



January 2011 Newsletter

Web Address...www.eastfrankfortbaptist.com

Minister of Music.....Jay Jacobs
Minister of Youth.....Josh Benton

Pastor.....Larry Brown

Minister of Education.....Wes Henry
Church Secretary.....Annette Meade



FROM THE PASTOR

A Blessed Man

My love has been strengthened. During the month of December, Adam and I both had surgery and physical rehab. My daughter, Heather and her husband, Steven had my first grandbaby, Mercy Jane, and she is a cutie. Also, on the 26th my dad passed away after a long illness. I am a blessed man because I did not go through the joy and sorrows alone. Susan, Heather, Adam and Steven were great through all of this. My love for each has grown. I had the privilege of seeing my brothers and sisters and their kids more than usual. They have been great through the difficult time. I am so proud of my brothers and sisters. My mom, who is a special lady, has been so strong through all of this. She continues to teach me what it means to have a strong marriage and family. My love for each has grown.

And you, my church family, you have been great. Your cards, phone calls, visits, food, and prayers were greatly appreciated. God's love was revealed through you. I could not have been more proud of you. My love for you has grown.

As always, God's presence was felt and continues to be. God promises to never leave us, to encourage us, and to strengthen us. He kept His promise. My love for my God has been strengthened. I am a blessed man to have God, family, and friends in my life. On behalf of my family, Thank You!!!

May 2011 be a year where God is glorified and Jesus is lifted up in each of our lives and the life of East Frankfort Baptist.

*I am a blessed man,
Bro. Larry*

*P.S. Did I mention how cute Mercy Jane is?
I'm sure I did.*



Looking Forward

2010 was an exciting and challenging year for the youth. From mission trips to North Carolina and Nicaragua, Girl's Bible Studies, serving in AWANA and hiking at Red River Gorge, the youth have served others, had their faith challenged, and grown closer together in Christ. It's been exciting to see them begin to learn what it means to be obedient, to see them give, and to watch them grow spiritually. It would be easy to become content.

In Philippians 3:12-14 we are encouraged not to become complacent in what has already been achieved as Paul writes - *Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

This past year was great but it's time to begin looking forward to and eagerly anticipate what Christ is going to do next. 2011 will hopefully see the youth continue in their growth. I ask that you be in prayer for the youth ministry. Pray that the students will continue to grow in their relationship with Christ, continue to serve, and continue to be respondent to the ways Christ is calling them to live.

*Serving with you,
Josh Benton*



By the time you read this newsletter, Awana will have begun its second semester of its 4th year of operation at our church. We are thankful for our supporters and the people who work so hard to make sure children have the opportunity to participate in Awana.

It's interesting to note that in 1988, Jack Eggar (the current President/CEO of Awana) was once determined to do away with Awana in his church. He was the new senior pastor of Bible Baptist Church in Oak View, California and he thought Awana was a waste of resources. Awana was a failure in his church and by the end of the year half of the clubbers had dropped out and the leaders were discouraged. "My first impression of Awana was that it was not good for a church," Eggar said, "I began the process of canceling it, literally bringing it to an end." However, after reading the *Awana Basic Training Manual*, Eggar had a change of heart. He realized his church's program needed some changes. He made those changes and, to gain a better understanding of the needs, he began working in the program himself. Within weeks, attendance doubled and the church began to grow.

Eggar became a dedicated Awana supporter and his involvement with Awana increased. Eggar began serving in an advisory capacity in Los Angeles in 1990 and started translating the Awana materials into the Russian language. Eggar, his wife Dona, and four children moved to the Fiji Islands as missionaries in 1992 where they began establishing Awana clubs in Fiji. Four years later he and his family returned to the States where he pastored in Idaho before joining Awana Clubs International full-time in 1997 as the International Missions Director.

Eggar was appointed President/CEO of Awana Clubs International in June 1999. "Awana is the most awesome tool for building families and churches I have ever seen," Eggar said, "We are a global ministry that can greatly impact this world for Jesus Christ today. We are committed to becoming everything that God would have us be."

Please pray that God will use us to lead children and families to Him. Thank you for all your contributions so far. The children and families are seeing God's love through you.

And as we proceed, please be reminded that we will continue to follow the Franklin County School schedule and we will not have Awana on days the Franklin County schools are dismissed.

In His Service,

Mary Henry, Billie Jean McCall & Cindy Owen

Nicaragua News

Last July, a group from East Frankfort traveled to Rio Blanco, Nicaragua to assist missionary Pablo Garcia in his church planting ministry. At that time he had started several churches and was working on establishing leadership and places of worship within those congregations. Pablo and I correspond with each other on a monthly basis. The following are a few excerpts from him over the past few months.

Blessings Brother Josh, to your family and church family - Thank you for the \$300 for the bars to put on the windows. The church building is now finished enough to have many services there during the week. Since August we have began work in two new communities. One is in Rama. Yesterday we baptized ten children, five women and four men! There are also five waiting to be baptized. God is blessing the work here. Thank you for your prayers and support. We are also praying for you. Please continue to pray for my ministries; I look forward to seeing you again.

God Bless You, Pablo

This summer we will again join the mission efforts in Nicaragua. This trip isn't limited to those traveling. This is a church-wide project and ministry and the involvement of our entire church family is critical. There are a couple of ways we all can be initially involved. First, everyone can pray. Pray for the people of Nicaragua, Pablo and his ministry, our role in serving these people, and your role in this trip. Second, some can go. Through prayer seek God's guidance on traveling.

