



The Connection

Volume 9, Issue 3 ,March 2011

Celebrate Recovery Annual Celebration

March 4

6:00 PM - Dinner

Potato Bar with soup and chili

7:00 pm - Celebration

Whether you are unfamiliar with Celebrate Recovery or that's the reason you first came to BMCC, you are welcome to come and celebrate the transformations in lives over the past five years. Through Celebrate Recovery, many have found freedom from their hurts, habits and hang-ups in Jesus Christ.



Calling the Church to 40 days of prayer and fasting

Calling the Church to Focus on 40 days of Prayer and Fasting

March 16–April 24

from the Church of God Website

The Church of God is being called to unite in a time of prayer and fasting during the 40 days leading up to Easter (March 16–April 24). Imagine the transformative power that could be unleashed if the church united in a time of deliberate prayer and fasting. How many lives could be changed? How many congregations could be healed and empowered for the sharing of the Good News of Christ? Imagine what could happen if we Christians humbled ourselves in submission, sacrifice and prayer? Focus 40 is a call for the church to join together for just such a period of worship and obedience.

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Reminder:

Spring forward
March 13th.

PROGRAMS

Structure to Freedom

Pete Erb

I have been an active member of BMCC for almost 10 years. These have been the 10 years of the greatest applied learning in my life. I say that because I could not possibly learn as much in any 10 years of my life as I did in the first ten. However, these 10 were years of choice and effort.

Jesus provides us the tools and words and the change in our hearts we all need to grow to be ready to go home. The difficulty can be in finding our way free of our old behaviors. The key to success may lie in programs. Programs that we have in this church include Celebrate Recovery and Financial Peace University. We can find ourselves missing some very important pieces of our whole person created by God and we need help to find those pieces. Programs provide a well defined path.

The path of programs is well beaten; it has curbs to bump us back to the middle of the path when we start to wander off. But the path also has no end. We find as we work our program that the curbs get more and more gentle to the point that, eventually, we realize that they have disappeared.

Celebrate Recovery and especially Financial Peace University have been like that for me. Well defined structure for me to find the strength provided by God to dig deep into my past; to stand in front

of the mirror to own my part of the destruction in my life. When I had done this work in CR I was able to face Financial Peace University. CR allowed me to realize why I did a lot of the destructive spending I'd done. Financial Peace University gave me the structure to be strong with my financial choices to escape the prison I had created.

Having used the programs I was able to lean on their structure when I needed it and, as I developed faith, to walk on my own. To determine the path provided me by God through honest and open talks with Him.

Programs are not for the weak hearted. They are for God's warriors who have seen one too many battles but who also want to get back in the fight. The programs in particular are designed to get you back in fighting shape to accomplish the mission God has for you here so He can invite you home.

Celebrate Recovery Meets Every Friday at 7pm here at the Church.

Financial Peace University can begin at anytime. If you are interested contact Pete at (509) 301-9219.

The Christian Man Part 1

Jeff Goodson

What is a man? What is a man of God, or a godly man or a Christian man? How should a Christian man act or behave?

To see what a real man looks like we need to turn and look at Jesus. Jesus is God incarnate. He is a Holy God. Man is not God but we are to be working at being holy like God is holy. Taking on our Father's attributes and replacing old habits with the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There are those who want to make Jesus out to be this very soft, meek and mild person who would not hurt a fly. We forget that Jesus is God and He is all Powerful. Can Jesus be soft and meek? Yes, when He deems it necessary.

The fact is that God came as a man, beginning life as we began life, and grew up as we did. He went through the same childhood problems, the same teenage problems and the same young adult problems as we did. He gave Himself an earthly father and mother and submitted Himself to them. He learned a skill and a profession before entering His ministry. After His father, Joseph, had died, Jesus took on the financial responsibility of His mother, brothers and sisters. Jesus knows what it means to be a man. He became our living example. If the apostle Peter did so can we.

Jesus was a man's man and no other man on earth has ever been more of a man than Jesus. He knew when to be gentle and when to lay down the law, when to forgive and when to share the gospel of

the coming Kingdom. God has a design and a purpose for everything and Jesus followed that design perfectly. In Ephesians 5:21-26 God lays out His design and His order.

