

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • [www.FBCDelaware.org](http://www.FBCDelaware.org)

Dear FBC family:

As the Sunday school year ends on May 30 I would like to thank all of the teachers who faithfully prepared for their classes each and every week. Our Christian education program continues to be one of the bright spots in our lives together thanks to the presence of teachers and students each week.

We begin our summer hours on June 6 with Sunday worship at 10:00. On June 13 we will celebrate Children's Sunday. After the worship service we will gather at Blue Limestone Park for our annual church picnic.

On June 12 it will be my honor to officiate at the marriage of Sam and Lindley at 3:30. We hope you will join us for the ceremony.

On June 26 we have been invited to a meeting at the Trinity Baptist Church in Marion beginning at 10:00. This is one of many meetings being held across the state. Our executive minister, Dr. Larry Swain, along with leadership from the Region Board of Directors will be here for the purpose of hearing our

concerns about the future of our Region. I am planning on attending this meeting. If you would like to join me let me know.

As most of you know Matt Yoder has completed his service with us as our youth pastor. We are actively seeking a replacement. We wish Matt well as he begins service with a Methodist church in Mechanicsburg. We have enjoyed having Matt with us for the last two years. We wish him well in this new ministry opportunity.

On the American Baptist web site,

[www.ABC-USA.org](http://www.ABC-USA.org), there is a pastoral letter from the national leadership of the ABCUSA concerning immigration issues. I hope you will check out this web site for insight about this difficult issue. Please let me know if you have questions.

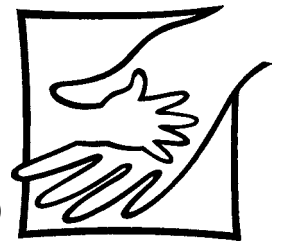
Invite a friend to church this summer. You might just change a life.

Your Pastor,



## Children's Day

Sunday June 13th is Children's Day. The children will take part in the worship service and then all are invited to our annual picnic at the lower shelter of Blue Limestone Park. Please join us from 11:30 to 2:30 for food, fellowship and fun. Bring a dish to share, drinks and table service for your family.



— Liz Bowman  
Board of Christian Ed.

## Goodbye, Matt!

May 23 was Matt Yoder's last Sunday at First Baptist, and Tim recognized Matt's two years of service as our Youth Pastor.

Matt has graduated from the Methodist Theological School and will be the Youth Minister at Nation Chapel United Methodist Church near Mechanicsburg, Ohio. We'll miss Matt and wish him well in his future endeavors.



## Blanket Sunday

First Baptist! Let me express my heartfelt appreciation for our fantastic response in honoring the women in our lives on Mother's day.

We raised \$333 for Church World Service. This is one of three activities each year to raise money for Church World Service and the mission work they do worldwide. Next will be Tools of Hope on Father's Day, followed by the CROP walk this fall. Thanks again for your wonderful support of Church World Service!

– Randy Turner, Financial Secretary

From the Bowman's in honor of Ann Brown and Carolyn Quick

From Jim and Anna Brown in honor of Liz Bowman and Carol Grubbs

From Jeanne Ekelberry in memory of Ethel Trogdon

From Erin and Larry Faulk in honor of Pam Faulk

From Pam and Larry Faulk in honor of Evoleno Cole, Florence Faulk, Laurie Faulk, Pat Rose and Jean Wickum

From Vic and Debbie Fogle in honor of Mary Lou Lovell

From Will and Gabe Fogle in honor of Carol Serviss

From Bob and Pat Foor in honor of Heather Foor, Allison Nolan, Brooke Gilligan, and Teresa Foor, and in memory of Mildred Foor and Marjorie Shively

From Carol Grubbs in memory of Ruth Brown

From Lisa Lawrence in honor of Marge Matthews

From Evelyn Lee in honor of Barbara Lee, Linda Lee and Marcia Lee

From David Lovell in honor of Mary Lou Lovell and Deborah Fogle, and in memory of Jennie Lovell and Margaret Morby

From Michael Mercer in memory of Willa Corder

From Phil and Melissa Mercer in honor of Jane Moore, Jane Mercer, Claire Turner, Anna Irwin, and Madison Bressler, and in memory of Judy Mercer, Willa