If you are interested in going, we will be having an informational meeting this month (the date will be announced soon). There are also Foreign Mission Trip Applications located on the Opportunity Table (if you completed one last year you do not need to complete another one). This will give our selection committee an indication of how God is working in your life in relation to foreign missions. Applications should be returned to an envelope on the Opportunity Table no later than Sunday, March 6. Contact me with any questions.

Serving with you, Josh Benton

A Pilgrim's Path

Daisy

The cold now burns the nostrils as breath is easily seen against the spray of white from the "all seeing" fixture above our drive. Because of it "*in the lane...the snow is glistin*" as I return from tending to the Shepherd-Lab mix the rest of the family wanted. Despite the intrusion, I arguably confess to my self that she may grow on me, as I continue back to the house under the bright stars of winter, "*walkin' in a winter wonderland*". Yet, at the end of that lane I pause for moment, for on there on the edge of the woods, is now a vacant pen built by a fourteen-year-old boy with the selfsame passions of his father at that age- that for a dog and the hunt.

"There's a reason dogs are free," I've said for years. Experience is a great teacher. I've taken only one and none since having to chase up and down and hollering all over the Owen county creation for my bought dog with it one night. After returning with him I had a chamber-stored end to that free, deer-runnin' problem that was still loose two ridges over. For her sake the free-bee never came back. From that I'd learned the proverb and had 'till Daisy, lived by it

Daisy, however, was the exception. A runner of rabbits, she was more specifically a Lemon-spotted beagle with what is deemed, "glass eyes" and a nose the color of frostbitten persimmons. For the first two years of her life she was the property of a man who wouldn't or couldn't break her. Whether he just didn't have or spend enough time with her I do not know. However, when relinquished back to the original owner, she ran with the rest and hunted well, having had over thirty brush lovin' cottontails shot over her. Danny was to have her bred last spring but the opportunity came and left too quickly. Morgan was to have one of those pups but was benevolently given Daisy for no more than the promise of a pup when and if she did have them.

After some getting used to one another, we were made aware of a place to run her without the fear of loosing her. We were all new to each other, yet it didn't take long to learn she knew more about what she was doing than we did of what she was doing. Five minutes into our first time out she, after a few opening whimpers, was that singin' sweet hound music. As often as we could, never enough for me, we'd run her in the summer and early fall. Many-a-time she'd chase out easy shots. One particular evening two bounced out at once, to which I exclaimed like a fourteen-year-old boy again, "What a shot that'd been, a double! I'd have half my limit!"

We'd waited all year for the hunt come Thanksgivin' mornin'. It was to be with us, Daisy's first "big shot" having talked with Russell much about it and the chance of "gettin' her

together" with Red- Russell's lookalike male. We were there early and ate our traditional biscuits with ham Bonny had cooked the day before; A little mustard on it and black coffee to wash 'em down almost made me of the want to stay inside...almost mind you. That finished and the temptation to stay overcome, we headed out and were greeted with rain! Despite the wet we went and tried anyway. Huddled under a cedar we listened for the "here he went" from the dogs. We didn't get any up before when surrendered to the weather, but she did whimper and get excited early on, hittin' a track that was quickly dispelled with the deluge.

Obligations kept us from going again for the next two or three weeks, but between me and Morg' we kept her going. We'd get her out before dark for a chase or two with the hares around our place. We'd have more time coming soon- during and after Christmas to hunt with her. But never knowing what tomorrow holds was proved with the words, "Dad, somethin's wrong with Daisy!"

She could hardly walk. Just able to stand and quiver. It was as if she had also overnight lost her weight, her ribs protruding. After bringing her in the basement and giving her care as we could for the weekend and with me having to be out of town, Mary and Morg' had her at the veterinarian on Monday. The problem was quickly discovered to be incurable. After some fatherly counseling, as best as I could muster, emotions ran high as I advised him of the wise and humane thing to do.

"Go ahead and let 'em put 'er down" I told him. "Bring 'er home," I added for comforts sake, "and we'll bury 'er."

"I don't want to see her after that," he said.

Gravel crunched as I pulled the truck to the shoulder between New Castle and Campbellsburg. "That's fine," I choked, "they'll take care of 'er if you want." I then reassured him "It's the right thing to do, son."

"I know," he replied.

And with that done, even the Shepherd-mix still looks for her there. The undisturbed snow within that enclosure reminds me too well that along the way it's too convenient to rely on tomorrow. Too often we do not redeem the time possessed today. With the renewed realization of such things, prompted by the sudden and merciful loss of a beagle, would it not be good then to resolve this New Year that when opportunities avail themselves for time well spent with or for others to respond- to live- like there's no tomorrow?

Though rhetorical, I pronounce, "Yea, it is good."

Talley-Ho, Daisy! Talley-Ho!

***Travellin' On,
Wesley Henry***



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

January

3rd Jane Boler
 6th Ruth Ellis
 10th Rebecca Vaught
 16th Shirley Smith
 19th Angela Kring
 20th Barry Brown
 21nd Richard Colyer
 22nd Jay Jacobs
 22nd Raymond Jacobs
 26th Silas Benton
 26th David Edwards
 26th Jaylee Stephens
 28th Amy Gillis
 29th Billie Dunavent
 29th Jinger Stevens
 30th Ben Hutcherson
 31st Leveda Gillis
 31st Adrienne Tucker

General Fund ~ November 2010

General Fund Deposits.....	\$20,999.10
General Fund Expenses.....	\$20,111.96
Average Offering in November.....	\$5,249.78

Together We Build ~ November 2010

Monthly Loan Payment.....	\$6,033.03
Receipts.....	\$3,566.89
Loan Balance.....	\$738,634.13

Brotherhood Fellowship
 Friday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m.
 Luke & Ben Hutcherson's Home
 Please bring snacks, a 2-liter soft drink and a friend.