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Faith Alliance Church
 6670 Knoxville Ave.
 New Bremen, OH 45869
 419-629-3688
 Website: www.faith-alliance.org
 Church Staff
 Tom Sager, Senior Pastor
tom@faith-alliance.org
 Trent Fledderjohann,
 Senior Associate Pastor
trent@faith-alliance.org
 James Lampert, Youth Pastor
james@faith-alliance.org
 David Wray, Missions Pastor
dave@faith-alliance.org
 Gina Tangeman, Children's Director
gina@faith-alliance.org
 Kristin Lampert, Pre-School Director
kristin@faith-alliance.org
 Jenny Schulze, Office Manager
jenny@faith-alliance.org
 Kristin Lampert, Care Coordinator
kristin@faith-alliance.org

WELCOME TO FAITH!

From Pastor Tom's Desk...

In his book, *Vision and Character*, Craig Dykstra writes:

If our problem is really sin—a fundamental breach in human existence—then repentance, not self-improvement, is the first requirement. This is the biblical view of the foundation of morality. The prophets, John the Baptist, Jesus, and Paul all beckoned their hearers to a new life by calling them first to give up the old in repentance... Repentance is the absolutely inescapable first step of the Christian moral life. Without repentance, the Christian moral life is impossible.

Isn't it interesting that we don't talk much about repentance anymore? When we do use the word "repentance," we tend to understand it as remorse. Remorse is feeling bad that you have done something wrong. It may be motivated by any of several things. Sorrow that you got caught, for example. Or, sadness that you hurt someone's feelings or let someone down. Or, regret that you complicated your life.

Repentance, on the other hand, is rooted in a deep sorrow that you have failed God. Yes, God Himself! It is a deep grief that you have been less than God intended, disobedient to His will, and unconcerned about His Kingdom. Repentance always begins with an awareness that we have let God down. David prayed in Psalm 51, "Against you, and you only, (O God,) I have sinned." Paul calls this awareness "godly sorrow" in 2 Corinthians 7. Godly sorrow is there contrasted with "worldly sorrow," which seems to be like the remorse I described above.

Spiritual transformation grows out of a sense of genuine repentance. Repentance motivates us to change—to conform our lives to God's will rather than fail Him again and again. Years ago I heard John Maxwell describe repentance this way: "Repentance is being sorry for your sin. How sorry? Sorry enough to quit!" Very little change takes place in our lives, as Dykstra said, without a genuine sense of repentance.

I believe Christians are predisposed to repentance. All of us sin from time to time, either by intention or ineptitude. When that happens, if we are walking in the Spirit, our response is one of the immediate repentance. When we are sold out to Jesus, we no longer want to disobey Him or hurt His cause. Sin produces an immediate regret that motivates us to seek forgiveness and empowerment for righteous living.

Thankfully, our repentance is always met with God's generous grace. He "forgives all our sins," as the Psalmist said in chapter 103. So don't be afraid to confess your sin to God in genuine repentance, and you'll receive the freedom that comes from being released from sin!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Tom

Safe Place Policy Seminar...

We will be holding a Safe Place Policy Seminar on Sunday August 28, immediately following second service, lunch is included. This seminar is open to all volunteers but specifically for people who want to volunteer but have not attended the Safe Place Seminar in the past. This will take place in Room 10.

The Safe Place Policy Seminar is an annual meeting held for people who would like to volunteer for our children and youth ministries. It is a requirement to attend this meeting to volunteer in these ministries in order to keep our workers and kids safe.

Please look for more details and/or contact Gina Tangeman for more information. (gina@faith-alliance.org or 567-644-9313)

Welcome, Josh and Marita...

We are excited to announce that we have invited Josh Kalichman to become our Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Worship, and he has accepted! Josh, his wife Marita, and their daughter Rachel will move to New Bremen the week of Labor Day. For more information, please see last August 7th's newsletter.



Current Prayer Concerns...

- Pastor Josh and Marita Kalichman, as they prepare to join our staff
- Becky Dock, upcoming MRI on her knee
- Heidi Siebenaler, neck injury, headaches
- Suzanne, daughter of Fred and Barb Moeller, bulging disc, severe pain
- Ryker, Wanda Miller's great-great-grandson, pneumonia; upcoming surgery
- Wendy Tangeman, Tim and Marty's niece, Lyme Disease; and kids
- Bill Shipman, knee replacement on Sept 22
- Bethany Schrader, fell down stairs
- Braden Heitkamp, scope on knee
- Diana Sprague's brother, John, pray his body accepts bone marrow from sister
- Raymond Bond, Nathan's father, non-Hodgkins lymphoma
- Ron Aragon, upcoming shoulder surgery
- Barney Gruebmeier, recovering from foot surgery
- Jay Berkey, now under Hospice care
- Family of Elijah Looker, 12-year-old who passed away from severe head injuries received in car/bicycle accident
- Brent Paulus, on-going health concerns
- Pastor Joe Getts, friend of Pastor Tom, cancer
- Anonymous request: healing of marriage, hearts, mind

Marriage Conference...

