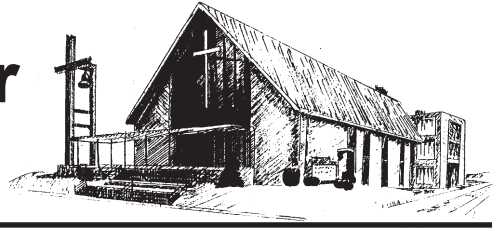




# The Messenger

AUGUST 20, 2008



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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR DENNIS STRAWN

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## *FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART*

Have you caught any of the Olympics? Did you see Michael Phelps? Michael is a fourteen time Olympic gold medalist (the most by any Olympian) and he currently holds seven world records in swimming. He also holds the world records for the most gold medals won (eight medals) in a single Olympic competition. I remember when Mark Spitz won seven gold medals in the 1972 Olympics in swimming. They said it couldn't be done then and they told Michael he couldn't do what he did either.

In an interview, I liked it when he was told it wasn't possible because it made him all the more determined to prove them wrong. There are a lot of things to admire during the Olympics, sacrifice, dedication, passion, devotion; just to name a few. But if I had to summarize in one word what the Olympics mean, I would say, "dedication". No matter what country they come from or what sport they compete in, it requires at great deal of dedication to make it to the Olympics.

We as believers are called to the same kind of dedication for our Lord. The Apostle Paul uses those same types of athletic competitions to illustrate that we must keep our eye on the prize.

1 Cor. 9: 24Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

As you watch and cheer on these dedicated athletes remember you have a spiritual race to run for a crown that will last forever. Don't stop now! Keep on the course and do your very best! It is worth it! Amen!

*Pastor Dennis*

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*First Baptist Church*



**304 So. 5th Street  
Ironton, OH 45638**  
Phone: (740) 532-1240  
Fax: (740) 532-5454  
Email: dennis.fbc@gmail.com

**STAFF:**

Pastor: Rev. Dennis Strawn  
Youth Pastor: Eric Barnes  
Financial Secretary: Debbie Dickess  
Secretary: Sandy Caudill  
Custodian: Laura Kettel  
Music Minister: Phillip Nunley  
Pianist: Linda Brammer

**USHER  
SCHEDULE**

• August 24 •

**PROGRAMS**

Dan Hieronimus

**FRONT DOOR**

Danny French

**VERNON STREET**

Jerry Bester

**LIBRARY**

Jasun Walker

**ELEVATOR**

Mark Cartmell

**UPCOMING EVENTS  
(INVITE FAMILY & FRIENDS)**

<b>Sunday, August 24, 9:45 a.m.</b>	Promotion Sunday
<b>August 29-31</b>	ABC/Ohio Missions Conference
<b>Sunday, Sept. 14, 5:00 p.m.</b>	LBA Annual Meeting
<b>October 16-18</b>	ABC/Ohio Annual Gathering
<b>October 16, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.</b>	ABC/Ohio Women's Day, Columbus

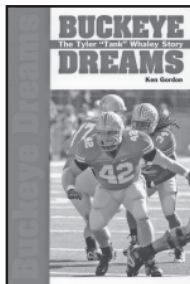
**MORE DATES TO REMEMBER**

Saturday, Aug. 30 (all day)	Church Clean-Up day
Saturday, Aug. 30, 6:00 p.m.	ABLAZE Central Christian Church Lot
Saturday, Sept. 3, 6:30 p.m.	Ouor First "Coffee House"

**ANOTHER TRIP IN WORKS**

We are planning a trip to the Creationism Museum either Saturday, Nov. 8 or Nov. 15. The museum is outside Cincinnati. If enough people want to go, we will be chartering a bus. If you are interested please mark the back of your registration card, call the church at 532-1240 or tell any member of Circle E.

**BUCKEYE DREAMS:  
THE TYLER "TANK" WHALEY STORY**



A new book has been released this week featuring FBC's own Tyler Whaley. Written by Columbus Dispatch Writer Ken Gordon, "Buckeye Dreams, The Tyler 'Tank' Whaley Story" chronicles Tyler's years as an Ohio State football player and his years at Ironton High School.

Tyler's parents, Tammy and Dave Vogelsong, have donated 50 books to the church to benefit the building fund.

If you would like to reserve a copy, which will be signed by Tyler, mark the back of you registration card, call the church office at 532-1240 or e-mail jennymays1@gmail.com. Cost is \$20.

