



Baptiscope



September Edition 2017

First Baptist Church 85 W. Jefferson St., Jefferson, Ohio 44047

"Investing Our Lives in Things that Matter"

In my NLT Life Application Study Bible, Luke 12:13-21 reads like this:

¹³ Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me."

¹⁴ Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?" ¹⁵ Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own." ¹⁶ Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. ¹⁷ He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. ¹⁹ And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!"'

²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'

²¹ "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

The longer I live—and the more I read my Bible and pray—the more I feel I need to daily question whether I am investing my life in things that matter. The rich man in the parable certainly had not invested his life in the right place; God called him a fool and took his life from him that same day.

Sometimes I think that maybe the meaning of this parable slides right by us. Too many people probably read the parable and think, "Well, Jesus is certainly not talking to me; I am not rich. I am not building bigger 'barns.'" But that is the wrong approach. I believe that Jesus is addressing people's hearts and motives—not just how much money or how many possessions we have. Jesus tells us in Matthew 6, "Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."

Fifty plus years ago (that's close enough), I sang bass in a Gospel/barbershop quartet at Eastern Baptist College. One Sunday morning, we sang a song for the 11 a.m. worship service at Central Baptist Church in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Since we were there early and the sanctuary was empty, we practiced our number, "This World Is Not My Home." The pastor came in, stopped, and listened. When we finished, he said, "That's great singing but lousy theology." I have never forgotten his statement because I did not agree with that Baptist pastor then, and I still do not agree with him.

This world is NOT my home, and I AM just passing through. Even while Christians are still here on earth, we are to think of ourselves as aliens (I Peter 2:11) and as "citizens of heaven" (Philippians 3:21). Being citizens of heaven does not mean that "we are so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good." I have never met a true heavenly minded believer who is no earthly good. A true Christian believer is seeking to be just like Jesus. A true Christian believer is keeping the Great Commandments (Matthew 22:37-39) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 19 & 20). In the process of doing that, we are storing up our treasures in heaven, we are showing that we are citizens of heaven, and we ARE investing our lives in the things that matter—loving and serving God our Father and loving and serving people around us. All of us at Jefferson First Baptist need to be doing that.

Ed Pickard, interim pastor
Home: 440-576-0390
Cell: 440-478-7031



Lunch Bunch

Lunch bunch will begin meeting again on September 19 at noon. We will meet every other month to start. Hope you can join us for a delicious meal and fellowship with friends!

September Happy Birthday!

Ethel Dumperth	4 th
Barb Smith	4 th
Sherry Comp	11 th
Dan Havens	18 th
Irene Edge	19 th
Jeff Kamler	20 th
Jim Comp	28 th

Happy Anniversary!

Jerry & Barbara Greene 13th



Hymn Sing

September 14 at 2:00 p.m. Jefferson Healthcare.

Attention All Men of the Church!

Please join us on September 9 at 8:00 a.m. for men's breakfast. We will have a great breakfast and enjoy a time of fellowship and prayer. Hope to see you there!

Martha Circle

Thursday, September 14 at 11 a.m.

A.B.W's Sunday

September 17

Mary Elizabeth Circle

Tuesday, September 19 at 7 p.m.

Fall Party

Monday, September 25 at 6 p.m. Potluck at Ashtabula Baptist.



Thank you for all of the cards, visits and prayers that came my way during this difficult time. Healing is slow but progressing.

Romans 5:3-4

Sincerely,

Barb Smith



Current Fund

Current Fund for July 1-31, 2017

<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Balance as of July 31</u>
\$14,846.50	\$6,138.27	\$23,202.31

Prayer Concerns

If you have a concern you would like on the prayer list for Sunday, contact the church office or Brenda Headley @ (440-624-4225 or blouheadley@gmail.com). If you have an emergency request for the prayer chain, call Donna Browning (994-4451). If you cannot reach her, call either the church office (576-1631) or Sara Hinkle (576-9583). Give requests for cards to be sent to Carolyn Hansford.

New Concerns:

Jane York is home doing well – had polyp removed August 21.

Nancy Hopes will be starting radiation soon.

Sympathy to the Havens on the passing of Dorothy.

On Going Concerns:

The life and direction of First Baptist Church, Diane Gregg (healing of her eye), Larry Fisher, Glenda Graham, David & Kathryn Neige, Jeffrey Wilcox, Eleanor Herrmann, Gary Webster - ALS, Jayne Stepp, Tim Prine, Susan Smith, Don Sarna, Duane Tanner, Carol Sprinkle, Anne Pinney (Ethel's sister), John Shaffer (Ellie's friend-cancer & salvation). Debbie Leech - softening of brother's heart & a place to live, Sherry Comp, Barb Smith, Dorset Baptist Church, Willie Prine, Charlene Wise, Mike Mullins.

College students: Joanne Beckwith, Valarie Burlingame, Steven Butcher, Abby Kovacs, Seth Woodworth-Walts Brenden Legg.

Service People: Dan and Samantha Au, Patrick Bisigni, Alex Cash, Jennifer Dyrz - state side this week, Natasha Shreve (home - senior year), Andrey Kamler - to go to Marines when released from doctor.

Senior Members & Friends: Nursing Home Seniors: Dorothy Havens, Ruth Gran.

Shut-ins and Homebound:

Jean Friedrich, Bea Gras

THANK YOU!

