

2 Corinthians 2:14–17 But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

Ephesians 5:1–2 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

I recently have been giving some thought about being a "fragrance" that is pleasing to God. Although I desire my actions and heart to be a pleasing aroma in the nostrils of our Lord, I'm sure there are times my pride, hardened heart, and flesh are more of an offensive aroma than that which is pleasing.

Paul's picture in 2 Corinthians 2:14 -16 is that of a Roman general who would lead his men and their captives in victorious procession through town. The townspeople would celebrate during this procession by applauding, shouting, and burning their spices which would be a sweet aroma for all to enjoy. In Paul's picture, Christ is this general leading the redeemed in triumphal procession for all to see. In us, and through us, we bear evidence of God's transformative work and thus become a sweet fragrance.

For those who hear the Good News and reject Christ's life-giving offer, it is as though they become an aroma of death, as they choose the empty, temporal, and fleshly ways of this world and its rulers. Yet, Christ died for these and while we are here for a short time, He leads the redeemed to be His aroma (and light, salt, hands, and voice piece) testifying to Christ's victory.

In these challenging days of Covid, increased natural disasters, political unrest, rumors of war, and economic instability, may we be mindful that it is by grace that we have been saved, through faith in Christ, not by our works. May we fan into flame that which has been given to us, allowing Christ and the Holy Spirit to work deep within us that we might be Christ's beautiful aroma. May we become "imitators of God, as beloved children, walking in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God". May we be ready to give the reason for the hope that we have in Him (1 Peter 3:15) and choose to put our trust in Christ alone! Praying that a sweet aroma be yours!

Pastor Carl

Saying Goodbye...

It is never easy saying goodbye. Unfortunately, at the end of January we will be saying "goodbye" to Whitney Myers. Whitney and Sally have been worshiping with us for over seven years. This past year, Whitney became our Traditional Worship Leader and has done a wonderful job playing the piano twice a month as well as working and scheduling with a team of musicians and song leaders, which make up our traditional service. I will miss his attention to detail and love for music and the Word. Please take time this month to express how much you appreciated his ministry to us.

I am thankful that Loren and Louise Lustig will be working with the traditional service and helping to provide scheduling and coverage. We will also be praying that God will provide other pianists to further carry on the ministry at FBCG.

I have included a letter from Whitney below:

Dear FBCG Friends,

It has been my pleasure to have served as your Traditional Worship Leader since July 2020 and as a pianist for the Traditional services since inception in September 2016. I have appreciated your 'thank yous' for playing for worship at FBCG.

This past August, after much prayer, I informed Pastor Carl that I would like to retire (step down) from my Worship Leader and pianist roles the end of January 2022. My principal reason is to be able to worship again regularly with my wife, Sally. Especially at this stage of life, I feel that worshipping together is important for both of us. I expect that in this next season of our walk with Christ that we will be worshipping together with another congregation in Gettysburg that has a late morning traditional service.

I do pray that this change for First Baptist Church Gettysburg will work together for good (Romans 8:28) and that God will supply FBCG's needs for musicians (Philippians 4:19).

Sally and I know many of you, and we will continue to value you as friends and colleagues in Christ.

Best regards in Him,

Whitney V. Myers



Fusion February Newsletter

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Happy February! We had a great month in January with the prayer retreat and bowling night and we have really seen God moving and strengthening us as leaders and the students as well. When we prayed for the missionaries our church supports during the youth prayer retreat, it was powerful and humbling to hear the students lift up the families. Thank you to Sharla, Jerred, and Owen for their awesome commitment and help with events and the youth ministry!

This month, we have our Fusion snow tubing trip on the 11th and the Fusion birthday game night on February 13th. In March, we will be having our GLOW birthday game night on March 6th where we do glow in the dark games and encourage all students to invite their friends!

As the months keep rolling through, here is a reminder to check where your priorities line up. We all need to take a step back from time to time and honestly ask ourselves if we are giving God our best. Are we giving God first place? Are we keeping our commitments to Him and others? I pray you are encouraged by the devotion below and that we as brothers and sisters in Christ will give Him our best and not hold anything back.