## Prayer List

*Please give additions or corrections to a Deacon.*

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
The Deacons	Pam Debiasio	Health Issues
	Evelyn Lee	Health Issues
	Betty Porter	Mobility Problems
	Sophia Stephenson	Health Issues
	Jerry Cornell family	Condolences
	Nancy Snook	Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder	Health Issues
	Cathie Corder	Continued Recovery
	Olivia Langwasser	Leukemia
Jean Wickum	Martha Green	-
	Fran Cook	Heart Problems
	Mary & Steve Sealey	Health Issues
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson	At Willowbrook
	Bertha VanBrimmer	Health Issues
	Florence Faulk	At Delaware Court
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	Health Issues
Lana Palmer	Judy Overly	Health Issues
Betty Porter	Dr. Mark Springer (Betty's dentist)	Recovering from lung transplant
Bob Foor	Kay Kern	Cancer
Carol Grubbs	Donald Brown	Health Concerns
	Haycox Family	Children's Health
	Celesta Crawford	Medical Issues

Corder, Edith Moore, Dorothy Mercer, and Isabelle Happeny

From Jim and Jane Moore in memory of Edith C. Moore and Willa S. Corder

From Genevieve Peterson in memory of Beatrice MacNeill

From Ken and Genevieve Peterson in memory of Jessie Peterson

From Betty Porter in honor of Jennifer Cramer and Janet Porter, and in memory of Martha Jane Guy, and Blanche Berger

From Barbara Reed in honor of Holly Kauf, Chris Riedmiller and Katie Riedmiller, and in memory of Katherine Clapper

From Pam Shears in honor of Janet Lathrop and in memory

of Marjorie Lathrop and Myrtle Gabriel

From Jim Stephenson in honor of Sophia Stephenson

From Randy and Jennifer Turner in memory of Willa Corder, Edith Moore, Freeda Jones, Lennie Turner

From Linda White in honor of Margaret Seckman and in memory of Carolyn Schneeberger and Thelma Del Grande

From Jean Wickum in memory of Marie Moffett Mead and Mabel F. Mead

## One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be accepted June 6 through June 27. Mother Nature has made Her presence known these past months and people everywhere need our help. Earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, mud slides and hurricanes have taken away all some people had, they have nothing.

We need to help rebuild the lives of the American people as well as those in foreign countries. People everywhere are facing the challenge of starting over and we can help by providing food, fresh water and shelter. There is a tremendous need and your money will help give so many people hope. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks.

– Carol Serviss  
Mission Coordinator

## Sewing

Womens' sewing will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, June 2 from 10:00 to 2:00.

We will be rolling bandages, putting elastic in skirts for young girls, and "tying" small quilts; no sewing involved!

We can use contributions of rick rack and other trim, ¾ inch elastic, and old sheets for bandages (they don't have to be white), or money to buy trim and elastic. These can be given to Jeanne Ekelberry or labeled and left on the green table.

Quilts and skirts stay in Delaware and bandages go to Haiti.

Come for a few hours and bring a sack lunch. Bring your daughters (if they are not still in school) so they can get involved

– Jeanne Ekelberry



## Ecumenical Church Women United

May 7 found 23 ladies gathered for our annual meeting. This represented women from 8 churches in our community, including 8 women from our congregation.

We enjoyed a bountiful luncheon and good visits with each other. Our Fellowship of the Least Coin was dedicated. This was followed by Jeanne Ekelberry telling of the work the Piecemakers do in our church and displaying the Wall Hanging gift from them. Genevieve Peterson shared her card ministry and all were welcome to take cards with them. Angel table favors were gifts from Barb Reed.

Our featured speaker was April Nelson, retired lawyer and community volunteer. She brought us the story of the Interfaith Legal Clinic, which is a vital part of the Andrews House ministry to those in need which meets monthly. Her presentation was well received and she fielded many questions. Our thanks for all the good work this program does for our community and to April for sharing.

It was good to have many of our congregation help to make the meeting a success. Special thanks to Sharon Baker and Barb Reed for their many efforts and to Steve Baker for all the signage to help guests find their way around our church.

Our 2011 meeting will be held May 6 at William Street United Methodist Church.

– Evelyn Lee



## Trustees Notes

- A thank you to Jerry Palmer for installing a new mail box on the front railing. (The door on the old one was broken.)

Also, thanks to Jerry for spreading mulch in the space between the foundation of the educational building and the walk. The mulch looks nice and will prevent rain from splashing dirt on the basement windows.

