

Focus

Healthy Loving Relationships

We will build friendly, safe, and caring circles in which people experience the fullness of God's grace.

Phone (260) 982-6457 Fax (260) 982-1778 E-mail: office@nmfbc.org Web: www.nmfbc.org

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Our Core Values

- Healthy Loving Relationships
- Spirit-Led Worship
- Persistent Passionate Prayer
- Empowered Servant-Leadership
- Transformational Discipleship
- Need-Based Evangelism



WHEN GOD CHARGES

By Pastor Kurt

Charge is one of those words which has several meanings. We use a **charge** card and get a statement each month listing our **charges**. A raging bull **charges** the red cape held by the bullfighter. We plug in our cell phones, games, and cordless tools to **charge** their batteries. A victim of a crime presses **charges** against the offender. A referee calls a **charge** when an aggressive basketball player runs through a defender. A graduation speaker **charges** a graduating class with direction for their next stage of life. It is this last definition of the word *charge* that God's been rolling around in my head. It comes from a section of Scripture written by the Apostle Paul to Pastor Timothy.

Paul knows his life is near its end, so he takes time to pass along - *to charge* - some advice he believes will be helpful to Timothy as he leads the church. Paul does not want Timothy to get distracted, discouraged, or become disobedient, so he ends his second letter with these words, "*I give you this charge:*" (2 Timothy 4:1). The words that follow these are very important for Pastor Timothy and the congregation to understand. They are in some ways a mission statement or job description for a pastor.

A few weeks ago I copied 2 Timothy 4:2 and 5 and placed it on my desk in front of me where I can read Paul's pastoral charge every day. I'm not a perfect pastor. I have particular strengths and weaknesses, but my prayer has become that I never falter in Paul's list of five essentials for pastoral ministry. Paul charged: "*¹Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. ... ²keep your head in all situations, ³endure hardship, ⁴do the work of an evangelist, ⁵discharge all the duties of your ministry.*"

I am sure some in the church would add an item or two or ten to what they

believe to be the major responsibilities of a pastor. However, this short list of five highlights the key biblical aspects of the job and title I hold.

Paul is basically saying to Timothy, "Whether they realize it or not, the world and the church need you to focus on these non-negotiables. For there will be times when people want to trade in Truth and distract you from God's priorities" (2 Timothy 4:3-4). God has preserved these ancient words to Pastor Timothy as well for pastors like me. Pray and expect me to:

1. Faithfully preach God's Word,
2. Refuse to allow pride, discouragement, disobedience, or fear to overshadow discernment, wisdom, gentleness, or Spirit-led living,
3. Courageously and patiently face tough times,
4. Tell people about Jesus and invite them to accept Him, and
5. Train, equip, and delegate ministry responsibilities others can and should do.

To what do you feel charged?

What charges your life, giving you a greater sense of energy, purpose, and satisfaction? What is it that you do which you believe pleases God? Is there something you've been ignoring that you know you need to address? What one or two callings can you not shake - so drawn to that you know you must be a part of? This is your charge. It does not necessarily mean we'll enjoy every aspect of our charge. Or that it will be easy or lack courage. That's why Paul said "endure." But it does mean we can confidently say, like Paul: "*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith*" (2 Timothy 4:7). If you want, I'm interested in talking with you about the area/s you believe God is charging you.

Ushers In July



USHER
SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m.

Dennis Ayres**

Mike McKee

Craig Walters

Recruit

Recruit

9:15 a.m.

Roger Metzger**

Fred Thompson

Lynn Blocher

Terry Sites

Recruit

10:30 a.m.

Kevin Watson**

Larry Swihart

Dave Hofer

Steve Bucher

Jason Meredith

** Denotes head usher for that service

Any questions, please call

Carl Petrie 260-417-2246.

Prayer Cards in Pews

The green prayer cards in the pews are available for any prayer request. A group meets to pray each Wednesday at 6:30 a.m. You may place the card in the offering plate or leave it in the church office.



BLOOD PRESSURE

SCREENINGS will be on the third Sunday this month (July 17th) in Pastor Ron's office.

They will be held after first and second services. Blood pressure cuffs are available for loan/check-out in the church office.



The ladies of Joyful Hearts will meet on Saturday, July 16th at noon at Grandma's Kitchen, 210 E. Main, North Manchester.

Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

We thank you for all that you have done to support our family. We would like to thank everyone for your outpouring of sympathy through your prayers, calls, visits and cards. Thank you for the meal that was provided for us after the funeral and a special "thank You" to the special ladies that were helping in the kitchen that day. Thank you for the memorial contributions that were made in memory of Jay. We sincerely appreciate what everyone has done for us during this difficult time.

The family of Jay Shepherd
Cathy, Lori, Cliff, Bryce & Trevor
Charles & Ruth Miller

Orange Core Value: **RESPECT**

"Please" and "Thank you" are respectful words. Kids should use them, but so should adults. When our kids hear us using these words when we talk to them, they will more likely use them. Parent, do you use "Please" and "Thank You" with your spouse, kids, waitress, clerk, or attendant? In my home we're also working on how we ask for things. When I hear "I want to go to the park" or "I want more spaghetti", I respond with, "Can you ask that in another way?" Using "may I" or "can I" tells the other person you're not bossy, forceful, or demanding. It's also hard to be harsh in our tone when we choose this kind of language.

WMS

No Meeting for the
Month of July

Report From Your Diaconate Leadership Council

From time-to-time your Diaconate Leadership Council would like to highlight faith matters that we feel strongly about. You may recall last fall, we talked with you about the spiritual aspects of what God has entrusted to us to manage - our finances. Now, along with Pastor Kurt's sermon series, we would also like to emphasize the importance of a God-designed marriage and family. It is our prayer that everyone in this church body has healthy relationships and especially in the context of marriages and families. This is a key part of the church's mission and vision.

This church is here to help you gain not only a closer walk with Jesus, but also gain emotional and relational health. Our counseling and care ministry is unique to North Manchester and I can personally attest to the benefits of affordable Christ-centered counseling.

Perhaps a bit of history is important here concerning our counseling and care ministry. Years ago when we first investigated starting a counseling ministry, it was suggested by other churches with counseling ministries in larger communities to structure ours similar to theirs, namely that it should be a self-sustaining venture. And that self-sustaining model was what was presented to the congregation when you approved it. Over time however, it was discovered that the larger community model would not work in a smaller one like North Manchester.

In the spring of 2006, under our former leadership structure of the Executive Board, this very matter of "should the counseling ministry pay for itself" was discussed and dealt with. As a result, the Executive Board brought a motion

to the spring 2006 congregational business meeting which read, "We, the Executive Board, believe the counseling program is a vital ministry of this church, regardless of its financial contribution. Therefore, we move that FBC continue to financially support this program as an ongoing ministry of the church". The congregation present passed this motion on voice vote. However, this resolution wasn't conveyed very well to the broader congregation.

This past fall and spring, the Diaconate Leadership Council revisited the counseling and care ministry asking many of the same questions as in 2006. The DLC strongly reaffirms the 2006 decision that this ministry is vital to our church and community regardless of its financial contribution. In fact, we feel so strongly about this unique ministry as a key resource in helping this congregation and community gain spiritual, emotional and relational health that we want to do what it takes to achieve that. That may mean transitioning Suzanna Hicks, the ministry's director, away from some administrative roles so that more time can be devoted to counseling, development and promotion of the counseling ministry and hopefully be able to do this without sacrificing her important role in congregational care.

Therefore, you will be hearing more about the counseling and care ministry in the weeks and months ahead. Suzanna is a great resource for your marriage and family. We encourage you to learn more about how she and this ministry can help you.

Garen Bushong, Moderator



July Compassion Corner

As we celebrate the many freedoms that we have in the United States this month, let us not forget that not everyone in our great land is free.

Modern-day slavery exists in the U.S. An estimated 200,000 **Americans** are bought and sold in this country every year. 46% are forced into the sex trade, 27% are used for domestic service, 10% work in agriculture, 5% work in sweatshops, and 4% do restaurant and hotel work.

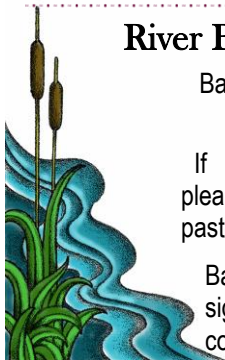
This month in Compassion Corner, you can purchase items made in the U.S. to benefit trafficking victims. July items include: Organic lotions and bath products from Thistle Farms in Nashville Tennessee, items created by local abolitionists to raise money to help the enslaved, the book *Not for Sale: The Return of the Global Slave Trade and How We Can Fight It* will be available for purchase, as well as a music CD featuring Christian artists, with proceeds going to fight slavery. As usual, you can stock up on fair trade chocolate and coffee items.

