

First Baptist Church of Oregon City

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FRIENDLY VISITOR

April 2016
Volume 18 Issue 4

Pastor John's Message

Senior Pastor John Aman can be reached at 503-656-3854 or chocojohn27@gmail.com.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT?

I think it was Emerson who said, "We become what we think about all day long." We move in the direction of our most dominant thoughts.

Recently I read about a lady, Margaret, who struggled for years with food addiction and obesity. During this time, she thought about food from the moment she woke up until the moment she went to sleep. Each day was meticulously planned around food--when, where and what she would eat. She always had snack food nearby, in her purse, in her desk, tucked away on a shelf somewhere. In her spare time she read cookbooks and watched gourmet shows. She even planned her vacations around food; you name a city, she could name the best restaurants.

She began to win her battle with obesity when she began to think about something other than food. She said, "Thinking about food--literally daydreaming about it--had always been a refuge for me. When I was stressed, I would think about pasta, or chocolate, or even fried catfish. And the more I thought about it, the hungrier I got." And then she would binge.

It was a struggle at first, because it seemed like every 30 seconds her mind went back to eating. Each time she made a conscious effort to, in her words, "contemplate Christ." She would just think about Jesus.

Margaret is now winning the battle against food addiction. She talks about "*taking every thought captive to Christ*" (2 Corinthians 10:5) and "*being transformed by the renewing of your mind*" (Romans 12:2). But the Scripture she has most clung to during this time of renewal in her life has been Joshua 1:8. *Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.* (Joshua 1:8)

What do you think about all day long? Your problems, relationship struggles, financial needs, health concerns, fears of the unknown future? There are so many other worries and anxieties that have a tendency to distract us from trusting the Lord.

Whenever your thoughts wander throughout the day, direct them back to Jesus. Think about him. Focus on His mercy, power, strength, love, compassion, help and care for you. We become what we think about all day long.

"Lord, you will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!" (Isaiah 26:3)

~Pastor John



JOIN A LIFE GROUP!

Check out the list of groups that are meeting and talk to the contact person or Pastor John for help figuring out which group might be best for you.

- **Sermon-Based Life Group**
 - Contact: Pastor John Aman
 - Open to Adults of all ages, Select Thursday's, 7 pm.
- **Bible Study of Paul's letters, currently in 1 Corinthians.**
 - Contact: Jeannie Vance, 503-312-2965
 - Open to: Adults of all ages, select Sunday's, 6 pm. We would love to have others join us for dinner and Bible study!
- **Bible Study - Walk Through Romans**

The Epistle to the Romans, written and inspired through the Holy Spirit between A.D. 57-58 by Apostle Paul. He wrote this book to the believers in Rome. It helps us to break out of old patterns and become new in Christ. Learn about our struggles with sin, unity, hope and praise, being a living sacrifice, the judgement and wrath of God and becoming glorious conquerors. Come sit around the table and enjoy fellowship with one another as we gather together seeking the face of Christ changing old patterns to new for a closer walk with HIM.

 - Contact: Annmarie Raycraft, 503-655-9639
 - Open to: Adults of all ages, meets every other Wednesday, 7 pm.
- **DOVES - Fellowship & Fun**
 - Contact: Shari Secor
 - Open to: Adults with disabilities and their families, 3rd Saturday, 2 pm
- **Men's Basketball Group**
 - Contact: Richard Secor
 - Open to: Men of all ages, Mondays, 7 pm

America For Christ Offering 2016

God's desire for all who know Him is for us to become more like Christ. We become more like Christ by first growing in our knowledge of Him. It stands to reason that we cannot grow to be like someone we don't know. The deeper our knowledge of Christ, the deeper our understanding of Him, and the more like Him we become. Among other reasons, we are to know and understand Christ so that we will be secure in the faith. The America for Christ Offering 2016 theme "Discipleship: Becoming More Like Christ" reminds us that, as American Baptists, we embody the love of our Lord in word and deed.