- A small window pane was found broken in the "choir robe/copier" room. No attempt at entry was made, so we believe it was just a random act. The glass was repaired using glass left over when the old classroom windows were changed last year. There was no cost.

- At press time, Paul's Exterminator Service has been called to deal with a large swarm of bees that have set up housekeeping under the roof near basement stairwell. The cost will be reported later.

– Peter White  
Reporting for the Trustees

## Aaron Shields

Aaron Shields, 35, died unexpectedly on May 24 in Delaware. Aaron had previously rented and lived in our old parsonage for about six years, until he moved out last year. During that time he also worked for several years as our janitor.

Aaron was a former shift manager at Pizza Hut and assisted his father running Dan's Deli. He performed as Jester The Clown for special occasions, and was the committee chairperson for the Junior Arts Exhibit at the Delaware County Arts Festival for many years. We extend our sympathy to his family.



## Thank A Teacher!!

Please make an opportunity in the next few weeks to thank the people who worked with our Sunday school program this last year. We have a really successful program, and it is because of people like these.

Tim Chesser, Randy Turner, Vic Fogle, Erin Faulk, Sam Chesser, Mary Lou Lovell, Debbie Fogle were Sunday school teachers. Larry Faulk, Linda White Liz Bowman, Lana Palmer, Melissa Mercer, and Kathy Chesser were substitute teachers. Ann Brown was our Sunday school secretary. Melissa Neill was also our Sunday school secretary and played piano for opening. Peter White played piano for opening and always had the church open and ready for classes. Mary Lou Lovell also played piano for opening.

There will be an appreciation dessert for these people on Saturday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Pam Faulk's house. This will include a short meeting.

– Pam Faulk

## Sunday School Teachers Needed

We are already planning for our Sunday school classes for next year. We can always use teachers and substitutes. If you are interested in pursuing this, please speak to me in the next few weeks. There is an

abundance of curriculum to choose from, most of which walks the teacher through the whole lesson, so an abundance of Biblical knowledge is not necessary. It is often more meaningful to learn about the Bible right along with the class. This is an excellent way to get to know our youth and plant seeds for the future of our church.

– Pam Faulk

## Personals

• Jean Osborne had knee replacement surgery on her other knee. She is recuperating at her son Greg's house. His address is 8015 Cran-creek Drive: Ada, Michigan 49301.

• Cullen Faulk celebrated First Communion at Blessed Sacrament Church in Warren, Ohio on April 25. Pam, Larry, Erin, and Pam's mother Pat Cole and Jean Wickum traveled there to attend. Jean had been Cullen's prayer partner during his months of preparation.

• Betty Porter suffered a setback in her recuperation, but is now improving again and continuing physical therapy.

• Melissa Neill will retire from OWU on June 1. See the Church Directory Update on page 8 for her new contact info.

• Don and Sally Williams have a first great-grandchild, Marie.

• Emily Bowman was selected for

symphonic choir at Hayes for next year.

• Pat Foor is back from Florida, but the Foor's have bought a house in Florida and intend to live there full time and will be moving soon. They will be greatly missed by our congregation. We will look forward to their visits back to Ohio.

• Lana Palmer and her daughter Jennifer attended the Women of Faith conference in Columbus. Erin Faulk also attended.

• Sam Chesser graduated Magna Cum Laude from Ohio Wesleyan on May 9. Sam was awarded the Sockman Award for academic excellence in religion. YEA SAM!

• Jane and Jimmie Moore traveled to California, and Lana and Jerry Palmer traveled to Williamsburg, Virginia.

• Jeanne Ekelberry's sister Nancy came for a visit and attended our church with Jeanne.

• Ken and Genevieve Peterson had a visit from their Japanese friend Hiroko Ikeda. Hiroko was here for several days and attended our church with the Petersons.

• The Davidsons will be moving back to Ohio this month.

*This is just a reminder. If you have items that you want in the personals column of the newsletter, please get them to Pam Faulk by the newsletter deadline of that month.*



## A Note to Our Teachers From the Janitor

Teachers!...

As the Sunday School season draws to a close, please gather up and store all your materials.

I want to begin cleaning a room a month, and I need books, papers, etc. to be moved.

Thanks,

– Beth Trigg

## Make A Difference

Here are ten ways you can make a difference, in no particular order.

