

THE MESSENGER

Franklin United Brethren Church

7171 Central College Road
New Albany, OH 43054

WWW.FRANKLINUB.ORG

Sunday Service 10:15 AM

OCTOBER 2024

“WIN – TRAIN – SEND”

HAVE YOU HEARD FROM GOD LATELY?

God speaks to us, He really does, and I believe you believe He does. I noted in a sermon on September 22nd that according to Hebrews 1:1-2, God has spoken in the past, present, and will speak in the future. When we have a relationship with him, he speaks to us individually.

I believe on many occasions over your lifetime that you have come to a place in your life where an important decision needed to be made, and you asked God what His will was for you. We may say something like this, “I sure wish I could discover God's will for me.” In reality, we don't discover his will; rather, He reveals his will to us. Let me say this before I go on any further. My understanding about God's will for my life is not that He has a particular will for everything in my life: what car, house, or boat to buy; or whether to invest in this stock; or what university to attend. Perceiving God's will in this way is called “The Bull’s Eye Approach”. I don't think God gets that specific (though He may). I think God gives us commands and principles in His Word, and we make decisions based upon that, which brings me to a point: God speaks to us in five different ways. Here are the five different ways with a brief explanation of each.....

God speaks to us through the Bible: The Bible is God's complete revelation of himself to humanity. If you want to know God, you need to get to know His Word. The more you know Him, the more you know His will for you.

God speaks to us through prayer: Prayer is two-way fellowship and communication with God. You speak to God, and he speaks to you. Actually, what God says to you in prayer is more important than what you say. If you want to hear God speak to you, speak to Him - don't forget what you said to Him and what He says to you. As the hours and days unfold begin to watch what happens around you, particularly regarding what you prayed. The Holy Spirit will be at your work.

God speaks to us through circumstances and godly people: Of the five ways God speaks to us, circumstances is the most difficult to confirm as communication from God. Why? Because circumstances can quickly change and not be clearly understood. Nonetheless, God uses circumstances to reveal His will - the choices we need to make. God also speaks to us through godly people. They are especially important when we are not 100% certain about God's will for us. God places people around us (especially at church) who are in tune with Him, and thus, can be used by Him to reveal His will.

God speaks to us through Holy Spirit promptings: This is different than prayer. In prayer you pray, then watch things around you to see what God is doing. Holy Spirit promptings come at you often as a surprise, something you weren't even thinking about. Some examples may be to make a telephone call, stop in to visit someone, an unplanned visit to see someone in the hospital, and maybe even take a different route home from work. Have you heard from God lately? You have five different ways to hear from Him.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born.

Psalm 78:5-7

PRAYER NEEDS

Mavis Baker, Gabe Smith., Rev. Les Smith, Elliot King, Betty McCombs (shut-in of the month), My Very Own Blanket (pray for supplying blankets for foster care)

Missionary of the Month – Alex and Cristina Nuñez - Thailand: They have been commissioned to serve in Thailand at the United Brethren Community Center, directed by Brian and Rachel Glunt. Alex and Cristina are from Honduras, and they are one of only a few United Brethren missionaries who are not from the United States. Their service duties include after school programs, youth ministry and some house-to-house visitation. We “highlight” them this month because they need extra prayers. They're having some struggle with Thailand's government over paperwork. Please also pray for the challenge in learning the Thai language. It normally takes three years to truly learn a language where you can actually use it in everyday life; the Nuñezs and their three children are in year two (children always learn a foreign language faster than adults).

Shut-Ins: Helen Smith, Barb Pittenger, Trish Dolejs, Faye Cooper, Betty McCombs, Clarabell Harlan, and Bonnie Boone

Shut-in of the Month – Betty McCombs: Most of you reading this, know Betty personally! Betty and her husband, George (deceased), attended Franklin Church around 40 years. They were gone for six years because George became the pastor of Columbus First United Brethren Church on the West side of Columbus. Betty always has a smile and has been a strong prayer warrior for many years. Although she now has dementia, she still takes her praying seriously. Her and George were also involved deeply in Columbus Koinonia, a non-denominational weekend retreat ministry. Betty really enjoyed being on the prayer team. Being a prayer team member involved collectively praying for 8 to 12 hours over a weekend. Betty and George had three children: Jim, Georgia, and Tammy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Show we care for youth in foster care: Once again our Women's Ministry is leading an outreach need for kids going into foster care and need to know they are loved and important! The project is called “My Very Own Blanket”. Some women of the church are hand making blankets. If you are not someone who can do this type of thing, you can still help very powerfully. Each \$10 donation you make is enough to buy material to make a blanket!

Pray for the church fall outreach event: Sunday, October 6th, we will have a booth at the New Albany Fall Festival. With the opportunity to personally meet near 2,000 people and pass out church flyers with church information plus the plan of salvation - pray, pray, pray. Also, stop by at the Marburn School Academy, 1.5 miles from the church.

Pray Again, Bible story time: Each week, Ruth Eller or Pastor Mike reads a Bible story to preschool children. Pray this ministry touches children's hearts!

October 4th, 10:30 AM: Outreach Team meeting

October 8th, 7:00 PM: Management team meeting

Woman's Ministry: Thursday, October 17th at 6:00PM – Have food, fun, and fellowship – and even help make blankets.

Men's Breakfast: Friday, October 25th at 6:45AM at Tim Horton's on Fodor Road.