#### mike paslay, minister of music

THUMP, THUMP! We hear it at our house every day. A very aggressive robin mounts a daily assault on its reflection in the front window of our living room. This poor, pitiful creature is blessed with an overdeveloped sense of protection and an underdeveloped bird brain. Acting solely on instinct, it lacks the intellectual capacity to realize the truth. While it repeatedly attacks perceived danger with verve and vigor, it leaves its nest defenseless to real enemies who are free to occupy the home it has vacated to protect. When I can get past the frustration of the noise and bother, the bird's struggle makes me sad. Especially after I, unlike the bird, begin to see myself reflected in the situation.

God's Word assures me that at the point I yielded to the Holy Spirit and asked Jesus to be my Savior, I was born again and baptized with His Spirit. I was changed forever, made a citizen in an invisible, spiritual Kingdom, and given a new nature. it also tells me that while I am to live in this world and influence it, I must do so without being influenced by it. I am instructed to think differently than those who are outside the Kingdom and residents only of this world. Sadly, I don't do this. Instead, I often do just the opposite. Like that goofy bird, I act instinctively, giving way to my old nature, allowing the world's way of thinking to direct my actions.

I need to remember, that while the world offers advice regarding both my time and money, it does not understand the things of God. The scriptures say the carnal cannot perceive the spiritual. How tragic that I, a spiritually transformed creature, yield to a worldly mindset that dictates how I spend my money to protect my territory. I accept a deceptive image reflected through the world's window, anxiously making decisions regarding my finances.

God's Word reminds us in another passage that He in his infinite love and wisdom cares for the birds of the field. He even knows when one of them falls. If the God of the universe keeps track of the birds, He can certainly be trusted with the details of my life, including my finances and my territory.

As my family and I pray about our "Find Us Faithful" commitment, we need to remember just how much God loves us. His faithfulness deserves our faithfulness. And likewise, we need to remember that sad, tired, little bird. Otherwise we, like the robin, could spend a lot of energy accomplishing nothing, and end up with some real bill problems!

#### CHURCH WORK/CLEAN UP DAY

The Properties Committee is sponsoring a Work/Clean Up Day, Saturday, April 20th, 8:30 a.m.

Everyone bring rakes, brooms, shovels, etc. We plan to be done by noon.

What is the old saying? There are only two sure things in life, death and taxes. Well, one of those is happening this week, and Lord willing it is just taxes! When the author of this saying first uttered these words, I think that he forgot an inevitable third part. Gary C. Collins, a noted Christian psychologist put it best in his book "Family Shock". He said the inevitable third part of this saying is family. No matter where we go we will always confront the dynamic of family.

In the eight years that I have been in youth ministry, I have seen the family encouraged, blessed, misunderstood, mislabeled, and torn apart. The family, which used to be the shelter from the war going on out in the world, has become the battleground. (Collins) In the last two churches in which I have served, at least 1/3 of the youth have been in a family that has dealt with divorce. I have seen parents at the end of their rope because of uncontrolled rebellion in their children. I have seen parents and teens alike frustrated over the lack of communication that occurs in the home. I have even seen a few parents who have given up.

What is the answer to the question of family in the 1990's? Is there any hope for the home anymore? Well, I think there is, but it is going to take the concern of the family to help the family grow, and attention and time is going to have to be taken to heal old wounds and establish stronger relationships. O.K. Jim, so where do we start?

Well, for those of you who are parents of pre-teens or teenagers a great place to start is coming up in just two weeks. The Understanding Your Teenager seminar at the Jesus Fest Student Conference is a dynamic opportunity for you to begin or to continue to grow in your parenting skills. Renowned author and speaker Wayne Rice from Lakeside, California, will be leading this conference. Wayne has worked with teenagers for over 30 years and is co-founder of Youth Specialties, a national organization providing resources and training for youth workers and youth ministers. Wayne will be discussing topics such as understanding your teenager, principles for effective parenting, when to get help, 30 ways to raise your teenager's self esteem, and ways to promote better understanding. There will also be a session where you will be able to ask Wayne any questions you would like about parenting pre-teens and teenagers.

The conference is April 26-27th and only \$20 per person or \$50 for a family of 3 or more. Just give me a call by April 25th at the church office to register. Sixth graders are invited to attend the student conference all weekend as well. Please don't miss this incredible opportunity to grow your parenting skills and in Understanding Your Teenager. Striving with you, Jim.

## theYOUTH



**Guest Speakers:** 

Wayne Rice, Wade Morris, Rick Caldwell

# -- education

by bob hopkins minister of education -----



In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others - Romans 12:5

The fellowship of Fayetteville's FBC is a loving, caring, giving fellowship. Together, we manifest the body of Christ. Since I have served this church, I am most blessed. I feel the presence of God in dynamic worship. I learn of Jesus through spirit-filled Bible study, and experience warm fellowship of the Holy Spirit through the many members of the body. The body means much to me and I enjoy belonging.