There was once a man who had two cows. He told his wife one day that he was going to sell one cow and keep the revenue for themselves. Then he said that he would also sell the other cow and give the revenue to God. The next day, the man came into the kitchen where his wife was making lunch. She could immediately tell that he was sad. "What's wrong?" she asked.

The man paused, considered his words, and then replied, "God's cow just died."

When you make a priority of your own dreams, desires, and plans...or when your own agenda comes first—well, it's always God's cow that dies. He always plays second fiddle to what we want. If anything has to take second place, it'll be spending time with Him, our commitment to Him, or pursuing His plans for us. And at the same time, we are asking God to bless our agenda. But God isn't in the business of promoting plans other than his own.

What is the number one priority in your life?

The one thing I ask of the Lord—the thing I seek most—is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, delighting in the Lord's perfections and meditating in his Temple.

Psalms 27:4 NLT

Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:37-40 NLT

For information about Fusion events please find us on Facebook at Fusion Youth Ministry, email us at fusionfbcg@gmail.com, or you can call or text Faith or myself.

God Bless, Pastor Matt & Faith:)



What is your favorite Hymn or Worship song?

We will be compiling a new booklet for **Easter** 2022.

It will be a collection of your favorite hymns and worship songs. Booklets should be ready by April. Please submit (email to Kathy) the name of your favorite hymn or worship song and a few words about why it's your favorite. We look forward to another special "keepsake" booklet.



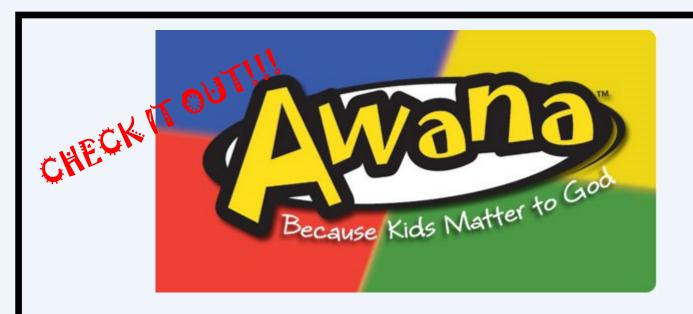


FBC is hosting a training event on fighting human trafficking presented by **Greenlight Operation** out of Lemoyne PA. Slavery Still Exists. Human trafficking is modern-day slavery. It's the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some form of labor or commercial sex act. And it still exists today. People will not get involved with an issue they don't know exists. Education about human trafficking is vital to combat misinformation, empower learners, and equip community members. The abolitionist movement grows when awareness spreads. Join as we participate in the training by this faith-based organization.

Join us on Friday, March 11th @ 7:00pm







6-7:30 PM DINNER @ 5:00-5:50

Private Music Lessons



Jim Sitter gives private music lessons either by video or in person. If you are interested in taking lessons for guitar, bass, mandolin, ukulele, piano and of course drums,...please give

Jim a call @ 541-499-7330



Deeper Still

ladies Bible Study will start a new study of

Esther

on

Thursday, February 3rd meets every other Thursday

BOOK OF

ESTHER





Come out for fun on Saturdays! Bring a lunch and meet under the FBC Pavilion. Date to be announced soon.



THE BIBLE HAS THE ANSWER

Since this is the start of a new year, I thought that it would be appropriate to write about hope and try to provide encouragement to everyone. I know from speaking with many of you that 2021 has been a hard year. Yet we have all of God's promises in His Word. I know having lost Linda that the promise of us being united in heaven with Jesus is looking better all the time. The Rapture cannot happen too soon.

The following are illustrations / stories taken from a book put out by Dave Branon of Our Daily Bread under the title of "A STORY IS TOLD."

May they be a blessing to you!

<u>STOLEN CAR? - Read Matt. 5:16</u> – Joe Stowell tells the story of a stressed-out woman who was tail-gating a man as they drove on a busy boulevard. When the man slowed to a stop at a yellow light, the woman hit the horn, cussing, and screaming in frustration and gesturing angrily. As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a police officer, who ordered her to exit the car with her hands up.. He took her to the police station and placed her in a holding cell.

An hour later, the officer returned and said, "I'm sorry, Ma'am. This has been a big mistake. When I pulled up behind you, I noticed your "What Would Jesus Do?" license plate holder and your "Follow Me To Sunday School" bumper sticker. Seeing the way you were acting, I assumed the car was stolen.