River Baptism

Baptism will be set in early August.

If you're interested, please speak with a pastor.

Baptism is an outward sign of an inward commitment.



Update From Puerto Maldonado, Peru, SA

We've received a few calls from Italo Abuid in Puerto Maldonado, Peru thanking the congregation for our ongoing support of the orphanage ministry and dream. He indicated they are getting closer with the paper work, which will take them one step closer to opening their doors to at risk children in Peru, South America.

The following report is as of June 21st:

The license for the orphanage has been approved. Italo has it in his possession right now.

The main building is almost finished as well. The carpenter has promised that he will be done by the end of the week. We're not sure that he can or will live up to that deadline but it shows that the work is nearing completion.

In two or three days, the four acres for planting papayas and bananas will be cleared. They will have to wait four or five weeks for the piles to dry out before they can be burned and then the planting can begin.



Our deepest sympathies to the family of Wayne Clark, who passed away Sunday, June 12th. Services were held Wednesday, June 15th at McKee Mortuary.

Orange Core Value: **RESPECT**

Our kids learn to respect us and others when they see us offering respectful actions, words, and attitudes.

What's your family learning from you?

JULY

Birthdays

- 1 – Bob Shepherd
Trevor Jones
Owen Vineyard
- 3 – Grace Smith
- 4 – Alma Eiler
- 5 – Andrew Cook
Jodi Egner
- 7 – Karla Coble
Aaron Medley
Greg Miller
- 9 – Stephanie Sparks
Marieta Steele
- 10 – Debbie Zile
Vicky White
Sherry Walters
Rebecca Ramer
- 11 – Steve White
Chad Vawter
- 13 – Suzanna Hicks
- 15 – Linda Lindzy
- 16 – Isaac Egner
- 17 – Della Davis
Leighton Duffy
- 18 – Glenn Riggs
- 19 – Helen Vandermark
- 20 – Phil Zile
- 22 – Elizabeth Anguilm
Steve Beaver
- 25 – Jared Blocher
Chris Music
Josiah Callaway
- 26 – Glenna Parker
Tyler Meredith
- 27 – Donna Medley
Lisa Rice
- 28 – Michael Bowen
- 29 – Gerry Eberly
Matt Mize
Mark York

- 30 – Jason Montel
Teresa Coble
Casen Vawter
- 31 – Donna McKee
Joretta Kerschner
Gerri Longanecker
Caden Egner

Anniversaries

- 3 – Andy & Ruth Ayres '99
- 8 – Matt & Pattie Webb '95
Dick & Diane Metzger '55
- 10 – Gary & Rosie Purdy '76
Matt & Jeri Purdy '04
- 14 – Jason & Jennifer Meredith '01
- 15 – Max & Barb Ihnen '78
Doug & Lisa Rice '95
Brian & Karen Burgan '78
- 16 – Eldon & Jenean Rager '67
- 20 – Randy & Jenny Moore '97
- 30 – Dennis & Annette Ayres '94
Rich & Tova Green '94

Roofing Help



LOOKING AHEAD

AUGUST

Vacation Bible School

August 1-5
6:15-7:45 p.m.

FunFest Fish Fry

August 13
@ Warvel Park

Lifeline Screening

August 16
@ First Brethren

Orange Core Value: RESPECT

Attentive Listening is a quality of RESPECT.

When someone focuses on the person talking and engages with non-verbals, they indicate they care about the person and truly want to know what the person has to say.

How can you show someone respect?

When someone wants to talk to you, put down the magazine, mute the TV, pause the project, look directly at the person, ignore a cell phone call or text until after the conversation is over. Respect for people also means not interrupting other people's conversations. In our home we're working on this, just like my parents had to help me be patient with my questions and comments. Teach your family to listen to you, by modeling attentive listening when they have something to say to you.

A Woman's Perspective on Love

Last month's focus was on survey results providing insight into how some men view respect. This article will highlight a woman's perspective on love.

Hey Guys...