1. Pray for those who are working on technologies that will help the environment.
2. Volunteer to teach Sunday school.
3. Organize a group to pick up litter in a park or wildlife area.
4. Contribute more to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.
5. Visit a neighbor who may be lonely.
6. Pray for people who are looking for jobs.
7. Have a conversation with someone about your faith.
8. Plant a vegetable garden.
9. Hold a Great American Bake Sale.
10. Answer someone kindly, even if you are annoyed.

## A Letter from the Kelseys

The following letter is from Jim and Debbie Kelsey, who are ABC missionaries in Italy. Debbie spoke to a group at our church last summer, and Jim will be preaching here on July 11. Before going to Italy, Jim was pastor of the Park Avenue Baptist Church in Mansfield.

– Tim

### Where Does a Person's Value Lie?

Assets such as machines, trucks, and office equipment have value to employers because they are useful; they help the employer further their business aims and, therefore, make a profit. Employers see value in employees when those employees are useful, when they enable the business owners to produce something or provide some service for which others will pay.

As countries debate the issue of immigration these days, they talk about ways to motivate and assist immigrants in becoming well-integrated, productive members of society. They talk about language acquisition, education, and adopting cultural

norms. The idea is that the more integrated an immigrant becomes, the more productive, and therefore valuable, they will be to an employer. This is often true—but not always.



Kitty Calavita, in her book *Immi-*

*grants at the Margins—Law, Race, and Exclusion in Southern Europe*, argues that in Southern Europe the opposite is often true. She writes:

*Immigrants are useful as 'Others' who are willing to work, or are compelled to work, under conditions and for wages that locals now largely shun. The advantage of immigrants for these economies resides precisely in their Otherness (p. 12).*

Much of the value of the immigrant worker to the employer lies in their **not being assimilated** into the culture. In this way, they are easier to exploit and victimize.

Laura is a Nigerian woman who attends one of our churches. She has been in Italy for 3 years and has been continuously employed, has all the necessary documents, and has faithfully paid all her taxes. She was laid off from her job and was collecting unemployment. (In Italy, an employer must continue to provide some benefits to laid-off workers and must hire back those laid-off workers first when business picks up again.) Laura was waiting to be called back to work.

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Her employer called her in and told her she needed to sign a document that would extend her permit to stay in Italy. Laura signed the document and went home with a copy. When she arrived home, her sister, who reads Italian much better than Laura does, told her that she had signed a resignation notice. Laura was tricked by her employer. Now she has no job and must find one immediately or will lose her permission to remain in Italy. An immigrant's permission to be in the country is tied to having a work contract. If you lose your job, you must leave the country. An immigrant's value is based entirely on his or her ability to be "useful" to an employer. They are purely an economic commodity, a means of production.

To make a long story short, Laura has no recourse. No one can do anything for her. Debbie and I tried; there is nothing to be done. It is precisely because she cannot read Italian well and she is not a part of a traditional Italian family and able to benefit from its connections in the community that she had value to that employer. He could never do this to an Italian. Thus, Laura had value to him precisely because of her "otherness." Immigrants have value here because they can be treated like office equipment instead of as human beings. And the immigrants know this.

Laura comes to worship each Sunday. She sings; she prays; she shares her hardships. The church is a place where she has value solely because she is a daughter of the Most

High God. Church is a place where she is reminded that she is made in God's image. Church is a place where she is recognized for who and what she really is.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well (Psalm 139:13-14).

She is not primarily a "means of production."

Pray that Laura will find work, some way to feed and clothe herself. But most of all, pray that Laura will never forget who she really is, from where her value really comes.

There are 2 weeks left in the 360 Matching Fund Campaign. Your gift of \$1 a day will be matched with another \$15 per month if you make your pledge online before the end of May.

To help support our mission in Italy by giving \$1 a day, go to <http://www.internationalministries.org> and then:

1. Hold your cursor over the words "People Who Serve". The Kelsey name will appear, (right below the word "Serve") click on the Kelsey name.
2. Near the bottom of the Kelsey page, you'll see a yellow box with the word "Give" in bold type. Click on the word "Give".
3. The next page you'll see is your Gift Basket. Click on the word "Checkout" to enter your payment information.

