

THE MESSENGER

Franklin United Brethren Church

7171 Central College Road
New Albany, OH 43054

WWW.FRANKLINUB.ORG

Sunday Service 10:15 am

MAY 2023

“WIN – TRAIN – SEND”

MOTHERS WHO MEASURE UP

Mother's Day is just around the corner and if your house is anything like ours it will be church in the morning and lunch any place there's less than a 30-minute wait. (I know from working in the restaurant business for 4 years – Mother's Day is the busiest.) I appreciate the fact that Chris isn't picky about where we eat. Fast food is definitely out but other than that all options are open.

Mother's Day routine hasn't changed for years but boy how the definition – the measurement of a “successful mom” has! When I speak to mothers today in their 20's, 30's, and 40's, I honestly feel sorry for them, they are under so much more pressure than my mother's generation and truthfully under more pressure than when my wife was a young mom. No doubt, some of the pressure young moms feel is self-inflicted, but most of it is not. I heard a fact the other day that is so true: to achieve the living standard of owning a home, a car, and having 2 children in the 1950's took just one parent working. In 2023, that same standard of living takes two parents working. When I began coaching soccer 35 years ago no kid ever began playing before age 9 or 10, and NEVER played two sports at once. When I began coaching, I didn't allow a player to be on the team who played another sport at the same time. Try that rule today and you couldn't field a team!

What's my point? Today's parents (especially moms) are measured “successful” by far more difficult standards than a generation ago. I have a radical idea for you moms reading this: why not forget the measurement standards of your soccer mom and baseball mom friends? Forget about the cheerleader or dance mom's expectations and look to God's expectations. Where do you find His expectations? In the Bible – where did you expect? Let me share a few role models from the Bible...Let me start with Sara – a woman of faith. Her husband was wealthy, her home was secure in the suburbs, but she did a crazy thing: she left her home, her comforts, and potentially her cash and followed God's direction. Sara was a woman of faith! How about Deborah? You don't hear about Deborah much, but she was the only female judge of Israel. She was a woman who put God first and not her career. How about Hannah – the mother of Samuel? Barren and unable to have a child she went to the Temple for annual sacrifice, cried and prayed every year for a child. Then, suddenly one year God answered her prayer and gave her a son, Samuel. Then after he was 3 years old, she kept her vow to God and gave her son back to God by leaving him at the Temple to be raised by Eli the priest. Hannah was a mother of prayer and commitment to her work. Finally, what about the mother of Timothy, Lois? She raised Timothy teaching him the scriptures and modeled prayer life for him.

Moms... the most important measurement of success is not how high you climb the corporate ladder, how many titles you achieve, how many sports your kids play, or how many school plays your child participates in. The most important measurement is simply this: Are you a woman of Godly faith trying to raise Godly children?

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

PRAYER NEEDS

Pastor Dan Kopp, Pat Twomey, Valerii Matiash (Ukrainian Refugee), Martin & Terri Shalosky (Son died in a car accident. 10 years ago their daughter died. Now, they have no children.)

Missionaries of the Month – The Nuñez Family: Alex and Cristina Nuñez and their 3 children are the newest missionaries in the United Brethren Church. Pray deeply for them, they are joining the staff of the Good Soil Community Center in Thailand. Alex and Cristina join another Honduran family already on the staff. Pray for the Nuñez's financial support to increase, only 25% of the needed funds have been raised. Pray especially for their ability to learn the Thai language. First they have to learn English. The classes to learn the Thai language are taught in English!

Shut-Ins: Helen Smith, Melvin Burdette, Barb Pittenger, Midge Gathers, Trish Dolejs, Clarabell Harlan, and Margaret Jewett

Shut-In of the Month – Helen Smith: Helen has been a long-time member of Franklin Church. She loves God and loves her church. Her laugh and ability to keep a conversation going is one of her many, many good qualities. She may seem a bit shy when you first know her (she always says her sister, Virginia, was the talker); however, once you get to know Helen you know she has a lot of stories. Thank you, Helen, for your tireless work and prayers for your church!

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

*Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.*

Proverbs 31:30-31

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Need a Ride? Do you enjoy reading our monthly newsletter but miss coming to church? Is transportation keeping you from worshiping with us on Sunday mornings? If so, we would like to help. Please contact the church at 614-855-3276 and leave a message.

Women's Ministry: Thursday, May 18th at 6PM

Prayer Meeting: Sunday, May 21st at 6:30PM – This is our last church prayer gathering this spring/summer. 1 hour – 1 important prayer time: revival, renewal, and for people who don't know Jesus!

Men's Fellowship Breakfast: Friday, May 26th at 6:45AM at Tim Horton's – 7400 Fodor Road

Did You Know We Support a Food Pantry? We collect food on Sundays, both inside and outside the church. Non-perishable foods only please.