The Apostle Paul reiterates this truth in Ephesians 2:10: "For we are what He has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." It is refreshing to read that God is continuously working on us, bringing us up in maturity, shaping our hearts and growing our faith. We see that pointed out in Samuel, who : "continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people" (1 Samuel 2:26). And we hear it in the exhortation of Peter, who concluded, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). The writer to the Hebrews, likewise, commands, "Therefore let us go on toward perfection, leaving behind the basic teaching about Christ" (Hebrews 6:1).

The natural consequence of knowing and obeying God is that He becomes greater and greater, while we become less and less, as we yield control of our lives to Him. Just as John the Baptist knew that "He [Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30), so the Christian grows to reflect more of Christ. Luke sums it up best when he describes what Jesus told His disciples: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it" (Luke 9:23-24).

The America for Christ Offering 2016 reminds us that service is a way of life for Christ's church. Extending the hope, love and compassion of our Lord to our neighbors and communities is a powerful demonstration that we have been transformed. We are reinvigorated by this year's theme to come alongside people as they journey through life. America for Christ Offering envelopes will be available in the bulletin each Sunday in April.



KidChurch in April

- 4•3: Jesus did the right thing, even though it was hard.
Matthew 26:36-56 Teacher: Virginia Tondreau
- 4•10: God sent Jesus to take the punishment for sin.
Matthew 27:32-61 Teacher: R. & B. Cameron
- 4•17: Jesus died and came back to life.
Matthew 28:1-7 Teacher: Marilyn Millison
- 4•24: We can worship God anywhere.
John 4:4-28 Teacher: Jeannie Vance

Join us Sunday mornings at 10:30am.



KidChurch Corner News

"ANIMALS UNLEASHED"

IN RIVERCREST PARK" JULY 10-12TH

V.B.S. SUPPLY LIST

• INFLATE STICK HORSE	1	\$3.48/\$3.48
• PAW SHAPED NECKLACE	2	\$6.25 \$12.50
• POTATO SACK	2	\$4.99 \$9.98
• GOLD "WINNER" MEDALS	3	\$4.50 \$13.50
• PAW PRINT STAMPERS	1	\$6.99 \$6.99
• PAW PRINT ROLL STICKERS	1	\$2.55 \$2.55
• PAW PRINT PAPER GLASSES	1	\$6.00 \$6.00
• PAW PRINT BRACELET	1	\$6.25 \$6.25
• ANIMAL PRINT BRACELETS	2	\$2.99 \$5.98
• PAW PRINT NOTEPADS	1	\$6.50 \$6.50
• PAW PRINT PENCILS	1	\$4.25 \$4.25
• HORSE TREAT BAGS	3	\$3.75 \$11.25
• PURPLE PAW BEADS	1	\$4.99 \$4.99
• CAT LW CHARM	3	\$1.68 \$5.04
• DOG STICKERS	1	\$2.55 \$2.55

**If you would like to write a check,
please make it out to FBC for VBS 2016**

We will Kick off VBS in the park
with our
Annual Picnic & Field Day
July 10th, 12-5 pm in Rivercrest Park.
More details in coming months.

YOUNGCHURCH

Youth Group Calendar

APRIL 2016

WEDNESDAY, 4/6 GROUP, 7-8:30

WEDNESDAY, 4/13 GROUP, 7-8:30

WEDNESDAY, 4/20 NO GROUP

WEDNESDAY, 4/27 GROUP, 7-8:30

High School & Middle School GROUP

Bring a friend and both you and your friend get a prize!

Follow us on Facebook!

facebook.com/youngchurch.orcity

Check out our website!

1baptistchurch.org/Youngchurch.html

There's also a new Youngchurch blog at

Youngchurch.livejournal.com

Every year around this time, attendance for Youngchurch drops. I don't know what causes it – bad weather, school, sports, work...there are lots of reasons and alternate commitments that mean that kids can't make it to church every Wednesday night.