Does your wife ever:

- ask, 'Do you love me?' even though you just told her you loved her on your way out the door that morning?
- think you are mad and trying to get away from her when you like going off by yourself?
- talk and talk and talk about your relationship—especially when you don't want to talk about it?
- become critical or pushy for no reason?
- act "crabby" or very emotional as she pushes you away—but gets angry when you stay away?

Before you leave a copy of this article on your wife's side of the bed, this information is an excerpt from Shaunti and Jeff Feldhahn's book, *For Men Only—A Straightforward Guide to the Inner Lives of Women*. According to survey results, these authors discovered that 4 out of 5 women sometimes feel insecure about their man's love and their relationship.

Possible insecurity triggers:

- conflict between her and her man
- when a husband withdraws or becomes moody

- when a man is silent. A woman may think, 'If you're quiet, it must be me.'
- when she is emotionally depleted
- when a husband is absent often
- unresolved relational issues. Women like to get relationships back on track and will feel insecure and a desire to keep bringing things up until the issues are resolved.

What can men do?

Reassure her of your love, even in the middle of a conflict. "I am angry and I need some space, but we are okay." You pursued her before marriage. Continue the pursuit. Does she like flowers? Notes? Jokes? Time away with you? Sincere compliments?

In the MA program at Grace, we were taught that women are God-designed to be "relational experts." Does that mean women get it right all the time? No. It means they are usually very tuned in to how family relationships are faring. Sometimes a marital issue will become a blip on her radar sooner than her husband's.

For more information about the Feldhahn's book, go to www.shaunti.com/BooksStudies/ForMenOnly/.../Default.aspx

Suzanna Hicks

Director of Counseling & Care

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We wanted to let you know we appreciated the hard work all involved in painting the adult clothing room. It looks much brighter and nicer and cleaner. Thanks for all the support your church gives our mission for the Fellowship of Churches Reach Program and the Thrift Shop!

Sincerely,
Sharon Heckaman,
co-manager Thrift Shop

Thank you so much for the delicious meal you provided for our family and friends. All of you have been there to support us with shoulders to cry on, cards, calls, visits & many, many prayers. Thank you so much.

With deep appreciation,
The family of Arlene Clark-DeLancey

Thank you for all your acts of kindness towards me during my transfer to Tulip Place at Peabody. I'm really enjoying the plant that was brought to me during your Sunday of Random Acts of Kindness, the visits and prayers – especially since my fall and broken wrist. Come visit me anytime!

Donna Warren

Thank you to Pastor Kurt and the First Brethren Church family for cards, prayers, visits, and the ladies for the wonderful funeral dinner for Wayne Clark's family.

Karen Clark
Kent & Teresa Coble

First Brethren Church,
Thank you so much for the nice Bible given to me for my graduation. It is so appreciated. Thank you.

Wayde Platt

First Brethren Church Learn From Me ... Matt.

11:29

Reading Plan Bookmark 2011

July	Deuteronomy
4	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22
5	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-24
6	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-26
7	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-28
8	<input type="checkbox"/> 29-30
11	<input type="checkbox"/> 31-32
12	<input type="checkbox"/> 33-34
	Acts
13	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2
14	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-4
15	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-6
17	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-8
18	<input type="checkbox"/> 9-10
19	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-12
20	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-14
21	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-16
25	<input type="checkbox"/> 17-18
26	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20
27	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22
28	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-24
29	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-26

We Can Help You Avoid a Stroke



Trusted by Hospitals Nationwide

Life Line Screening has screened over 6 million participants and has partnered with hospitals across the country. Why? Because the ultrasound screenings that we offer can help save your life.

1 Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening – \$60.00

Ultrasound evaluation of the carotid arteries that screens for buildup of fatty plaque – the leading cause of strokes.

2 Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation) – \$60.00

A quick and easy test using EKG electrodes placed on the arms and legs to identify the presence or absence of an irregular heartbeat at the time of the screening.

3 Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening – \$60.00

Ultrasound is used to screen for the presence of an aneurysm in the abdominal aorta that could lead to a ruptured aortic artery.

4 Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening – \$60.00

Evaluates for peripheral arterial disease (plaque buildup) in the lower extremities. It is 4-5 times more likely you will die from heart disease if you have peripheral arterial disease.

5 Osteoporosis Risk Assessment – \$35.00

An ultrasound measurement of the heel bone to determine abnormal bone mass density. Osteoporosis is painless and silent in its early stages.

