



FAITH ALLIANCE CHURCH

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Prayer Concerns... 2
Letter Continued...
Sunday Bible Study...

Wednesday Night 3
Dinner Menu...
Sunday Mens Bible
Study...

Women's Lenten Break-
fast...
Attendance Reports...

Youth News... 4
Housing help...
Young Adult Bible
Study...

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February 26, 2017

Welcome to Faith Alliance!



Mark 4:21 - "Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand?"

Some of you are looking to impact people spiritually in the workplace, that's exciting! I know that can be difficult, nobody wants to be the weird person, nobody wants to turn a casual lunch into an awkward silence, and there's often a mentality that work is not the place to talk about your personal faith. I think another reality is that many people in this area are working in places where everyone already claims to be Christian or they've already sat at the feet of your evangelism attempts in the past and they're not interested in hearing it again. I want to share another thought to consider as you pray about influencing people in the workplace.

Oftentimes our mind goes directly to wondering how we could reach the lost, "how can I share Christ with them?" Something that is potentially just as effective would be to answer this question, "how can I celebrate my faith with others in the workplace?" Now the connection being made is not between Christian and non-Christian, it's between two believers. Pray that God would open up an opportunity for you to start meeting with one of the people you work with that is already a Christian. This could be a weekly lunch where you discuss scripture, share a devotional together, pray together, develop accountability, talk about how to use Christian principles in your business, etc. As you celebrate your faith with other believers it will open up more natural conversations with others who may not have faith. It will be easier to invite people into a small group than it would be to invite them into something one on one. And know that if a non-believer is giving you a hard time that it may be their way of communicating some interest or intrigue in what you're doing - don't hesitate to dig a little deeper at that point. Meeting with other believers will also empower you to know that you're not alone in your pursuit to influence people spiritually.

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(Continued from Page 1)

I'm praying that God will clearly lead you as you look to be a spiritual influence in your workplace. If you have prayer requests, thoughts, or questions don't hesitate to contact one of the pastors or elders, we'd be happy to meet with you. There are many resources that would be useful for employees or employers to use when discussing how to bring faith into the workplace.

Blessings,
Pastor Trent

Current Prayer Concerns...

- Bill Shipman, recovering from surgery
- John Schulze, defibrillator put in 2/23
- Donna Baumgartner, broken bones in leg
- Tyler and Jill Henschen's baby in womb, Hypo-plastic left heart syndrome
- Ken and Kathy Young's 3 oldest granddaughters have cystic fibrosis, in hospital currently

Sunday Morning Bible Study...

Starting March 12 at 9:00am Andrea Ball will be leading a study called, *The Armor of God* by Priscilla Shirer: All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you - unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, your mind, your marriage, your children, your relationship, your resilience, your dreams, your destiny.

But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with you guard down, this study is for you.

The enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. *The Armor of God*, more than merely a biblical description of the believer's inventory, is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory. If you are interested in joining this study please sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

Why We Should Celebrate Lent

Lent is known as a time of prayer, repentance, and recommitment leading up to the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter. Starting with Ash Wednesday, Lent is a time of spiritual preparation for the most important religious holiday for believers. The idea is to abstain from pleasurable activities and instead use the time and energy usually spent in those activities to focus on taking stock of the one's own spiritual condition and repenting for spiritual failures. In this case, the ashes represent sorrow over our sins and the pain and death caused by sin. As we prepare to celebrate Easter, we want to use the weeks before to focus less on our physical needs and more on our spiritual needs - to appreciate anew the cost of grace and the victory of the empty tomb.

Women of Faith Alliance are invited to join together for early morning breakfast and devotional time the six Fridays before Holy Week. Beginning Friday, March 3, we will give up a little sleep in the morning to meet at the church at 7:00am. A light breakfast will be provided and a short Lenten devotional shared. Join us for "It is Finished" - a Lenten study of Christ's final words on the cross.

Sunday Morning Men's Study...

Starting March 12 at 9:00 am. Rich Ball will lead a study called *Stepping Up - A Call to Courageous Manhood*. Men today are in a battle. It's a battle without bullets or bombs, but a battle all the same. It's a fight for our families and our future. Facing the battles of life demands courage, and courage is the ability to do the hard thing in every circumstance, despite the cost.

Stepping Up calls men to courageous manhood, offering a powerful vision for what it means to be a man today who truly conquers men to honestly evaluate where they stand. Then, he prepares men bravely master their life purpose by developing a strategic plan and establishing a winning vision. If you are interested in this 10 week study, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

Wednesday Night Dinner Menu...

Chicken Pot Pie, Fruit, Rolls, Salad Bar, and Dessert.

Dinner begins at 5:30 pm. Everyone is welcomed to join together with us for dinner. Following dinner there is a time for worship and prayer. Then small discussion group begin at 7:00 pm.

Financial Report

Offering February 19, 2016

General Fund: \$8,120

Building Fund: \$80

Great Commission: \$1,097

Adult Mission: \$500

Hope House: \$50

Tea House: \$35

Local Mission: \$266

Youth Center: \$50

Youth Mission: \$50

Attendance

Week of February 19, 2016

Early Worship - 85

Kids - 52 Workers - 13

Late Worship - 122

Total Worship - 277

Foundation Class: 11

YOUTH GROUP

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Doors open - 6:30p.m.

Jr. High Class - 6:30p.m. 7:30p.m.

Sr. High Class - 8:30p.m. 9:30p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March:

3: College visit at Indiana Wesleyan

31: College visit at Grace College

SUNDAY MORNING DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship Class - 9:15am-10:15am

(In Classroom 8)

Happy Birthday this month to

Gabi and Lydia Heckman,
Mason Kuck, Pagie Philipps
John Michael Schulze

Community Housing Help...

Auglaize County has funds available for Private Owner Rehabilitation and Home Repair assistance. Funding amounts are determined by housing needs assessed by the Rehabilitation Specialist at inspection. Funding is limited, so if you find someone who is in need of this assistance, encourage them to apply soon!

Young Adult Women's Bible Study...

Journey through *Seamless*, a 7 session study, beginning Monday, March 13 at 7:30pm. "Experience the Bible as a whole as you gain clarity and confidence in your understanding of Scripture." Contact Kristin Lampert if you're interested. Contact: kristin@faith-alliance.org | 419-905-5253