

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CROTHERSVILLE

KOINONIA

THE FELLOWSHIP 1 JOHN 1:7

From The Desk of Pastor Jon

The American Dream is a term constantly used by politicians whether they be Democrats or Republicans. It's the dream that every American is given the opportunity to become wealthy if they work hard enough. Millions of people from all over the world flock to America with the hope of living the American Dream. The problem with the American Dream, is that it many times we are rich towards ourselves, but not rich toward God.

Jesus speaks of a man living the American Dream in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago:



“Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them a parable; “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ Then he said, “This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and all my goods. And I’ll say to myself, “you have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ “This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.” Luke 12:14-21

The Summer of 2012 has been a great time for vacations, picnics, time with the family and friends. We all need to enjoy the bounty that God has given to us. We are especially blessed to live in America where we are given the opportunity to enjoy the fruits of our labor and live the American Dream, but let’s remember as Christians that we are accountable to God for our time and our resources. It is good to “take life easy and eat, drink and be merry” for a time, but there is also a time to use the gifts of ministry that God has given us. The Church usually suffers in the summer with lack of ministry and lack of giving, but now we go back to being useful and generous with our time and resources.

Two new ministers are now with FBC: Our Youth Pastor, Taylor Wolfe, and our Senior Adults Pastor, Mike Cole. We are excited about their new offices within the church. With new ministries comes the need for volunteers and for financial resources. The average giving of the average church-going Christian is only 2% and time given to Christian ministry is less than that. Pray that God would help you to increase your ministry time and increase your financial giving to 10%. The world is building bigger barns and preparing more things for themselves and living the American Dream, but God wants us to live the American Dream while being rich toward Him.

In His Service,

Pastor Jon

The Ezekiel Chronicles

Ezekiel 37: 1-14



The God Of The Impossible

Why “The Ezekiel Chronicles”? I have always been fascinated by the valley of dry bones in Ezekiel 37. I love the imagery of God bringing dead bones back to life and creating a mighty army. After all, isn’t this essentially what He does with us? Hasn’t He breathed life into your dry bones and brought you to life? Not just at your salvation, but doesn’t He continue to breathe into you every day afterwards?

My favorite pastor, the late Adrian Rogers, had this to say about Ezekiel 37:

In this passage the Spirit of God carried Ezekiel to a strange place, the site of a tremendous battle, a valley where countless people had been slain long before. In this valley Ezekiel saw dry bones strewn everywhere. Bones picked clean by the birds and washed by the rain and bleached by the sun. Bones baked and brittle. And then God said to Ezekiel, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I’m certain that Ezekiel was tempted to say, “No, that’s impossible.” But he was smart. He said, “God, You know.” And of course the God of the impossible was about to show Ezekiel that indeed those bones could live . . . We see how God brings life from death. What the God of the impossible has done for Israel He can do for any situation. He can bring life out of death. He can revive your lost friend or neighbor or family member, that person who is dead in trespasses and sin.

God came to Ezekiel and gave him a commission. He called Ezekiel to believe God is the God of the impossible. And, friend, that commission is for each of us. Do you believe that God can give life to your loved ones? Then look upon your unsaved friends and neighbors with divine expectancy. Speak with divine urgency, the same urgency with which Ezekiel brought the Word of God, this living and powerful book that presents the living Lord Jesus Christ . . . Look at what Ezekiel saw: “So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.” . . . Friend, if we will proclaim the Word and seek in prayer and believe God, we will discover that God is the God of the impossible. And that dry bones can live.

What about you? Do you believe that God can raise a mighty army in our church? Are you willing to be a witness to the “impossible” things that God wants to do? I know I am! I would love for you to join me.

A Little About Mike Cole

- Born and raised in Seymour, Indiana
- Son of Don & LaVonne Cole
- Married to Jackie Cole
- Ordained in July 2011
- Hospice chaplain & volunteer coordinator
- Played and coached football and wrestling
- Over 20 years experience in probation & corrections.