Family Life, A Weekend to Remember—November 11-13th, 2016 Dayton , OH.

Whether your marriage is thriving, barely surviving, your first child is on their way, or your last child is on the way out of your house, this is great opportunity for you and your spouse to connect more effectively. It will be Friday evening so those who work Monday-Friday will not need to miss work It's going to be a great weekend, we hope you will consider joining us! If you're interested talk with Jay & Rhonda Hager (567-644-2161/jhager.7@hotmail.com) or Pastor Trent (419-733-9441/trent@faith-alliance.org).

Details

Location: Marriott of University of Dayton

When: November 11-13, Friday 7pm (registration begins at 5pm) - Sunday 12pm

Cost: \$450—hotel and conference

More Info: www.familylife.com/weekend

Retirement Celebration for Pastor Dave and Sharon...

Pastor Dave and Sharon have been a tremendous blessing to our church through their 13 years here at Faith Alliance. Dave began as our Youth Pastor, gradually assuming leadership of our Missions Ministries as well. In the summer of 2014, he transferred his youth ministry responsibilities to Pastor James, and he became our "part-time" missions pastor. Under his leadership, the passion and scope of our missions ministry has grown significantly.

Dave will complete his ministry here at the end of this Month. On Sunday, August 28, we will be recognizing Dave and Sharon in our worship services. Following each service, we will hold a reception in their honor in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to be with us.

Church Picnic and Baptism Service...

Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 11th! That evening we will hold our annual picnic at the Lake Loramie beach shelter. Following our carry-in supper, we will celebrate baptisms in the lake. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact one of the pastors at your earliest convenience.



Community Picnic...

Once again the churches of New Bremen will be joining together to sponsor a picnic carry-in supper for the community. This year's event will be held at the Crown Pavilion on Sunday August 28, at 5:30 p.m. Those attending Faith Alliance are asked to bring a double portion of a salad for sharing. (Community guests will not be bringing food; the churches are providing this meal).

Following supper, AC Swing will wrap up the summer concert series. For their closing, a combined choir is being formed to sing a patriotic number. Rehearsals will be held on August 11 at St. Paul Church of Christ from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., and at the Pavilion on August 25 from 8:30- 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Scott Kuenning at 419-305-1500.

Adult Game Night...

We're going to have an Adult Game Night on August 27th from 6:30-8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall at Faith Alliance. Childcare is available if needed, but you need to let us know. Bring a dessert to share. There is a signup sheet in the foyer, please say how many are coming and how many children will need childcare. If you have any questions talk to Pastor Trent.



Financial Report

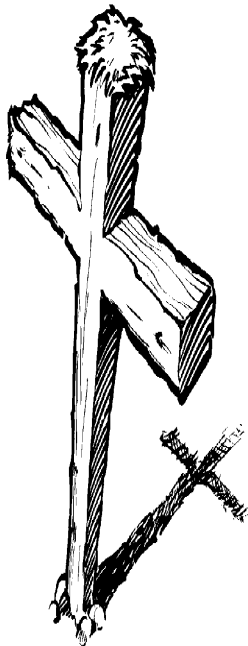
Offering August 14, 2016

General Fund: \$8051
 Local Mission: \$264
 Great Commission: \$1135
 Deacon Fund: \$205
 Hope House: \$105
 Tea House: \$10
 Sewing Ministry: \$105

Attendance

Week of August 14, 2016
 9:00 Worship—111
 10:30 Worship—96
 Kids—13; Adult Workers—4
 Total Worship—224
 International Class—12

RENEW



COMING EVENTS

Sunday, August 21, 2016

Today

9:00... Early Service

10:30... Late Service

This Week

No youth group/activities...

Sep 4th... Back to School Kick-Off @ Kings Island! (Depart after church)

Sep 7th... Youth Group Kick-Off Party

Sep 14th... Youth Group officially begins

WHAT SHALL
YOU PROFIT
IF YOU GAIN THE
WHOLE WORLD
AND FORFEIT
YOUR SOUL?
Matt. • 16:26

MINISTRIES

Annual Auglaize County Help Me Grown/ Preschool Screenings...

(Birth through 5 years old)

Talk to experts to assure your child is on track in the areas of growth, vision, hearing, foot and ankle, language, motor skills and behavior. If concerns are identified, parents are educated about the services and resource's available so their child can get help early and start school healthy and ready to learn.

Monday, September 12, 2016

3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

201 N. Perry St.

St. Mary's, Ohio

Heritage Center: First Annual Carnival...

Minster Heritage Care Center will host a community carnival next Sunday, August 28, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. The carnival will feature a petting zoo, bounce house, face painting, pony rides, DJ, and food. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Happy Birthday, Bill!

Bill Doseck, resident at Otterbein and our oldest member, turns 98 on Sunday, August 21. Bill still works in the Otterbein wood shop every weekday! We pray God's richest blessings upon this faithful servant of God.

*Happy
Birthday!*