As you pray, please remember:

- Emma's ongoing struggle to get her documents through the recent government program
- Luke as he finishes up the last 2 weeks of his exams
- Our Christian sister Jackie who is participating in an Italian Baptist program to bring Italians and Gypsies together to build understanding and combat discrimination. She will travel with others throughout Italy in a camper van visiting churches. This is a big step for Jackie.
- Continued growth of our financial support so that we can continue our ministry in Italy...if you want to pray specifically we need 110 more people at \$1 a day.

May God Bless you and Keep you,

*– Jim (along with Debbie, Ben,  
and Luke) Kelsey*



## Travel to Italy This June!

Have you ever wanted to go to Italy? Maybe you've been there before and would like to see more. If so, the American Baptist Churches have a unique opportunity for you.

A Discovery Team will be in Italy from June 17-28, 2010, working with Italian Baptists to assist refugees and immigrants from Africa. You can help to provide practical and spiritual guidance that is needed for African people to adapt and be successful in their new country.

If you are interested in experiencing this firsthand, or if you want to learn how Baptists are making Italy a better place for immigrants, see this web site: [http://www.internationalministries.org/discovery\\_teams](http://www.internationalministries.org/discovery_teams)

– Kathy Russell

## Adult/Leadership Education: Mission Encounters in July

The ABC/Ohio Mission Encounters will be held on July 24 at Kenwood Baptist Church in Cincinnati and on July 31 at Diamond Hills Baptist Church in Mansfield. Both events are on a Saturday from 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. The cost is \$35 per person or \$60 per couple.

Each Mission Encounter will include mission displays and worship. Workshops on neighborhood outreach, planning mission trips, and transforming the church through mission and other resources will be presented.

The main speakers are Debbie and Jim Kelsey, missionaries to Italy who are supported by our own congregation at First Baptist Church! We were fortunate to have Debbie speak at our church last year. Now the Mission Encounters offer an opportunity to learn even more about the many different aspects of the Kelseys' ministry.

Registrations are due on July 16 for the July 24 Mission Encounter. They are due on July 23 for the July 31 Encounter. For registration forms and additional information, contact Kathy Russell at church or at (740) 362-5465, or see the ABC/Ohio web site at [www.abc-ohio.org](http://www.abc-ohio.org).

– Kathy Russell  
Adult/Leadership  
Education



## Koinonia 2010 Summer Camp Schedule

Koinonia, the American Baptist Camp near Cleveland, Ohio, is offering an amazing array of camping opportunities this summer! With the variety listed below, there is bound to be something that interests just about everyone.

June 4-11, Lifeguard Camp, \$265

June 12-15, Special Persons Camp, \$145

June 20-26, Elementary Camp, \$245

June 27-July 3, Senior High Camp, \$250

July 4-10, Junior High Camp, \$250

July 11-17, Junior/Senior High, Bible N Saddle Camp, \$365

July 11-17, Sr. High Extreme Camp, \$250

July 18-23, Paintball Camp, \$320

July 25-29, Elementary Bible N, Saddle Camp, \$340

July 28-31, Primary Camp, \$170

July 30-31, First Timers Camp, \$45

Registration materials are available at [www.christiancampohio.org](http://www.christiancampohio.org)

under "Forms."

You can also get information by calling or writing to:

Koinonia Camp & Conference  
Center

6810 Cork Cold Springs Road  
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Phone: (800) 893-2267

Fax: (440) 466-6453

E-mail: [koinonia@koinoniacampohio.org](mailto:koinonia@koinoniacampohio.org)

HAVE FUN AT CAMP!

– Kathy Russell

## Opportunities at Green Lake Conference Center

Green Lake Conference Center, founded in 1943 by American Baptists, welcomes all Christian churches and denominations to its extensive facilities in Wisconsin. Conferences at Green Lake help individuals and churches to be more effective in their ministries for maximum impact in the world for Christ. School groups and nonprofit organizations plan functions there. Green Lake is also a great place to go for family vacations and reunions.

Events in June 2010 include Improve Your Swing from June 4-6, which will give insights into

*continued on page 8*

## Church Directory Update

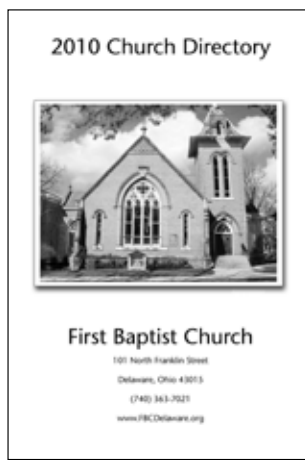
Please update your copy of the 2010 church directory.

