
THE

May 2008
A Publication of
Bethany Christian Church

Bugle

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Summer 2008

Don't look now, but the summer of 2008 is almost upon us!

That means it is time to think about Rainbow Christian Camp. Take a moment to consider this: An average week of church camp is equal to (time wise) 1 year's worth of Sunday School. So, grab a brochure in the Atrium or at the Children's Information Center and sign your kid(s) and students up for a week. Don't forget, Bethany pays ½ the camp fee for members and regular attendees. You will need to call the church for the discount code BEFORE you register. If you have any questions, please call the church office. Note: Larry Lipps will be at Rainbow Christian Camp the following weeks: Extremes Week, June 22-27 and Extremes Week, July 27-30

SUNDAY MORNING:
9:00 A.M.
Worship
Sunday School
Kids' Church
(It Rocks)

10:30 A.M.
Worship
Sunday School
Student Ministry

Other upcoming summer dates:

Student Ministries:

- June 8-13 The ROCK - Senior High - Rainbow Christian Camp
- June 27-29 Senior High Adventure Weekend - TBA
- July 3-11 All Church Mexico Mission Trip
- July 14-18 Junior High KNOW Sweat - Cincinnati, OH
- July 23 Cincinnati Reds Game - Leave at 9:30 a.m.
- August 1 Indianapolis Indians Game - Leave at 5:30 p.m.

For more information on student ministries including a calendar visit
<bethanystudentministry.barefootyouth.com>

STAFF:

Bob Bell,
Senior Minister

David Coplin,
Worship

Tim Fair,
Student Ministries

Larry Lipps,
Families and Children

Larry Marshall,
Outreach and
Development

Kent Stookey,
Pastoral Care and
Involvement



GRADUATION CEREMONY MAY 15

The Nursery School graduation will be Thursday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Refreshments will be served (cookies & punch) after the ceremony in the gymnasium. For more information, call the church office, 643.5713.

I am grateful to live in the United States. I am grateful for the freedoms we have been given. I am grateful for a democratic form of government. I understand that voting is a privilege we have received at the hands of those who have come before us. We have a responsibility to participate in the political system in which we live.

Maybe it is that I am just paying more attention this year, but it seems like there is an elevated interest in this election year. Maybe it is due to the economic climate or the unrest in many parts of the world and the war in Iraq. It seems more people from various walks of life are talking about the coming election. I believe all that is a good thing.

However, I am not pinning my hopes on an elected official or the promises made during the campaign. I do not believe it is as simple as it sometimes sounds as candidates unroll their plans and policies. I am not being pessimistic. I am not throwing in the towel, being negative or critical. It is just that we need to pin our hopes on a much more secure and lasting solution. I prefer to place my trust in the King who sits enthroned over the earth.

In 1 Samuel 8, the Israelites ask for a King. Samuel, who was serving as judge over the people, is upset with their request. God instructs Samuel to give the people what they want—give them a king. God tells Samuel, *"Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. As they have done from the day I brought them up out of*

Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do." (1 Samuel 8:7-9) The people no longer were humbling themselves before God or trusting God to lead and deliver them. They wanted a king. They believed that if they just had the right king, then everything would be okay.

Now, I do not want to make any unfair comparisons, but this verse begs the question: *"Who are we trusting for our future?"* Are we trusting a new president, governor, congress or council? Have we taken our eyes off the one true King? Kings and kingdoms come and go, they rise and fall, but God remains forever. Proverbs 21:1 says, *"The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases."* God is ultimately in control. God can change the course of action and redirect the hearts of rulers. God is the One we must seek after and trust in above all others. To pin our hopes in a "king" is to reject God.

May we honor those who lead (1 Peter 2:17). May we pray for those in authority (1 Timothy 2:1-7). May we submit to those God has placed over us (Romans 13:1-7). But may we recognize that ultimately it is God who is Sovereign over every kingdom (Daniel 4:17), rules over all the earth (Psalm 103:19), and whose Kingdom never ends (Isaiah 9:7; Luke 1:29-33); therefore, we have nothing to fear (Psalm 118:6; Hebrews 13:5-6).