In a couple of weeks the church will gather for "Celebration Sunday." The many members of the body will accept the challenge set before us through the "Find Us Faithful" campaign. The schedule for that Sunday is different. There will be good food, great fellowship and a celebration of worship. Over six hundred worshipers are expected. Each member of the body will experience the presence of the head of the body, the living Christ. It will be glorious! I can hardly wait!

Expectantly,



things... prayer worship time money family

> the latest on spiritual growth in our church... the future is now!

come join us

#### **FBC TRAVELERS**

Put two upcoming trips on your calendar:

- 1) Passion Play Area/Eureka Springs Trip Tuesday, April 30 - leave church at 12:30 p.m.
  - \* New Holy Land Tour
  - \* Sacred Arts Center
  - \* Bible Museum
  - \* Dinner at the Mission Buffet Restaurant Cost: \$15 each due by April 21st
- 2) Branson Trip

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RS

Friday and Saturday, May 24-25

- \* Stay at the Lawrence Welk Hotel dinner and Lawrence Welk Show with Lennon Sisters and others of the Lawrence Welk show - Breakfast and the Lennon Brothers morning show
- \* Waltzing Waters with Concert Pianist Frederick at twin baby grand pianos
- \* Shopping

Cost: \$130 each - \$65 due by April 21st

For more information and reservation, Call Clementine Hembree, 521-2092.

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jere d. mitchell, pastor

# what's inside sunday evening fellowship! don't miss it! pancake supper Jesus Fest

#### Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service for Eula Crippen Thursday, April 18, 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary of First Baptist Church.

### Pancake Supper

The FBC University Ministry is sponsoring a Pancake Supper Sunday, April 21st, following the evening service. Proceeds from the supper will help benefit two of our University students: Chip Austin printing his book, "The Alpha and Omega: A Study of the Beginning and the End of Time"; and Wei-Chung Wu's Mission Trip to China, Summer of 1996. Everyone is invited!

## LaVeta Sergeant Group

Monday, April 22nd, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Tanneberger, 2039 Archer Drive.

Patsy Sugg will be leading our study.

#### WYCLIFFE ASSOCIATES BANQUET

Millions in the world do not have God's Word in their language. Learn how you can help! Attend the Wycliffe Associates Banquet on April 29 at the Holiday Inn in Springdale. Bring your friends! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with reserved seating until 6:45 p.m. For further information and complimentary tickets, please call Louise Coker at 442-6777.

#### Praise Record ~ April 14

Sunday School Enrollment		1026	
Sunday School Attendance		469	
New Sunday School Members			
Weekday Attendance		14	
Morning Worship		N/A	
Evening Worship		N/A	
Received April 14	\$	16,338.36	
Required April 14	\$	16,153.85	
Received in April	\$	36,675.18	
Required in April	\$	32,307.70	
Received in 1996	\$	242,937.52	
Required in 1996	\$	242,307.75	
Debt Retirement	\$	177.00	
Balance Owed			
Property Acquisition Loans	\$	7,123.05	
Comerstone of Faith (C. of F.)	\$	7,688.00	
C. of F. Since 4/1/93	\$	850,010.00	
Balance owed Cornerstone			
loan 2/29/96	\$1,056,193.19		

Extended Session ~ April 21
Babies: Maxine Mayes,
Melanie Million
Older Babies: Margaret Little,
Hannah Lee
Ones: Phillip and Dana Hargis
Twos: Ron and Deedra Branscum,
Lindsey Loyd
Threes: Charles and Yvette Getch,
Jackie Loyd
Fours: Karen Ramsey,
Sarah Savage
Evening: Barbara Hinton,
Cyndy Meares

Parking/Van	Ministry - April 21
	all members
	Harry Norman

Hospitalized		
Bill Martin	WRMC	#50

Mid-Week Menu Wednesday, April 24, 5:00 p.m. White Beans w/sausage or ham/ Broccoli Cornbread/ Salad Bar/ Potato Bar/ Sandwich Bar

#### To First Baptist Church Members and Staff

A huge thank you from the kitchen crew - Jane, Donna, and Evelyn. The flowers were lovely, the help from the young "professionals of Kirby's" along with Lisa and Jim, made the Wednesday, April 10th dinner a successful and delightful one. The decorating committee certainly captured the essence of the evening. Thanks to each of you.

- Your Kitchen Crew



## Sunday Evening Fellowship

This Sunday! April 21st at 6:00 pm

## **From Your Pastor**

Faithfulness is one of the greatest themes of the Bible. It is given as one aspect of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. I understand that to mean at least two things.

One, the Holy Spirit enables us to be faithful. Because of our human nature, it is sometimes difficult to be faithful in all things. The Holy Spirit of God gives us strength to do so.

Second, faithfulness is evidence that we are full of the Holy Spirit and living a Spirit-filled life.

It is my prayer that you will want to be faithful to God, and He will enable you to be faithful.

Faithfully yours, Preacher



# FIND US FAITHFUL FELLOWSHIP

Join the First Family this
Sunday evening in Fellowship
Hall around the tables.
It will be a great time of
communication, praise,
fellowship and more.
You won't want to miss it!

Immediately following the fellowship there will be a brief business meeting and then the University sponsored PANCAKE SUPPER!

Come hungry!