college students. Donations will be received in late October and early November, and will be used to purchase gift cards for our young men and women in school.

## We Begin Again

By **Brian Platt, ESL Director**

Our English as a Second Language program has started strongly again this year. In our initial meeting we assessed new students to determine which of our classes they should attend. In each of the next two weeks of classes almost 40 students have attended. Koreans and Latin Americans continue to be well represented in our classes, but students hail from many other nations as well.



This ministry continues to benefit from the faithful service of several people in our church family. Our teaching staff remains unchanged: Ramiro and Yelka Esquivel (Literacy); Brian Platt and Mary Ann Monk (Beginner); Pete English and Deanne Mahoney (Intermediate); and Pastor Lindholm and Nancy Gardner (Advanced). Kathy Buckley, Neita Lindholm, and Sheryl Jordan continue to perform a number of

essential tasks. Laurie Cuddington has also joined our team; she and Sheryl have jumped right in to help me with the teaching of the Beginner class while Mary Ann has been at home with our new baby.

As usually occurs, the beginning of the Thursday night classes brought a few new students to our year-round ESL Sunday School class. While our Thursday night classes include some Biblical instruction, the Sunday School ESL class is exclusively a Bible study. In both the Thursday night and Sunday School classes, the language barrier poses challenges to a full presentation of the gospel of Christ. Since the main purpose of the ministry is to teach the gospel, we pray—and ask you to pray—that God Himself would overcome these barriers and grant our students an understanding of the gospel, drawing them to faith in Christ.



## Money Matters

The Lord continues to provide for the needs of our church in a wonderful way!

September Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$5,790
Weekly Need	\$5,238
Year-to-Date Giving (General Fund)	\$208,416
Year-to-Date Need	\$204,282
Year-to-Date 50@1 Giving	\$6,245

## Calendar

Oct. 6	Stand in the Gap 2007 (11:00 AM-5:00 PM) <i>WASHINGTON MONUMENT GROUNDS</i>
Oct. 9	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Oct. 13	Men's Ministries Hike & Lunch (9:00 AM) <i>GREAT FALLS PARK</i>
Oct. 19, 26	Youth 5 <sup>th</sup> Quarters
Oct. 20	Baby Shower Brunch for Mary Ann Monk (11:00 AM) <i>BOB EVAN'S in SPRINGFIELD</i>
Oct. 27	Fellowship in Homes
Oct. 31	Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30 PM)