Contact Info:

Cell Phone: 812-569-4165

Email: micco568@aol.com

Jackie’s Cell: 812-216-2925

Follow Me on Facebook!

- Jackie and I are so excited to be starting this new adventure with you! When we first visited First Baptist Church of Crothersville, we knew right away that this is where God wanted us to be. The Holy Spirit is very active in this church and we know that He has great things planned for this ministry! But we want your input.
- We would like to establish Bible studies, plan outings and fellowships, reach out to the community, strengthen our bonds as members of the same family, serve one another, and establish deliberate discipleship.
- What specifically would you like to see become a part of our ministry? We are asking for your input as well as your prayers as we seek to follow God’s will for this new ministry. Please feel free to contact me anytime.

New Youth Pastor: Taylor Wolfe

Taylor and Jessica Wolfe are from Greenwood, SC and have a 7-month-old daughter Piper, as well as a dog, Wrigley. They have been married for two and a half years.



Taylor is originally from Ninety Six, SC and is currently attending The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY pursuant of a Masters of Divinity degree in International Church Planting. While attending Lander University, Taylor met

Jessica at a college ministry function and as they say, "the rest is history." God called Taylor in the 11th grade and he has been involved in youth programs for over 6 years and truly believes that today's youth need a consistent leader and friend to disciple them throughout the lifetime of Acts 1:8. Taylor has been involved in various types of outdoor activities and has competed in numerous triathlons and marathons.

Jessica is originally from Greenville, SC and will also be attending select classes at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is a triathlete, reading, working out and spending time with friends and family. She has a real passion for seeing the gospel expanded to the ends of the earth and has completed numerous triathlons and marathons.

We look forward to getting to know every one of you! In our short time with FBC Crotherville we have just enjoyed beyond measure. Thank you FBC Crotherville!

and spending time with friends and family, among other things. Originally Jessica is from Greenville, SC and graduated from Lander University. She has a real passion for seeing the gospel expanded to the ends of the earth and she loves to go on mission trips.

Youth Update

GRADES 6-12
SUNDAY
SCHOOL
11:00 AM

GRADES 6-12
SUNDAY
NIGHTS
6:00 PM

GRADES 6-12
WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS
3:00 PM -
8:00 PM



Personal Highlight: Hannah Joy Oldaker



Tell us a little about yourself: My name is Hannah (Joy, Bug, JoyBug, Harvey) Oldaker. I'm 20 years old. I'm a MK (Missionaries Kid) originally from here in Crothersville, IN but have lived in Thailand for the past 3 1/2 years, along with my parents and two younger sisters. My favorite hobbies are archery, computer and piano.

Where are you going to school and what are you majoring in? I'll be attending LeTourneau(Luh-ter-no) University in Longview, Texas. I will begin my studies in Fall 2012 and plan to major in Computer Network Security. I don't typically get those feelings of "Oh, this is the one!", but when I stumbled upon LETU's website while college hunting, it felt familiar almost. Cliché as it sounds, I felt like I was supposed to be there.

What do you plan to do after you graduate from school? After graduating, in 2016, I plan to join the US Air Force and use the skills that I acquired while in college.



How can FBC Crothersville be praying for you as you go off to school? As it is with most college students, my biggest need is with finances. Please keep me in your prayers concerning this specific need.

After you move, how can the church stay in contact with you? You can always contact me via Facebook or by email at: hannahjoy718@hotmail.com

On July 30, 2012 our church sponsored a team of golfers for the 14th Annual Pregnancy Care Center Golf Challenge. Representing FBC Crothersville was Nora Silence, Ralph Sweanay, Danny Lee and Ronnie Pebbler. Their team did a great job and we thank them for their participation in this event. If you are interested in playing in next year's Golf Challenge, please contact the church office.

We may also be interested in establishing an annual golf tournament for the church. This would provide the church with a fundraising opportunity and a chance to fellowship together.

