

BRIDGING THE GAP

*Humble yourselves before the Lord, and
He will exalt you. James 4:10*



A Letter From the Pastor

BY ANDY WOOD

It was a long January. As someone so succinctly put it the other day “January will make you feel all 31 of its days.” I like February. It is a short and sweet month, with just 28 days (unless of course it is a leap year). It also has a weird spelling to it!

February is also the month that contains that little holiday known as Valentine’s Day. This holiday is sometimes called a “Hallmark holiday”. Some folks argue that it is not a real holiday. The argument makes sense. The figure most often associated with Valentine’s day is Cupid, not St. Valentine himself. Cupid really has nothing to do with Valentine’s Day. Then again, Santa Claus has nothing to do with Christmas.

St. Valentine was a real man. He was martyred for doing something that was illegal. He was performing marriage rights for people. Claudius the emperor during the third century A.D. banned young men from being able to marry. He believed that unmarried young men made better soldiers. Eventually, Valentine’s illegal activities were discovered and he was put in jail. According to some legends, while in prison just before his execution, he sent a letter to Claudius’s daughter and signed it “from your Valentine”.

With all that in mind, Valentine’s day is not just a made up holiday. It celebrates love, particularly the love between a husband and wife. Sadly, in today’s world, it seems that lust is more celebrated than love. Love seeks to care for the other person, lust seeks to please the self. Love is not self seeking.

As Christians, our calling is to love others. Some will ask, “Do I have to love someone that is hard to love?” Yes, we are even supposed to love them. Christ’s entire mission was carried out because of His love for us. We had a sin problem that we could not solve ourselves. Our loving Father sent His Son to rescue us from our sin because He loves us. He made that sacrifice for us.

My hope and prayer is that we daily love others and live lives that reflect God’s love for us!





Church Calendar



February

01: SOUP-er Bowl Fundraiser Begins
 03: Food Truck 7:45am
 03: Deacon Meeting 6:30
 11: WMU Meeting 6:30
 15: Spaghetti Dinner 6-7:30
 17: Business Meeting 6:30

March

03: Food Truck 7:45am
 03: Deacon Meeting 6:30
 04: WMU Meeting 6:30
 17: Business Meeting 6:30
 29: Silent Dessert Auction 10-12:30
 29: Easter Cantata 11:00

Building & Grounds

-The first issue of the year started with an internet issue on the education side of the church. The wifi routers malfunctioned with the exception of one. The wifi has been restored, but the range no longer reaches into the parking lot.

-Some ideas on the horizon:

Build a closet around the sump pump on lower level.

Build a closet around the water cut off valve in the female restroom on the lower level.

Install false overhead (ceiling) throughout the education wing hallways.

Put sheetrock throughout education wing hallways.

Upgrade electrical outlets in children's ministry room. Currently, they only have one outlet in the room.

VBS will be upon us soon. Look for emails from Dania about props and set pieces that she will need help building.

-All projects from the previous year are still on our RADAR. We will continue to work on them as funding and time becomes available.

-There's always room for one more. Talk to Larry or Andy about joining the team!

Scripture of the Month

No one has greater love than this, that someone would lay down his life for his friends.

-John 15:13

The Hangout

7TH-12TH GRADE

Reading the Word Daily

We are focused on trying to encourage the teens to read the Bible everyday. Studies have been done that reflect daily reading to be the most influential, but it takes a minimum of 4 days a week for the reading to actually impact a person's life. **Pray** for our students...we have TWO who have made a commitment to read daily.

This year we have some graduating seniors and a few juniors. The rest are middle school students. So, we will begin having "Upperclassmen Sundays" this year. Only Juniors & Seniors will be at these Bible Studies. The goal is to dive into Biblical conversations that will help prepare them for their next chapter. **Please pray that we can reach some of our local teens on these Sundays!!**

Upcoming **Hangout** Events:

Feb 8: Football & Fellowship
6-8 @ Wood House

Feb 15: Spaghetti Dinner
Fundraiser 6-7:30

Mar 29: Fun Fellowship Night

April 5&12 SPRING BREAK -
No Hangout

Grades 11-12

Feb 22- Upperclassmen
Night@ Wood House

Mar 22- Upperclassmen
Night@ Wood House

April 26- Upperclassmen
Night@ Wood House

June 13-17: FUGE Camp

KID'S CORNER

Babies-6th grade

There's Snow in the Forecast, But VBS is on our Minds...

Yes, there is snow all around, but VBS will be here before we know it! The dates that seem to be best for volunteers are June 1-4, with a pool party on June 5 (tentatively).