<u>THE TESTS OF CRITICISM - Read Proverbs 27:6</u> – After a church service in which the minister had preached about spiritual gifts, he was greeted at the door by a woman who said, "Pastor, I believe I have the gift of criticism."

He responded, "Do you remember the person in Jesus' parable who had the one talent? Do you recall what he did with it?" "Yes" replied the woman, "he went out and buried it" (Matt. 25:18).

With a smile the pastor suggested, "Go and do likewise!"

<u>BIG CHANGES – Read 2 Corinthians 5:17</u> – Tremendous changes occur when a person becomes a new creature in Christ. Evangelist D.L. Moody enumerated the major points in that life-altering transaction and wrote them on the flyleaf of his Bible.

- 1. <u>Justification:</u> a change of standing BEFORE GOD, 2. <u>Regeneration:</u> a change of nature FROM GOD, 3. <u>Repentance:</u> a change of mind ABOUT GOD, 4. <u>Conversion:</u> a change of life FOR GOD,
- 5. <u>Adoption:</u> a change of family IN GOD, 6. <u>Sanctification:</u> a changed of service TO GOD, 7. <u>Glorification:</u> a change of place WITH GOD.

<u>LINCOLN'S FAITH:</u> Read Luke 24:26 – Abraham Lincoln was a backwoodsman who rose from humble beginnings to the heights of political power. During the dark days of the U.S. Civil War, he served as a compassionate and resolute president. Depression and mental pain were his frequent companions. Yet the terrible emotional suffering he endured drove him to receive Jesus Christ by faith.

Lincoln told a crowd in his hometown in Illinois: "When I left Springfield, I asked the people to pray for me; I was not a Christian. When I buried my son, the severest trial of my life, I was not a Christian. But when I saw the graves of thousands of our soldiers, I then and there consecrated myself to Christ. I do love Jesus."

Life's most painful tragedies can bring us to a deeper understanding of the savior.

QUOTE FROM LEWIS SPERRY CHAFER: Salvation is the work of God for man; It is not the work of man for God.

QUOTE FROM BILLY GRAHAM: The entire plan for the future has its key in the resurrection.

<u>EMPTY PROOF – Read I Corinthians 15:4:</u> In the days of the French Revolution, a man tried to start a new religion that he believed was superior to Christianity. But he was disappointed at his lack of success. He revealed his frustration to a clergyman and asked what he could do.

The clergyman replied that it was no easy task to begin a new religion – so difficult that he had nothing to suggest. But after a moment's reflection, he said, "There's one plan that you might want to consider. Why don't you get yourself crucified and rise again the third day?"

The firm foundation of the Christian faith is an empty tomb.

A SENSE OF PURPOSE – Read Nehemiah 10:29: In 1722, Jonathan Edwards drew up a list of seventy resolutions, dedicating himself to live in harmony with God and others. The following resolutions give a picture of the serious purpose with which Edwards approached his relationship with God. He resolved: (1) To do whatever is most to God's glory. (2) To do my duty for the good of mankind in general. (3) Never to do anything which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life. (4) To study the Scriptures steadily, constantly, and frequently. (5) To ask myself at the end of every day, week, month and year if I could possibly have done better. (6) Until I die, not to act as if I were my own, but entirely and altogether God's.

<u>A SURPRISE ANSWER – Read I John 3:22:</u> When Josh McDowell's mother died, he was not sure of her salvation. He became depressed. Was she a Christian or not? "Lord," he prayed, "Somehow give me the answer so I can get back to normal. I've just got to know." It seemed like an impossible request.

Two days later, Josh drove out to the ocean and walked to the end of a pier to be alone. There sat an elderly woman in a lawn chair, fishing. "Where's your home originally?" she asked.

"Michigan. "Union City," Josh replied. "nobody's heard of it" I tell people it's a suburb of----". "Battle Creek," interrupted the woman. "I had a cousin from there. Did you know the McDowell family?"

Stunned, Josh responded, "Yes, I am Josh McDowell."

"I can't believe it" said the woman. "I'm a cousin to your mother."

"Do you remember anything at all about my mother's spiritual life?" asked Josh.