To tell you the truth, in the past it's always worried me. And, to be honest, it worried me this year, too, until I realized what it meant. What we got to do, when there's less kids here.

Let me explain. When we have 20 kids, it's an awesome night. We play any game we want, there's lots of kids hearing the message we're putting out. But 20 kids means that, as leaders, our attention is split 20 ways. It's hard to make a connection when there are so many voices looking for your attention.

But when we have smaller groups, it gives us a chance to really get to know our students. A few weeks ago, we had two students. Instead of playing games that night, we all pulled some chairs together, ate Oreos and watermelon, and talked. We got to know what was going on in their lives. We got to share a little of our lives. And then we went into the sanctuary, and instead of everyone being spread out over 10 different pews, we huddled together up front and talked about the Bible.

The next week, we had six students. We spent time together, working to get the youth room ready to paint, and then we all sat together and talked again. Instead of going through the lesson I had planned, we started talking about prayer, about what it was okay to pray for, and about the fact that God just wants to hear from them. They don't have to pray long prayers with big fancy words. They just have to talk to God.

So I'm done worrying about having low attendance. I've put that in God's hands, and He'll take care of it as He sees fit. Every Wednesday since the day I started this job, I've prayed that God bring the students that HE needs to be there that night. I've been so caught up in my own worries, that I haven't noticed that He's answering my prayer each week. Whether it's two students or twenty, God is bringing them to us, and it's our job to bring them to Him.

Melissa Meilinger

Youth Director

First Baptist Church of Oregon City

On behalf of HOOPS Basketball, I wanted to thank you (FBCOC) for the use of your gym. It worked great for our families to be able to come hang out while the teams practiced. We appreciate your willingness to work with us and look forward to doing it again.

Sincerely,

Kari Ririe



**GIDEON
SPEAKER**

We will have a representative of the Gideon's in our worship service Sunday, April 10 to share with us the ministry of Bible distribution. An open Bible offering will be received to help support the Gideon ministry.



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



Silent Auction

LOOK FOR IT IN MAY!

The **SILENT AUCTION** fundraiser will take place in our gym on **May 14, 6-9 pm**. This is your chance to bid on Disneyland Tickets, Durango Colorado get away Bob's Red Mill Baskets, PIR Tickets Molalla Buckaroo Tickets, 2 Quilts hand made by our own Jeanne Vance, and much, much more!

This event is for camp scholarships, and several other programs here at our Church. Snacks provided and fun for all with a Mardi Gras theme, and beads for everyone! See Deacon Gary Hunley for more info.



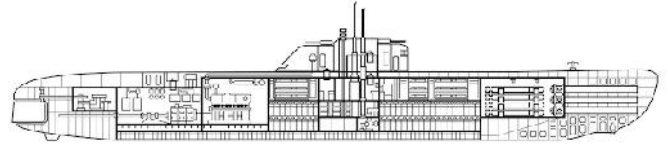
QUARTERLY MINISTRY UPDATE MEETING & POTLUCK
Sunday, April 24, 2016
Please bring a main dish AND a salad or dessert or drink.

Note to all Board & Committee chairs: Please submit your 1st quarter report to the church office no later than Wednesday, April 13.

★The office will not accept reports any later than April 13, 2016.★

PLASTIC Model Club

Saturday, April 9, 10 am in the gym



COFFEE GUYS & Ladies Coffee

Tues., April 19, 10 am
 at Shari's/Berry Hill.
 Enjoy a cup of coffee and good fellowship.



DOVES GAME DAY

Sat., April. 16, 2 pm

ABW White Cross Mission Outreach Program

Tuesday, April 5 & 19

10:30 - 12:30 in the Fireside Room

Ladies, come help us share God's love with others by rolling bandages for the hospitals in the Congo. Coffee and treats provided.



Have you read a good Christian book lately? Our Church Library is now updated and running smoothly. There is a checkout sheet to write down titles you selected and who checked them out on the cart in the narthex.