Dear Church Family,

We want to say a BIG thank you to everyone who knew and cared about our mom Dorothy Havens, and could rejoice with us at her home-going on August 22. She loved our church and our Savior so much, and worked diligently her entire life to share that love with others. Thank you to all of our dear church friends for your beautiful cards, delicious food brought to us, to those who were able to come to the funeral and especially those who lifted us all in prayer this past week. We appreciate each one of you, and your many acts of kindness! To Brenda Headley who organized the funeral dinner, the wonderful women who helped prepare such a delicious meal, and the men & women who served & cleaned up that day, we send an extra portion of thanks and appreciation. Dorothy's life was one of joy, giving and sharing her love of Jesus for the 91 years she was a Christian. We thank the Lord for her and His goodness in allowing us to be a part of her family.

Dan & Rick Havens, Doris, Kay & Cherie

HOME MISSIONS

Koinonia Camp & Conference Center is our mission partner for September. Summer camping season has ended, but that is only one part of the year-round-ministry that goes on at Koinonia. Check out their newsletter on the bulletin board at the north entrance to the church sanctuary.

Check out page 2 of their newsletter for a unique ministry going on right now. YOU can help out with this outreach if you are available on Monday or Thursday evenings for at least 45 minutes. All you have to do is walk next to a horse while children with challenges ride the horses. Each rider needs between 2 and 3 walkers to make each session possible. If you are interested, give the camp a call at 466-1278.

In July, \$825 went to the Peter McCurdy family in Costa Rica.

In August, \$700 went to CAMS and their work in Haiti.

Operation Christmas Child

Different people get involved in Operation Christmas child in different ways. Some pack just one box, while others pack multiple boxes. Some donate items for others to put in their boxes but never pack a box of their own. Some people watch for bargains all year round. Others fill their boxes with just one shopping trip; some donate money. But the first thing to do is pray that the Lord will show you how He would like you to be involved in this ministry. If the Lord leads you to pack a box or boxes, you can pray for direction as to what you put in your box.



There are some guidelines established by Samaritan's Purse that help guide you in your gift selections. For information about what can and cannot go into the boxes check out *What goes in My Shoebox?* @<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>

When you have made your gift selections, you are ready to pack your shoe box. You may use an actual shoebox covered with or without Christmas wrap. Samaritan's Purse preprinted boxes will soon be available at the church for you to pick up. New this year will be specially designed plastic Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Yes, you can purchase other plastic boxes, but OCC plastic boxes are designed to withstand riggers of shipping.

When you have your gifts selected and your box is packed, remember to pray for the child who receives your box, their families, and the workers who help distribute these boxes. If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Woodworth at 576-1401 or ymwooworth@yahoo.com

A.B.W.M. Care & Share for September & October Is Homesafe

Homesafe Inc. is a private, non-profit community agency, committed to breaking the cycle of violence in Ashtabula County and it's surrounding areas through the provision of emergency and non-emergency services. Their mission is to assure greater awareness of the problems of domestic violence and abuse through the education and empowerment of individuals, families, and the community.

A woman is beaten every 9 seconds in this county. Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women. One of two women will be abused during their lifetime and over 53% of male abusers also beat their children.

Together we can make a difference!

For a full list please see the bulletin board in the foyer or call the office to have one mailed to you.

Cleaning supplies: Lysol/Clorox cleaning sprays and wipes, toilet bowl cleaner, window cleaner, food floor cleaner, dusting supplies (Swiffer/Pledge), scouring pads, Magic eraser, brooms, mops, dustpans, Mr. Clean, 91-percent rubbing alcohol (for cleaning) and foaming bathroom cleaner.

Over the counter medicines: All types for children and adults, First Aid supplies.

New clothing items (adults & children's sizes): Socks; pajamas/slippers-all sizes; underwear- women's sizes 5/6, children's sizes 2/4/6, girls' sizes 12/14/16 and male adult sizes for teen boys and male clients.

Children's welcome pack supplies: Flash cards, playing cards, children's card games, travel-size games, journals, small puzzles, word search books (all ages), sketch pads, colored pencils and teen-related items.

Equipment: Towels/washcloths; six kitchen trash cans (13 gallon); twin size sheets sets; six box fans.

Gift Cards: Food & Gas for the residents.



2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office 9-1	2
3 Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	4 Office Closed	5 Office 9-1	6 Office 9-1 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	7 Office 9-1	8 Office 9-1	9 Men's Breakfast 8 am 
10 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	11 Office Closed	12 Office 9-1	13 Office 9-1 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	14 Office 9-1 Martha Circle 11am Hymn Sing 2:00	15 Office 9-1	16
17 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship A.B.W.A Sunday	18 Office Closed	19 Office 9-1 <u>Lunch Bunch noon</u> Mary Elizabeth Circle 7 pm	20 Office 9-1 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	21 Office 9-1	22 Office 9-1	23
24 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	25 Office Closed A.B.W.A Fall party potluck at Ashtabula Baptist 6:00	26 Office 9-1	27 Office 9-1 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	28 Office 9-1	29 Office 9-1	30

First Baptist Church
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Jefferson OH 44047

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



440-576-1631 (Fax 440-576-1630)
Email: fbcj@outlook.com
Sunday Services:
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Morning Worship