"Why sure. Your mom and I were just girls-teenagers – when a tent revival came to town. We both went forward to accept Christ."

"Praise God!" shouted Josh, startling the surrounding fishermen.

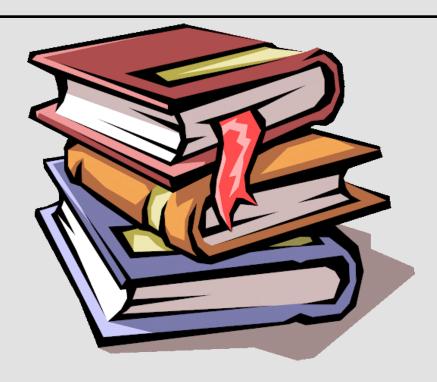
God delights to give us what we ask when it is in His will.

THE FORGOTTEN BOOK – Read Psalm 119.93: A young boy noticed a large black book covered with dust lying on a high shelf. His curiosity was aroused, so he asked his mother about it. Embarrassed, she hastily explained, "That's a Bible. It's God's book." The boy thought for a moment and then said, "Well, if that's God's book, why don't we give it back to Him? Nobody around here uses it anyway."

QUOTE FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN: I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of this world is communicated to us through this book.

Keep Looking Up!!!

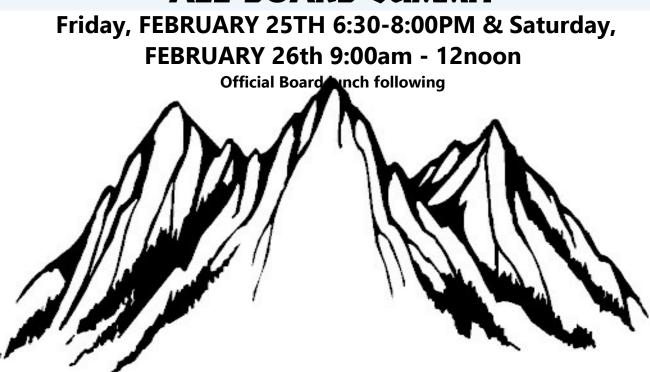
BOOK REVIEWS



Join us for a Zoom Book review of A. W. Tozer's, "The Pursuit of God" (introduction by Dr. Samuel M. Zwemer), 6:30pm - 8pm, February 17, 2022. This classic work is just 50 pages, but it has had a profound effect on its readers, often stirring a deeper hunger after God Himself! Available at many bookstores including Amazon for about \$7.00. The March book will be "The Practice of Godliness" and can be purchased on Amazon as well.



ALL BOARD SUMMIT



Because the boards meet on this Saturday, there will be no board meetings in March



Pastor Sean is teaching a <u>New Membership Class</u> that begins on Sunday, Feb 6th and continues on February 13th, 20th and 27th. In Pastor Carl's office @ noon.

elder's corner

Mass Formation Psychosis

During the infamous days of Nazi Germany, the church stood aside and did nothing. While millions of innocent Jews were loaded on train cars like cattle, the church would regularly schedule their hymns exactly as the trains departed in order to drown out the sound of screaming families. How did it come to that? How did the church become so cowardly that they would no longer stand up for justice and mercy? The German population was by and large a very intelligent population, yet even so, they were deceived. Satan had an entire country hypnotized and paralyzed.

Depending on who you choose to listen to, you might have heard that mass formation psychosis is making a resurgence. One signal that this is happening again is the lack of discussion and debate among popular topics. People have made their minds up and are refusing to back down from their position even if they are presented with new information. Long time friends and families are dividing into unrepairable factions. Independent thinking is prohibited as we are witness to the greatest censorship of free speech in our lives.

We know that when the Antichrist comes to power, there will be a great deception across the globe (Rev. 13:14; Mt. 24:24), but what leads an otherwise intelligent population into a great hypnosis? In the End Times we read in Revelation 13 that it is due to the power the Antichrist has to perform many signs and wonders.

I hypothesize that this is also made possible when the soil is prepared for great deception. The mass formation psychosis that led the German population down an evil path was formed over time due to two major causes that we are seeing today: societal disconnect and free-floating anxiety. If you add global chaos you have a perfect recipe for a leader to promise to save us as if he is the Messiah. I believe that the events of WWII were merely a trial period as well as a foreshadowing of what is to come during the Tribulation.