A sign up for volunteering is posted in the hallway upstairs. Here are jobs that need filling:

- Registration
- Crew Leaders (need 3)
- Decorating
 - stage
 - fellowship hall
 - hallway
- Opening & Closing Worship
- PreK helpers

Please email fbcstpaul.children@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer!

Children's Church & Nursery Volunteer Schedule

Date	Children's Church	Nursery	Pre-K
February 1	9am-Ann 11am-Alana	9am-Melissa 10am-Melissa	9am-Cindy 10am-Cindy
February 8	9am-Kelli 11am-Cindy	9am-Vickie 10am-Ann	9am-Kelli 10am-Kelli
February 15	9am-Terri 11am-Terri	9am-Dania 10am-Vickie	10am-Cindy 11am-Cindy
February 22	9am-Dania 11am-Dania	9am-Terri 10am-Alana	9:00-Kelli 10am-Kelli



ALWAYS ON MISSION

FBC FOOD BANK

SOUP-er BOWL SUNDAY is ALL MONTH LONG!

Please consider donating money or canned goods to our Food Bank. There are two months a year that we really focus our energy on the Food Bank. February and June (VBS).

There will be a GIANT black SOUP BOWL to serve as the reminder that we are taking EXTRA offerings for this mission during the month of February.

You can write a check, leave cash in the bowl, or bring canned goods and leave them in the sanctuary in the black bin.

**Our Food Bank is open on the
1st/3rd Tuesday's 9-11:00**



FEBRUARY MISSIONARIES

Please keep these missionaries In your prayers as they reach the lost all over the world:

Phillip and Kelly Isham
-Fort Sill, OK

Sam and Taylor Romine
-Johnstown, OH

Troy and Chanel Gause
-Marrero, IL

Kendrick and Melissa Neal
-Fresno, CA

WMU: WOMEN ON MISSION

FBC women meet monthly in the 1st Wed of the month at 5:30. We have a time of prayer, a devotion, and discuss mission opportunities in the area. Please consider joining us!



FEBRUARY OCC DONATIONS:

**TOOTHBRUSHES
HAIR BRUSHES**

YOU CAN LEAVE DONATIONS IN THE RED OCC BOXES
IN THE COFFEE ROOM OR VESTIBULE.



ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER
OFFERING COMING IN

MARCH

WE WILL SET OUR GOAL AT THE FEB MEETING.
PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS OFFERING AND ALL IT DOES
TO REACH UNSAVED PEOPLE THROUGH ITS
MISSIONARIES HERE IN THE UNITED STATES.

*"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."*

Matthew 28:19 NLT

FEBRUARY

05- KARLA SHEPARD

06- LONZIE HOLBROOK

11- ANGIE FIELDS

20- PEGGY BELLAMY

23- CARLA STONE

25- CASEY MCREYNOLDS

27- BAILEE VARNEY

Happy Birthday!!



FBC Weekly Opportunities:

Sunday 5:00: Choir practice

Sunday 5:00 Youth "Hangout" 6th-12th grade

Monday 1:00 Yoga with Glenna -Fellowship Hall

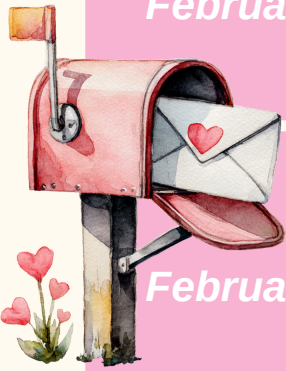
Tuesday 9:00 Food bank (*1st & 3rd Tue of the month*)

Wednesday 6:30 Bible Study & Bible Club K-5th grade
(Aug-May)

February Children's Volunteers



Date	Children's Church	Nursery	Pre-K
<i>February 1</i>	9am-Ann 11am- Alana	9am-Melissa 10am-Melissa	9am-Cindy 10am-Cindy
<i>February 8</i>	9am-Kelli 11am- Cindy	9am-Vickie 10am-Ann	9am-Kelli 10am-Kelli
<i>February 15</i>	9am-Terri 11am-Terri	9am-Dania 10am-Vickie	10am-Cindy 11am-Cindy
<i>February 22</i>	9am-Dania 11am-Dania	9am-Terri 10am-Alana	9:00-Kelli 10am-Kelli





Sweetheart DINNER

February 15, 2026

Taking reservations for Dine-in
and Carry-out between 6:00-7:30.

Menu:

Spaghetti

Salad

Garlic Bread

Dessert

Please email **fbcstpaul.students@gmail.com**
to reserve your table or to-orders.

Please specify any allergies.

**This is a fundraiser to support the
Hangout Student ministry.**