STATION 12

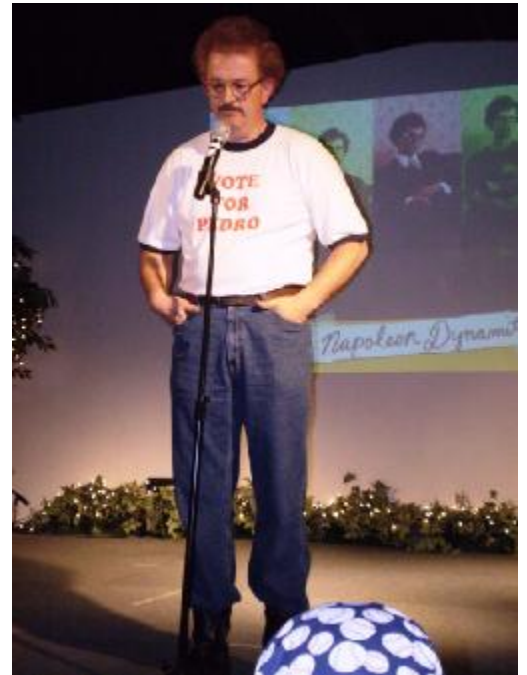


Our Station 12 program continues to roll on. It is a unique opportunity for kids and parents to come together and learn lessons at the same time. This allows parents to know what their children are learning at Bethany so they can continue the lessons at home. After all, God has called the parents to be the spiritual leader in their children's lives.



FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE NUTHIN' BUT NUNSENSE

Good things come to those who wait...



Friday Night Live 2008 was no exception.



After weeks of preparation and rehearsals the talent of our church was finally out on display for all to see... and laugh at! The two showings of FNL filled the attic and brought in donations for the junior high and senior high students participating in camps and other trips this summer.

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MAY 2008

5 LOVE LANGUAGES

As Spring approaches, it's time to have that air conditioner checked. Oh, and don't forget to have the car serviced before the big vacation trip. It is also a good time for a marriage tune-up. And have we got an offer for you. Our Five Love Languages Dessert is scheduled for Saturday evening, May 31st. The cost is only \$5.00 per person. You and your spouse can have a fun evening learning how to communicate better to one another. Sign up in the Atrium today.

KEENAGERS

Get ready to pack your bags! The Sharon Tours' bus will be heading toward Washington D.C. on September 29th for a five day sight-seeing adventure. The bus will leave Bethany at 7:00 a.m.

Stops include:

- The Capitol
- Several monuments, memorials and museums
- The White House (if security allows it)
- Arlington Cemetery
- Kennedy's graves
- Tomb of the Unknown soldier
- Mt. Vernon
- Plus a lunch cruise on the Potomac

Back in Pennsylvania we will see the Biblical Tabernacle Reproduction and at the Sight and Sound Theatre we will be seeing "In The Beginning". We will return on October 3rd. If you are interested, please contact Phyllis Harless at 644.7852.

MARCH STATISTICS:

March Offering Received..... \$82,572.31
Average Offering per week..... \$16,514.46
Percent of Monthly Budget.....101%

YEAR-TO-DATE:

Budgeted offering needed.....\$212,500.06
Actual y-t-d offering received\$200,236.01
Budgeted weekly average offering needed.. \$16,346.15
Actual weekly average offering per week.... \$15,402.77
Deficit to budget (year-to-date).....(\$12,264.05)
Percent of budget (year-to-date)..... 94%

2008 FAITH PROMISE GIVING UPDATE

Total funds sent to C.M.F for support of the Kineman Family:

	March	YTD
From Individuals:	\$1881.00	\$8,325.00
From Missions:	<u>\$1,100.00</u>	<u>\$3,300.00</u>
Total:	\$2981.00	\$11,625.00

2008 IMAGINE #2 GIVING UPDATE

March 2008.....\$12,099.00
Total given in 2008.....\$23,027.75
Total campaign gifts.....\$93,415.40

If you are interested in giving and would like envelopes, please contact the church office at 643.5713. We can also set up automatic withdrawal and bill pay.