God is the head of Christ, Christ is the head of the Church and the husband is the head of the wife. Does this make the wife a lesser person than the husband? No. In Christ they are equal but in God's design and order the husband is the head of the wife and family (the leader). The wife has one of the most important responsibilities in the relationship and that is to come along side her husband and to help him become more like Christ. Through her natural ability to love her husband with God's kind of love (unconditional) she makes him a better man. Proverbs 31 paints a beautiful picture of this relationship that God has created and designed. In all of creation God has created everything to have its place and its purpose. One can not work without the other thus creating a wonderful balance. Therefore husbands and wives are to work together in harmony within the parameters God has laid down. Men need to become the leaders God has designed them to be and bring glory and honor to their heavenly Father.





Everyone is invited! Meet Friday nights at 7:00 PM to share in support and encouragement to conquer your hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Dinner provided the fourth Friday each month at 6:00 PM for a small donation.

Senior Adult Ministries meets March 3rd and 17th at 10:00 AM. Anyone 55 years or older is welcome to come and see what they're all about. Laughter is the best medicine. Come join in the fun and fellowship.

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All men are invited
Saturday Morning, March 12
8:00 AM

**MEN'S
BREAKFAST**

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

home groups

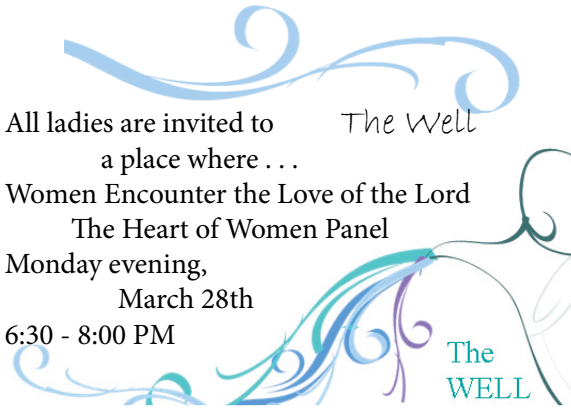
FIND A PLACE RIGHT WHERE YOU FIT AND START GROWING TODAY.

Grow close to others in relationships centered on our faith in Jesus. For more info on joining a home group, contact the church office at 529-1212.

All ladies are invited to *The Well*
a place where . . .

Women Encounter the Love of the Lord
The Heart of Women Panel

Monday evening,
March 28th
6:30 - 8:00 PM



*The
WELL*

Better Moms Make A Better World
MOMPS
Mothers of Preschoolers

Mothers of Preschoolers and MOMSNext meet March 10th and 24th from 9-11 AM in Baker Hall. They exist to encourage and equip mothers. Guests are always welcome! Contact Shannon Naftzger at 876-1302.



Connecting to the next Generation

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Wanted: Alive or Very Alive

Ken Paine

I'm looking for 12 (or more) adults who would be willing to hang out with middle and high schoolers one Friday night a month. I'd like to open up the gym/café a couple Friday evenings a month for kids to come and hang out, play games, eat snacks, listen to music (probably not from the church songbooks), and get to know each other and some people from the church. Enjoying basketball, ultimate Frisbee, ping pong, air hockey, and foosball a plus, but not a necessity. If you want to 'school' some of these young'ens in games like Rummycub, Nertz, or even Settlers, we can use you.

I'd like to have at least six adults each night we're open, so with 12 we can cover two nights. I'm planning on 7:00pm to 10:00pm for kids, so would need adults here from about 6:45 to 10:15. This will probably be noisy, chaotic, and be a little maybe messy, so is not for everyone.

If you're interested in volunteering, contact Ken Paine at 386.4959 or youth@bluemountain-church.com.

The youth group is alive and well. We had a high school retreat in February and are having a middle school one March 4 - 6. Besides paying a fee for going on these retreats, the kids have to memorize two sections of scripture. We're working on looking deeper into God's word and seeing how it applies today.

Keep praying for our youth. Contact me if you would like a list of first names of the kids to pray for them.

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray..." 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

"We are convinced that through the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting we refresh and connect in our relationship with God and others around us," said Rev. Randy Montgomery, area administrator for Kentucky and chairman of the Strategic Values Transformation Team Cultivate and Refresh. "As God's children, we need to pull away from all the voices and noises in our lives and focus and reconnect with our Father."

