

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. James 5:13

# O'BRIEN



# BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

February has been a busy month and we are in March already. The weather is changing but we might experience more cold as Easter has not happened yet. I pray you and your family are doing well.

I mentioned in a sermon the "revival" that broke out in Asbury University in Kentucky. There has been a lot of discussion on this happening and also questions as to whether this is a work of God or not. It finally came to an end as the university decided to go back to their schedule. Someone sent me a text message that said, "Looks like the school in Asbury, KY met their revival quota." I must agree because even though this happening brought people together in a good way, what was absent was more discernable than what was present. There was no preaching of the precious Gospel, no brokenness, little repentance, and no evidence that lasting change had taken place.

It is good to worship our God and King. We should and singing along with prayer is always a good thing. Jonathan Edwards, who experienced the Great Awakening, wrote that what happened in his day was a "surprising" work of God. It was not planned or promoted. God sent it and the nation was impacted in a godly way. I pray we will always put the Scripture before any experience.

Our culture has largely ignored this happening in Kentucky. Most of the liberal news outlets ignored and skipped what was called a revival. The outlets that covered the event were mostly either conservative or decidedly Christian. Some have said that what happened at Asbury would bring in the last days. Rather than read and study Scripture, some would rather interpret Scripture by what is happening in the world. That is completely backwards. We do not need current events to interpret the Word of God. When this does not bring in the last days of human history, I guess they will look for some other happening.

I am very skeptical about what some call a revival. I do want to see souls saved and repentance happening. I also want to see the church involved in making disciples of all the nations. God is at work all around us. We see where He is at work and join Him.

I am thankful for the ministries at O'Brien Baptist Church. We are reaching out to the world through our efforts to fulfil the Great Commission. May God use us to do His will until He comes! *Pastor Keith Jones*

## The Family Corner

### Pantry News

#### In February we served 165 Bags!

**Thank you all for helping with bagging and Pantry day in February, even though we are busy and crazy at times, the fellowship is fantastic.**

#### **Our ongoing Ministry in the Pantry...**

We know times are getting tighter for everyone and we appreciate you supporting our pantry. We hand out between 150-200 each month.

If you can help with any hygiene items...

- Bars of Soap – any size
- Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

**Bagging Day - Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**, We will begin our meals after church or if you would like a "To Go Plate", we can do that as well. Our Meal will be Mexican with a twist and Dessert (all donations will go towards Children's Camp)

**Pantry Day - Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** and we can always use your help. 10:00-1:00, and then we go and have a fabulous Lunch afterwards!

#### **Pantry Information...**

If you would like to volunteer with unloading the trucks, USDA Day or Bread of the Mighty Day), Bagging Day, Pantry Day, cleaning the pantry, setting up for bagging day, please see Janice.

#### **Senior Meal Train**

Our Senior Meal Train was a blessing to 15

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families last month. Thank you everyone for all your dishes, boxing up delivery and donations.

We packaged 162 meals, 154 desserts, and rolls.

What our Meal Train does...

We take enough meals for a month for each Senior Family to put in their freezer. It makes it easier to heat up and they are having a hot delicious meal.

If you are able to help with foods or donations, please sign up with the...

(mealtrain.com) or see Debbie Baldwin to sign up.

- Meals for you to sign up for will be ready the week of March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Putting meals together and delivery will be Tuesday, March 28th, 9:30am

We REALLY, REALLY need help with our seniors during the month with picking up...

- Groceries
- Seniors for Dr visits

Seniors in the Hospital (Visit)

Thank you for helping, Debbie J

Needs in our Children and Youth (Teens) Ministry

### **Children**

We are in need of used or new gift bags (any size) (any kind), Stuffed animals used and new (any size). Lunch Bags. Soda Cans.. And any scrap wood. Wrapped candy for the Egg Hunt. Plastic Eggs

### **Sunday Funday**

Every Sunday evening 5:00-7:00pm

We begin with a meal at 5:00.

We average 51 children and youth (teens). We can always use your help, with craft, cooking, and wood-working classes, Kitchen help. Our Bible Classes are out of this world!

So come join the fun!

This month the children will be...

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# **OBC Valentines Day Banquet Held at Sisters Restaurant**



- Decorating their own cakes that they baked.
- Making their own Pancakes for their pancake bar.
- Teacher's Gift

Making their own Milk Shakes

### **Upcoming Events...**

#### **Valentine Lunch**

Thank you Mrs. Alice for organizing our lunch, it was a great time of fellowship and the food was wonderful.

#### **Roadside Dogs**

A Camp fundraiser

We will be selling yard sale items, if you have any you would like to donate.

Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

Serving, Hot Dogs, Chips, Cookie and Lemonade all for \$2.00

We will be set up on the corner across from the S&S. See you there.