Lifeline Screening

Where: First Brethren Church

When: Tuesday, August 16, 2011

Pre-registration is required.

Call 1-800-690-6313

****Vascular packages range from \$129 - \$159****

Sponsored by our Parish Nurses

When It Doesn't Feel Like It

Job's story is well-known. Job was a righteous man before God, and God allowed Satan to test Job by, in one day, taking away Job's children and all of his wealth. Following that, God allowed Satan to take away Job's health by striking Job with terrible sores all over his body. On top of that, Job's three "friends" basically told Job that all of this happened because he must have sinned. Job was physically and emotionally at the end of his rope. In chapters 29-31 Job recounts the "good old days," before these calamities happened, which, Job says, were the "days when God watched over me," "when the friendship of God was upon my tent," "when the Almighty was yet with me." But now, Job says to God, "I cry to You for help and you do not answer me," "You have turned cruel to me; with the might of Your hand you persecute me."

Job made the mistake that is easy for all of us to make, and that we've probably all made; when he came into bad circumstances, he assumed that God wasn't with him anymore and had turned against him. To Job's credit, he never gave up his faith, and he continued to talk to God. But in his pain, when it didn't feel like God was with him, Job went with his feelings rather than what he should have known to be true. If we're Christians, God is with us, no matter what it feels like, and no matter what's going on around us. In Romans 5:2 the apostle Paul speaks of "this grace [of God] in which we stand." We stand in God's favor, that's our permanent position, and that doesn't change with our circumstances. As Paul says in Romans 8:31, "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

A great definition of faith is found in Hebrews 11:1, *Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.* Paul, speaking of how

he viewed the intense sufferings he endured in his ministry, writes in 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, *For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.* By definition, faith means believing what God says when we can't see it. If we could see it, we wouldn't need faith. If everything went our way all the time, we wouldn't need faith to believe that God was for us; we'd believe it based on what we saw. It takes faith to believe that God created the heavens and the earth and living beings, when "science" tells us that it happened by chance and evolution. It takes faith to believe that God is in control of everything that happens, that *Our God is in the heavens; he does all that He pleases* (Psalm 115:3), when there is so much evil in the world.

The next time it doesn't feel like God is with you, it can be helpful to remember what Jesus told His twelve disciples, *"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33, NIV), and that Paul and Barnabas told believers in some of the churches they started that *"We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God"* (Acts 14:22, NIV). Our circumstances can change like the weather, but God never changes. When what we feel would tell us otherwise, let our faith tell us that God is for us. As Paul writes in Romans 8:32, *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?*

Ron Burns, Discipleship Coordinator
(All Scripture references ESV unless otherwise noted)

Children's Ministry



Registration forms! Don't you just have mine from last year? Why do we make you fill one of those out each year? There are several purposes to that simple form we use for all events during the year. The first is for **VBS** - getting a count ahead of time so we make sure we have snacks and crafts for everyone is a big deal to kids!

We try to have two lines that first night of VBS - one that has their form turned in by Sunday, and the other line for those still filling them out. It is much quicker and helps us out tremendously!!!

Another reason - we use those forms for our address list for the year to send things like KFC postcards, Sunday School lists, LOFT lists, Club RIOT postcards - if we don't have your address we can't send you or your friends those important reminders.

Another has our picture policy - we need a parent or a guardian to okay the use of their child's picture in our slide show, to hang on the wall, and now our really cool website! (We make sure no names are associated with the kids on our website)