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning."
Joel 2:12 NIV



Celebrating March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Deanna Aichele | 20 David Cline | 15 Daniel & Cheri Rockwell |
| 2 Humberto Miranda | Bethany Voss | 19 Allen & Christine Alexander |
| 3 Michael Swenson | 21 Linda Reyburn | 21 Steve & Kathy Nelson |
| 5 Andrea Pellicer | 22 Barbara Taylor | 22 Rick & Neosha Guse |
| 6 Leslie Culbertson | Jack Wallace | 25 Rob & Joeline Voeks |
| Penny Knight | 23 Jeraldine Emerick | 28 Scott & Marcia Napier |
| 7 Dee Haun | Gordon Jennings | |
| Dan Witherow | Bradley Nelson | |
| 8 Mike Jones | 24 Brailyn Alexander | |
| 9 Penny Filan | Rod Harmon | |
| Nicholas Nelson | Myranda York | |
| 10 Ed Stites | 25 Tony Gonzalez | |
| 11 Shari Greiner | Sharon Kushar | |
| Houston Sherrod | Caiden Leamy | |
| Ryan Tackett | 26 Hunter Graves | |
| 13 Cody Josifek | 27 Rebecca Hoppen | |
| Lucas Larreau | Sharon Loar | |
| John Ordway | 28 Gail Silva | |
| Curtis Voeks | Amanda Weiman | |
| 14 Bob Benfield | 29 Brandon McNeil | |
| Joshua Voss | Karli Plucker | |
| 15 Bette Durham | 30 Janice Davisson | |
| Barbara Parker | Don Redman | |
| Harold Raugust | Cager York | |
| 16 Zenada Voss | 31 Wanda Rogers | |
| Betty Whitney | | |
| 17 Cindy Stewart | | |
| 18 Wanda Augustine | | |
| 19 Michelle Montgomery | | |

Our mission is to lead people
into a growing relationship with
Jesus Christ.

March

At a Glance

- 3 SAMS 10:00 AM
Celebrate Recovery Leaders 6:30 PM
- 5 Girls' Afternoon 1:00 PM
- 8 Quilter's Guild 6:00 PM
Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM
Building and Grounds 6:45 PM
- 10 MOPS 9:00 AM
- 12 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
- 14 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
Ark Commission 6:30 PM
Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 15 Missions Commission 6:30 PM
- 17 SAMS 10:00 AM
- 21 CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 24 MOPS 9:00 AM
- 28 The WELL 6:30 PM

Shoes

by Dee Haun

I was asked to write an article for the Connection in March as a member of the Mission Board. It's a good time to remind everyone we're at the halfway point for Faith Promise. We had a Mission Conference back in September, Tod & Kathy Wood shared from their heart about missions.

Every year we are challenged to ask God to give us a money figure that we can put down for Faith Promise. This has to be money beyond your normal giving so you can really see God in action. It's a great way to have the whole family involved in an adventure that goes on all year and you're always looking for how God will come up with the money.

I had a blast a few years ago sharing some of those God moments and I wanted to share one in this article with you. About a month ago I was headed to Tri-Cities to do some shoe shopping at Runners Soul. I love their selection of athletic shoes, always good on the feet, but expensive. I had a friend who wanted to go, but she wanted to stop at a place in town I had never ventured into, Hidden Treasures. For the life of me I don't know why I've never been to the place, I'm not much of a shopper but I love places like that.

Well I found the best SHOES I've had in a few years, they are so comfortable and they only cost me around \$10. I was able to give \$100 towards Faith Promise because of these shoes! A God moment.

I challenge you to stop in the Hallway leading into the Sanctuary and read about the people we support and the children we help. Our Faith Promise mission is life and death, sometimes in the physical sense and always in the spiritual realm. When someone dies without knowing and accepting Jesus Christ as Savior they won't be with us in heaven.

Take a look at your Faith Promise Commitment and see how you're doing. Look around and see how God can use you and your family to make a difference. Create fun ways to make money for God. Yard sales or bake sales. Maybe you can babysit for God or walk and save on gas. Let the Mission board know some of the ways you've seen God work, send us a note via the church office or hand it to us on Sunday. Giving will always feel better than getting.



Quick Connect



Celebrate Recovery Annual Celebration

March 4

6:00 PM - Dinner

Potato Bar with soup and chili

7:00 pm - Celebration

Worship music, testimonies, find out more about CR. Free drawing for CR merchandise. Contact Pete Erb, Darlene Mings, or Chris Osborn for more information.



Middle School Retreat

March 4-6

Meadowood Springs

Contact Ken to register
or for more details.



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