It is, therefore, imperative that we as the Church prepare ourselves so that we are not led into deception (2 Thess. 2:3-4). The Church is the answer to combatting societal disconnect and free-floating anxiety. We as Christians are called to regular fellowship and hold fast to the faith (Heb. 10:19-25). We are called to come alongside each other and bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:1-2; 1 Thess. 5:10-12) We are called to be free from anxiety and despair (Josh. 1:9; Mt. 6:34; Rm. 8:38-39; etc...) The Church is the only solution to bring us away from the trajectory we see the world moving in because it is the Bride of Christ that is set apart as a light on a hill.

I encourage each and every one of you to fulfill your call to being the salt of the earth and a light on a hill. First, be one with each other as Christ is one with you (Eph. 4:1-6). Do not allow Satan in these doors to divide us as a church body. Secondly, be a part of restoring your brothers and sisters who have isolated themselves from the Church. Encourage them in Christ to come back, connect with fellow believers, and be encouraged by Christ who is our provider and protector- our Sovereign King. Lastly, be the light of the world as you witness to those outside of the faith. Tell them about the hope they, too, can have in Jesus. Endure all forms of persecution so that even the elect may see your faith and believe (2 Tim. 2:10).

Times will not get better if we as the Church do nothing. We must no longer languish in our faith and bemoan the condition of the world. We must be witnesses of Christ and show them that only He is the answer to their needs. He will free the world from sin. He is the antidote of mass formation psychosis.



February 2022

Our missionaries, <u>Bill and Kathy Martin</u>, and their team have expanded their coverage. Originally, they were focused just on Dakar, in Senegal, Africa. Now, their coverage is a triangle from Dakar to Thies to Mbour. Their new initiative is named Metro SenWest. Other exciting news is that later this year and for the first time, the Wolof people will have the Holy Bible in their own language. This project has been in the works for 50 years!! Praise and Glory be to God! May we pray that more workers will enter the field in Senegal.

Our missionary, **Cheri Boyd**, works with SIM and we just received an uplifting note from her:

"SIM is restructuring our training schedule for new appointee missionary families in 2022, and I hope to add in an extra trip to Charlotte, NC this year to help with the children's training as our team adjusts to the new dynamic. Your gift is a blessing that will help cover this cost and other needed supplies. Thank you!!!"

May we pray that the people in the training conference in NC will be to God's glory.

Our missionaries, <u>Thomas and Cheri Henry</u>, have served the Lord for 23 years in Turkey. They have recently taken a sabbatical for 1 year to recharge. They are trusting the Lord to guide them to their next post. May we pray that they will clearly feel God's leading.

From the Henrys:

"We are so grateful on so many fronts for you all at FBC. One of those reasons is that you continue to bless those you support financially in unexpected ways. You have been faithful for so many years. It's humbling. And good to be part of your family. Thank you for that extra gift in Nov. It is certainly helping make this sabbatical year possible."

The Boyd Family Cheri and Brandon serving with SIM





The Henrys serving in Turkey

Bill and Kathy Martin serving in Senegal, Africa





SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

Come and enjoy a service with our Youth and stay for the 'Soup'-er Bowl luncheon after!



Soup Luncheon

Join us for our annual *Soup Luncheon* on

Sunday, February 6th
following our ONE SERVICE @ 10:00am
There will be NO BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CLASSES THAT DAY!
Bring a soup or dessert to share!



Join a Life Group or Bible Fellowship Class today!

SUNDAY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CLASSES

GALATIANS (Pileggi) 9:00am Lewis Hall

DANIEL (Punchard) 10:30am Lewis Hall

PARABLES (Blair) 9:00am Kitchen

MIDDLE/HIGHSCHOOL CLASS 9:00am Youth Room

KID'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP (ages 4-5th grade) 10:30am Lewis Hall

LIFE GROUPS

TUESDAY

GOSPEL OF LUKE (J. Harris) **ZOOM** 6:30-7:45pm 2nd/4th Tuesday - Ladies Only!

THURSDAY

BOOK OF ACTS (P. Carl) @ FBC 5:30am Men Only!