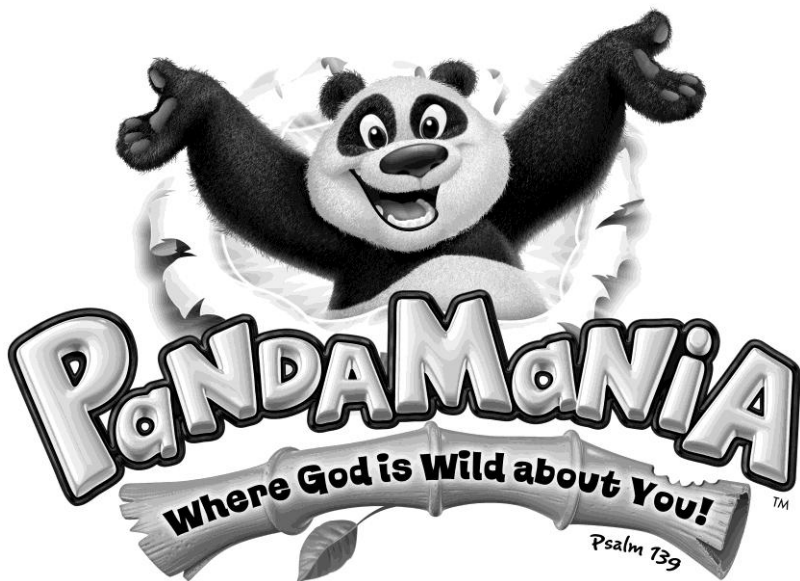
And importantly, the registration form gives us contact information in case we need to get a hold of a child's parent or guardian, or other emergency person. We hope this never happens, but every once in a while a child is just having a bad night and needs his parent. We use this form for VBS, but also for Sunday School, Club RIOT, KFC, special days like our water and snow days, --- every time your child is with us.

So ... Please fill out those forms completely and let us know if something should change during the year- we keep all of them together in the church office. And, if you could ... before VBS starts! Thanks Teresa Mize☺

Garden 0-1 We are continuing to work on Noah's Ark this month as our story we learn through songs.

Garden 2's This month our theme is Creation from Genesis 1:1. We work on this story and its meaning through our story, songs and play.

Garden 3-Kindergarteners In July, we will be working on a FRIENDS them with the stories of Ruth & Naomi, Andrew & Jesus, David & Jonathan, and Jesus & His Disciples. Our theme verse for this month is John 13:24 "Love One Another"



VBS -Mark your calendars for **August 1-5, 2011** It's time to turn in those registration forms! Fill yours out and turn it into the church office as soon as possible!! We will be watching Psalm 139 come to life as we learn that God is Wild about us! Ages 3-6th grade



LOFT: *ASIAN ADVENTURE* continues in LOFT and elementary Sunday School rotations as we hear about God's call to Isaiah, Josiah's promise to follow God, and Daniel and his friends standing up for God. We will focus on the character traits of holiness, listening, commitment, and loyalty. Watch for the take-home menu each week to use as a family to follow-up on what we are learning.

Summer Bible Memory Challenge- For all elementary kids! Watch for verse lists coming home on July 3rd / 10th and start working together to learn verses and earn tickets starting July 17th. Tickets you earn can be spent at the "Truth Tix Store"(in the LOFT hallway by the water fountain) at the end of August.

FB C YOUTH MINISTRY

Summer Schedule

The Sunday morning schedule will remain the same. Ekklesia (*Sunday nights*) and CHAOS (*Wednesday nights*) will not be meeting until the fall.

Cedar Point!

We're spending the day at Cedar Point on Thursday, July 7. Leaving from the church parking lot at 5am and returning at 2am. Cost is \$45. You will have to bring additional money (at least \$20) for your food throughout the day.

Spots limited to the first 20 students to turn their money in.

This is a *combined* Junior and Senior High event.

Junior High students and their families are invited to attend a Tin Caps game on Monday, July 25. It's Family Feast night, which means that hot dogs, soda, popcorn, and slices of pizza all cost only \$1 each! We'll leave from the church at 5:30pm and caravan up to the game together. We should be back around 11:30pm.

High School students, we are going tent camping Friday afternoon, July 29 through Sunday morning, July 31. Cost is \$25. Sign up if you're going.

Interested in getting baptized?

There will be a river baptism on Sunday, July 31.
Talk to Pastor Tim, if you feel ready to be baptized.

High Schoolers: On Sunday, August 14 we are having a Lake Party for you and your parents. Right after church, we'll head up to Gary and Rosie Purdy's lake cottage, play games, eat food, get to know each other better, and do some tubin'!



Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is valuable in every way, because it promises life both for the present and for the future.

1 Timothy 4:8 (GNB)

**It's not too late to get started with TXT90X!
The theme for the month of July is "LOVE."**

Call or text Pastor Tim at 578-0631 to get started, or sign up on the sheet outside Pastor Tim's office.

Don't have a cell phone? That's OK!
We have paper copies available.



Youth Conference is July 13-17 in Ashland, OH. You could still go with us!
Cost is now \$190.

For a printable registration, go to <http://byic.org!>

First Brethren Church
407 N. Sycamore Street
North Manchester, IN 46962

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July