The official church library is downstairs, first door on the left labeled "Library". There is a complete list of all the library books in a notebook, select a great book, and use the checkout sheet there.



Happy Reading!!





SUNDAYS:
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 am
Praise & Worship Service: 10:30 am
KidChurch: 10:30 am

*"For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations."
 Isaiah 61:1*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 H.O.P.E. 1-4 pm	2
3	4 Men's Basketball, 7 pm	5 ABW White Cross, 10:30 Diaconate Board 6 pm	6 YOUNGCHURCH, 7-8:30pm	7	8 H.O.P.E. 1-4 pm	9 PLASTIC MODEL CLUB, 10 am
10 Gideon Speaker Advisory Council, 6 pm	11 Men's Basketball, 7 pm	12 Stewardship Board, 7pm	13 QUARTERLY REPORTS DUE MAY NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE YOUNGCHURCH, 7-8:30pm	14	15 H.O.P.E. 1-4 pm	16 Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am Doves, 2 pm
17	18 Men's Basketball, 7 pm	19 Ladies/Guy's Coffee 10 am	20 NO YOUNGCHURCH	21	22 H.O.P.E. 1-4 pm	23
24 Potluck & Quarterly Ministry Update Meeting	25 Men's Basketball, 7 pm	26	27 YOUNGCHURCH, 7-8:30pm	28	29 H.O.P.E. 1-4 pm	30



10	Eddie Escobar
11	Stacie Grout
17	Kendra Schellhous
20	Karyn Cole
21	Trevor Brown
22	Dan Frenchko
22	Mary Kunze
25	Debbie Huskey
30	Tom Tapp

We are looking for a new Nursery Attendant .
If you are interested in helping in our Nursery Please contact Virginia Tondreau.



ADULT MINISTRY

Adult Sunday School, Sunday's 9:30 am

Adventurers 1 Class:
Spring 2016: "The Gift of Faith"
 Teacher: Mary Kunze.
 Join the class this Sunday in the outer church office.

Adventurers 2 Class:
 Jim Leatherman is currently leading a study in the Fireside Room.



For more information on Men's Ministries, contact Larry Cole at 503-557-9874



MEN'S BASKETBALL IN THE GYM
 Mondays 7-8:30 pm
 Guys, invite your friends & neighbors.

MEN'S BREAKFAST
Saturday, April 16, 8:30 am
Guys, bring a friend and join us for A good time of food & fellowship!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 1686
Oregon City, OR 97045-1956
(503) 656-3854

April 2016

Change Service Requested

TIME DATED MATERIAL



Nursery Ministries **Every Sunday 10:15 am-12 noon**
Parents: Our Nursery is open for you to use, however, we do not have an attendant at this time. Parents are asked to enroll older children in the KidChurch program.)

Hey kids! Join us
for
KidChurch
every Sunday morning!
We start by singing with our church family during the worship service at 10:30 am. Then, you'll go with your Leaders for games, crafts, and a fun interactive Bible story
See you there!
(KidChurch is just for kids!)

YOUNGCHURCH

JOIN US FOR GROUP!
Wednesdays (during school year), 7-8:30pm
Students in 6th grade - age 20: Join us for GROUP!
Here's what you can expect on a typical GROUP night:
7:00 – Snacks and Hang-Out Time
7:10 – Wacky Games
7:50 – Bible Study
Find us on Facebook, or check out our website!
1baptistchurch.org/Youngchurch.html

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Ministry Staff:
Senior Pastor, John Aman
Admin. Assistant, Cherish DiLoreto
Music Director, Melissa Meilinger
Youth Director, Melissa Meilinger

Church Office Hours:
Wednesday- Friday, 8:30 am - 12 noon

PRAYER CHAIN
If you have a prayer need and you would like it placed on the PRAYER CHAIN, please call or e-mail SHARI SECOR, 503-518-1222 or sharisark@aol.com