#### **Ladies Day**

Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 3:00

Salad Bar – See Debbie J. for sign up sheet

#### **Ladies Retreat**

Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

#### **Youth Trip**

Date TBA

#### **Annual Egg Hunt**

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

An Old Fashion, Hayride and Egg Hunt

Funnel Cakes, hot dogs, Popcorn, games, train ride for the little ones, Huge Egg hunt and much more

#### **Ladies and Girls Banquet**

Our Theme this year is

"Delight yourself in the Lord" Psalm 37:4

Our Colors are Lime Green, Yellow and Lemons.

Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

#### **Camp**

June 5<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>

- We need leaders for our camp this year. Most of our older youth and adults from last year now have jobs and are not able to attend. Its hard sometime to get off work for a whole week...If you can... come out to camp for...

- One day

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## **MUSIC NOTES**

The English word 'sing' is used 143 times in the Bible. There are 11 different Hebrew words and 3 different Greek words for our one English word 'sing'. 'Singing' coupled with 'thanksgiving' is used 12 times. 'Sing' coupled with 'exult' is used 9 times. 'Sing' coupled with 'praise' is used 63 times. 'Shout' or 'Sing' for joy is used 36 times. "I will sing" is used 52 times. The command to sing is used 58 times. So, what does this tell us? At the very least, it should tell us that God views singing is an important act of praise and worship. Have you ever tried singing when you really just didn't feel like it? What happened? Most likely after awhile you began to feel like singing! Funny how that works! Try it this month and see how it changes your attitude. Psalm 33:1 says "Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous ones; Praise is becoming and appropriate for those who are upright in heart." God wants to hear your praise, so sing out!!

We are finished (for now) with singing the books of the Bible. Keep practicing at home and soon you will find that you can find your way around the Bible much easier. We will begin learning The Beatitudes in March. There's not many so it won't take long to learn these beautiful verses.

The choir has been working hard on new songs and on improving their tone quality. Thank you to those who have given us encouragement and your appreciation. That means a lot to people who work hard at what they do. Give a choir member a pat on the back. They don't sing in order to get praise from men; they sing to give praise to God. But an "I appreciate it" goes a long way.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

Don't forget to check out the church library. You'll be surprised at all that's in there. These resources are yours to use, so please take advantage of them. The church library is also a great place to sit and rest if you need a quiet moment.

**Thanks, Beth Johnson**

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- One day & one night
- Two days & two nights
- Just days please let us know.
- **VBS** July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> If you would like to help in VBS, 5:00-8:45

- Teaching
- Teacher helper
- Crafts
- Snacks
- Dinner
- Setup

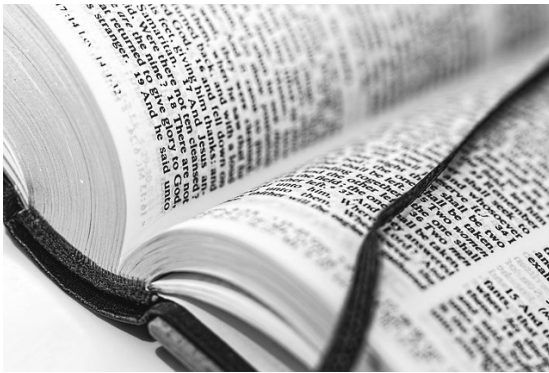
• Clean up **A New Shower** Thank you Wally for our new shower! It is beautiful. We are ready for the hurricane season, people who are left with no power or water during the year and emergencies on Sundays. \*Thank you Seth for your help as well.

• **BUS DRIVERS** Thank you Mr. Clark and Seth for faithfully driving our vans every Sunday evening to pick up kids and take them home. You are an important part of our ministry. \*\*\*We need an extra adult on the vans with both Seth and Mr. Clark. Just to be there for the kids while the men drive. If you can help please let them know or Pastor Keith. **Mexico Mission Trip in April** 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>

• Keith, Debbie J, Anna and Wally will be going on a short mission trip to Mexico. We will be Assisting an optometrist, visiting the orphans, having a block party, have an evangelistic Service and visiting the people sharing the Gospel. We will be busy, but there will also be a round table discussion on what they need help with in the future such as , teaching them how to plumbing, electrical, teaching children, Bible study, and helping work with the orphans. A couple of things we need are please be in pray for the four of us as we go on the journey.

• Financial help if you can. Every mission trip we say that we are going to teach them how to do many things, but we always come back learning from them. We are excited to see where God leads us and To see Him (Christ) at work **Because of Christ...** As most of you know I went this past month to visit my youngest son in Missouri for eight days. There was cold some days, and very refreshing days. I missed a Sunday and all the Pantry events and it about killed me. But people kept in touch with me to get me through missing you all. Thank you all for working with the kids and being “Fast Paced Servants” for Christ while I was gone. I love you all and I am so happy to be back with my church family.

**A Servant of Christ, Debbie Jones**



# Ladies Bible Study

We will be finishing our study of Psalms in March. In April, we will be starting a new study, so that would be the perfect time to join us. Stand by for details as they become available. Check the OBCL Facebook page or the church web site near the end of March.

Thanks, Renee Matthews