**Nursery Volunteers**

**Sunday Morning**

August 24

August 31

**Baby Nursery**

Alan & Kiera Siebel

Laura & Stephanie Kettel

**Sunday School**

Missy Gillenwater & Heather Estep

Missy Gillenwater & Heather Estep

*Nursery available during Passion Service.*

**Financial Report • August 10, 2008**

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Missions</b>
Received	\$2,173.73	\$488.50
Disbursements	\$6,369.39	\$0.00
YTD Received	\$175,278.09	\$29,681.04
YTD Paid	\$189,704.00	\$25,902.34
<b>Smith Barney Operational Fund: \$13,965.27</b>		

**Vital Statistics - Attendance**

<b>Wednesday 8/13</b>	<b>Adults 39</b>	<b>Youth 76</b>
<b>August 17</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Morning Worship	151	189
Sunday School	74	98
Evening	N/A	N/A
Passion	N/A	N/A

**NOTES**

... The LBA Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 14th at 5:00 p.m. Guest Speaker: Ruth Fox.  
 ... **Tri-County Choir** will be here in January, 2009.  
 ... Check the Lost & Found box in the narthex. It's loaded with good stuff!

**BIG SANDY HELPING FBC**

Big Sandy Furniture has given the church 1,000 flyers which will give the church a \$20 donation for each one presented when items are purchased of \$199 or more. The flyers are fully explanatory and will be in your bulletins this Sunday and in the Narthex.

**THANKS**

Dear Friends of First Baptist,

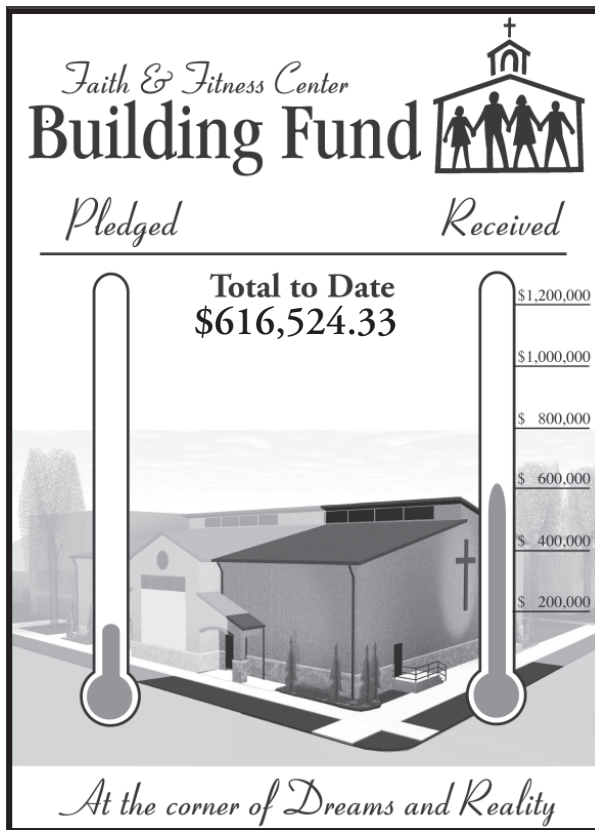
Thank you so much for the financial gift of support. That meant so much to us! We've been able to get settled into our apartment, but it will still take time to navigate ourselves around. The students start school on August 13. Meredith and Andrew seem to enjoy it so far. They've been able to make several friends so far - that's a blessing! Continue to keep us in your prayers for the work that lies before us!

*Serving Him,  
 John, Margie, Meredith & Andrew Kennedy*

Members of First Baptist Church,

Thank you for thinking of us at Sedgwick Methodist Church. I am sure we will put these place settings to very good use.

*Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
 Sedgwick ME Church*



**August Memory Verse - James 1:4**

**“Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”**

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**Sunday, August 24, 2008**

- 9:45 am** Morning Worship  
“House of Love”  
Rev. Dennis Strawn
- 11:00 am** Sunday School
- 5:30 pm** Passion  
“Engaging God in Community”  
Romans 12:1-21  
Eric Barnes
- 7:00 pm** Evening Worship  
“Building Materials”  
Rev. Dennis Strawn

**Monday, August 25, 2008**

- 10:30 am** Women’s Bible Study

**Tuesday, August 26, 2008**

**Ironton’s First Day of School**

**Wednesday, August 27, 2008**

- 9:00 am** Women’s Bible Study
- 6:00 pm** Choir Practice
- 7:00 pm** Bible Study
- 7:00 pm** Family Night

**Thursday, August 28, 2008**

- 6:45 am** Habitat Meeting

**Friday, August 29, 2008**

- 7:00 am** Men’s Prayer Breakfast

**Friday, August 29-Sunday, August 31, 2008**

**ABC/Ohio Missions Conference**

**Pulpit Assistants and Visitation:**

- 8/24** Jerry Greenwood, Charlie Robinson
- 8/31** Joe Rowe, Fred Kingery

**Please Pray For:**

- Deacon: Jerry Greenwood
- Shut-In: Evelyn Rogers
- Missionary: Dr. Bill & Ann Clemmer, Congo
- Teacher: Laurence Wolfe
- Youth: Jeremy Wren
- Young Adult: Marissa Wilson
- Serviceman: Jeff Underhill



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Email: [fbcj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fbcj@sbcglobal.net)