### Sharon and Steve Baker

3480 Hillcrest Court  
Columbus, OH 43224

### Melissa Neill

Melissa is retiring from OWU on June 1. Her new phone and email are:  
Phone: (740) 972-0452  
Email: gardenmentor3@gmail.com



## Friends Listening for God Invites You!

The fellowship and spiritual exploration group Friends Listening for God welcomes anyone who would like to attend. The monthly meetings are only one hour long. They are held on the third Sunday of every month at 3:00 P.M. downstairs at First Baptist Church.

On June 20 the group will be learning different ways to share our faith with others. Input from all ages and viewpoints is considered and discussed with sincere interest. Come to Friends Listening for God for spiritual growth, food, and friendship. We hope to see you there!

– Robert & Kathy Russell

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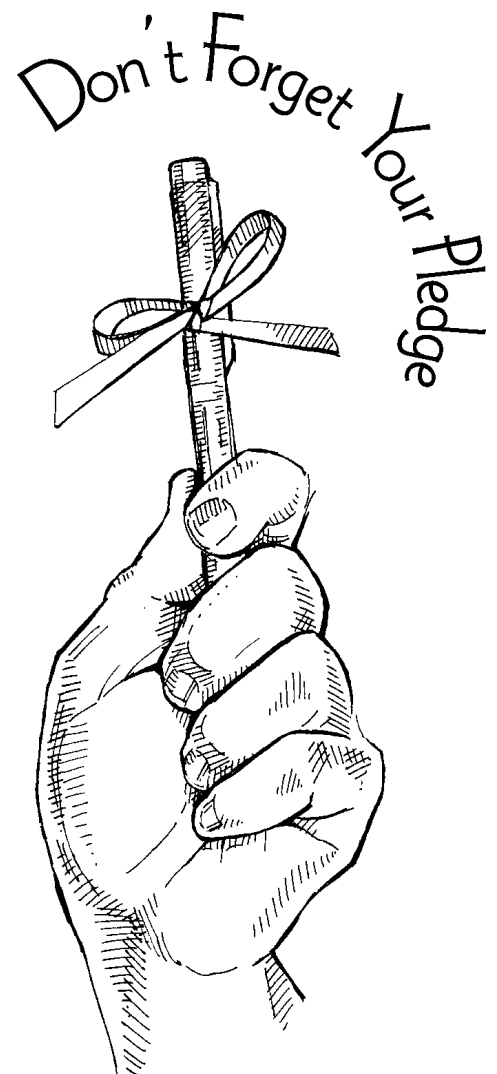
God's wisdom by comparing golf and life. Minister and life coach David Howie and PGA instructor Jack Shoger will lead this fun-filled, enlightening weekend. On June 11-12 the Second Half Ministry will provide ways to enhance ministries for the 50+ generation. The Holy Spirit Renewal Conference from

June 26 - July 2 promises to be a week of "inspiring worship, fellowship, family vacation, great Biblical teaching, and youth activities." At this conference, all who seek God can be renewed through prayer and the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Green Lake Conference Center offers youth programs for the ages of toddler to young adult. The Children's Center has fun, spiritually educational experiences for kids. Camp Grow provides weekly summer camps on the southern shore of Green Lake for those who have completed grades 2-12. Quest is a summer conference for youth who have completed grades 6-12. Quest trains youth and youth leaders for ministry within the church and their communities.

For more information go to <http://glcc.org>; call (920) 294-3323; or write to Green Lake Conference Center, W2511 State Road 23, Green Lake, WI 54941. Scholarships are available for many of the activities at Green Lake.

– Kathy Russell  
Adult/Leadership Education



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



- June 2 Jerry & Lana Palmer
- 4 Patricia Foor  
Dwight Davidson
- 8 Pam Faulk  
Carol Serviss
- 10 David & Mary Lou Lovell  
Aidan Ferguson
- 11 Randy & Jennifer Turner
- 16 Bud & Becky Sykes
- 17 Matthew & Marci Cooper
- 19 Wyatt Cramer
- 22 June Grubbs
- 24 Beth Trigg
- 27 Dwight & Kari Davidson
- 28 Jami Riedmiller
- 30 Jimmie & Jane Moore

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.