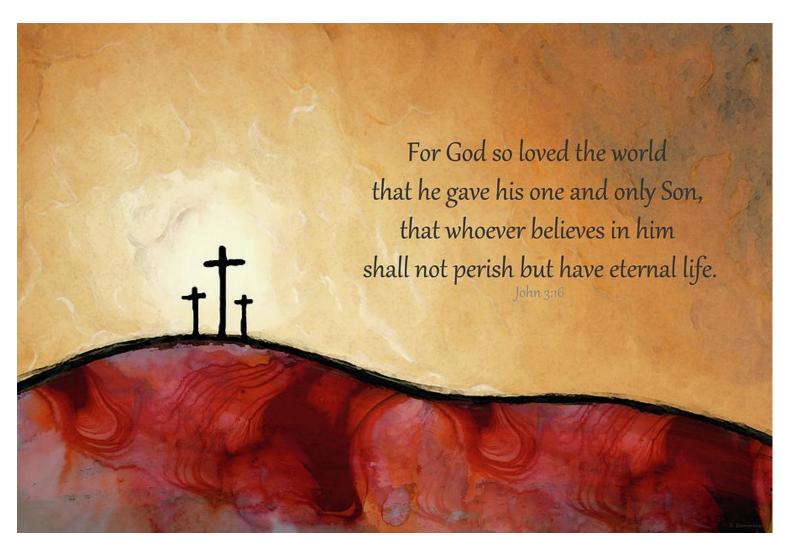
BOOK OF EPHESIANS (P. Carl) @ FBC 9:30am All Welcome!

HARMONIZING THE GOSPEL (Weber home) 6:30pm

DEEPER STILL (Gallimore)@FBC1:00pm Every other week

FRIDAY (every other)

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP (Pastor Sean's home) 7:30pm Men Only!





We are a temple, the spirit's dwelling place, Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace; We die alone, for on it's own each ember loses fire; yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.



- 1. What prophet ate a book (scroll) and found it sweet?
- 2. According to Jeremiah, what kind of grape sets the children's teeth on edge?
- 3. What kind of herbs were the Israelites supposed to eat with the Passover Meal?
- 4. Who posed a riddle about finding something sweet in a lion's carcass?
- 5. According to Jesus after the resurrection, what would his followers be able to drink?
- 6. What substance, probably very bitter, did Moses make the people of Israel drink?
- 7. Who ate a book that was sweet at first, but turned bitter afterwards?
- 8. According to Proverbs, what kind of water is sweet?
- 9. What sweet substance was part of John the Baptists diet?
- 10. What prophet made some poison stew by pouring meal into it?
- 11. According to Proverbs, what kind of bread is sweet to a man?
- 12. What did Moses do to make the bitter waters of Marah drinkable?
- 13. Who told the repentant people of Israel to go home and enjoy sweet drinks?
- 14. In Revelation, what falls on the earth's waters to make them bitter?
- 15. According to Proverbs, what sort of person thinks even bitter things are sweet?

Our Ministry Team

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director: Natalie Potter sonshine@fbcgettysburg.net

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Fridays 8:30 -12:30

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CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

www.fbcgettysburg.net

Answers for January

A Few Bits of Potpourri

- Which Gospel was, according to tradition, written first? MARK
- Which epistle was called "an epistle of straw" by Martin Luther, who disliked it because he thought it taught salvation by works? JAMES
- 3. What New Testament book had the most difficulty being accepted as scripture by the early Christians? REVELATION
- 4. What Egyptian bishop was the first person to list the 27 New Testament books that we now have? ATHANASIUS OF ALEXANDRIA
- What American president published an edition of the Gospels which left out all the supernatural elements? THOMAS JEFFERSON
- 6. Who printed the first bible? JOHANN GUTENBERG
- 7. What year did that occur? 1456
- What conqueror said, "The bible is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it"? NAPOLEON
- What world famous author said, "The New Testament is the very best book that ever was or ever will be known in the world"? CHARLES DICKENS
- 10. What was the name of the Jewish scholars who first inserted vowels into the text of the Hebrew Old Testament? THE MASORETES
- 11. What is the oldest known manuscript of the New Testament, written in Greek, produced in Israel, and discovered by a Russian?

 CODEX SINAITICUS