



February 2018

"Christian Growth Cycle"

"Sprout - Mature - Bear Fruit"

Planning for the new year, I've been developing a teaching series to encourage us toward spiritual growth. Some churches use metaphors alluding to the world of academia, like 101, 201, etc. or sports, like baseball diamonds. Others use catch words or bullet points, like "Win, Disciple, Serve".

We live in flatland, farmland, and there must be a metaphor from agriculture that would work. Crops and garden plants follow similar growing cycles. Although the process is complex, it can be broken down into three phases: Sprout - Mature - Bear Fruit. Although the process of spiritual growth has infinite complexity, there are three distinct phases: Sprout - Mature - Bear Fruit.

For plants, seeds are planted with regard to the last frost and soil temperature and type. Through the germination and emergence phases, the root establishes and the seedling appears. Sprout is when the seedling comes above the ground.

For Christians, God uses Christian friends, life circumstances, godly family members, Sunday School teachers, the beauty of nature, and a myriad of ways to design a customized path to establish a personal relationship with you. Through grace, God draws all persons to himself, but the decision is one that can only be made by each individual. Sprout is when Jesus is accepted as Lord and Savior.

Plants begin a maturation process that varies by species. Corn phases include leaf collar establishment, several rows of leaves, tassel, pollination, and ear formation. After ripening and drying down the plant is mature.

Many spiritual disciplines including public worship, small groups, discipline, sanctification, and devotional life are part of the path toward Christian maturity.

The end of the growing process for a plant is to bear fruit. All summer long, vegetables move from garden to table to palate. At harvest time, grain is combined, stored, and sold. The farmer's or gardener's goal is maximum yield.

For the Christian, bearing fruit is what is done for others. Three ways Christians bear fruit is through generosity, God jobs, and reaching others for Jesus.

The Christian Growth Cycle will be our winter teaching series through February. The first of the year is a good time to plan and develop habits for spiritual growth. Come and bring a friend.

See you Sunday,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Brad". The script is cursive and fluid.

Pastor Brad



February 2018

Recently we've been sharing testimonies at youth group. We've listened to testimonies from students, adults, and famous people. We've been hearing and teaching about how Jesus changes lives. It's been really cool to hear other people's stories. I think our story is one of our most powerful tools to witness. We can see this when Paul shares his in Acts 22. Because of this, we're challenging students to think about their story and to share it with others. I'd challenge you to do the same. What was life like before you knew Christ? How did you meet Him? How has your life changed since? How have you seen Him work since you've been following Him? Take some time to think through this if you haven't. I'd even challenge you to write it out. Then take the next step and actually share it. Your story matters and could change somebody's life!


The Sr High group had a great time at Winter Jam in January as they spent the day hanging out and watching some awesome Christian bands, a comedian, and some speakers. In February, the Jr and Sr High groups will be going to Sky Zone on February 11th! This is a cool event where students can bring their friends that wouldn't normally come to church. Please pray for this event and continue to pray for the kids in our ministries at Chapel and at The Rock.

Pastor Tom



Save the date!

March 9-11, 2018 will be our annual spiritual life weekend. This year's theme will be "inspire". We will focus on who the Holy Spirit is and what he can do in and through us. The format will be similar to the Lay Witness Mission we enjoyed a couple of years ago.



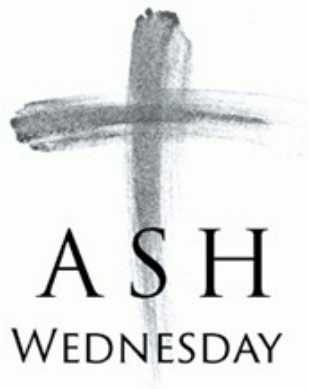
THANK YOU!

A big shout out and thank you to Russ & Judy Strayer and Terry & Sandy Stites for their help with the Senior Luncheons over the past several years.

Cheryl Shadday will be taking over the organization of the senior meals in the future. There are several ladies that have helped prepare meals and we hope that you will continue to do so. Please let Cheryl know if there is a specific month you are interested in. We are now looking for ladies, gents or groups to help with one meal a year. Meals are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month and serves 20-25 people. Contact Cheryl at 419-822-7806 if you have any questions or are interested in signing up for a month.



Your 2017 giving statement is in your mailbox! If you have any questions, please see Carla or Arita.



Ash Wednesday

Lent is a 40-day season of spiritual preparation for Easter. This year Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on February 14th. We will have a service with the imposition of ashes that evening from 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Children and Junior High students will begin their Wednesday night experience at their usual time of 6:30 pm and then go to the service at 7:00 pm. Senior High students will begin that Wednesday with the service and then stay for youth activities. Adults and parents: please come at 7:00 pm. We pray this service will help you begin a holy Lent.

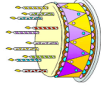
February Servant Schedule

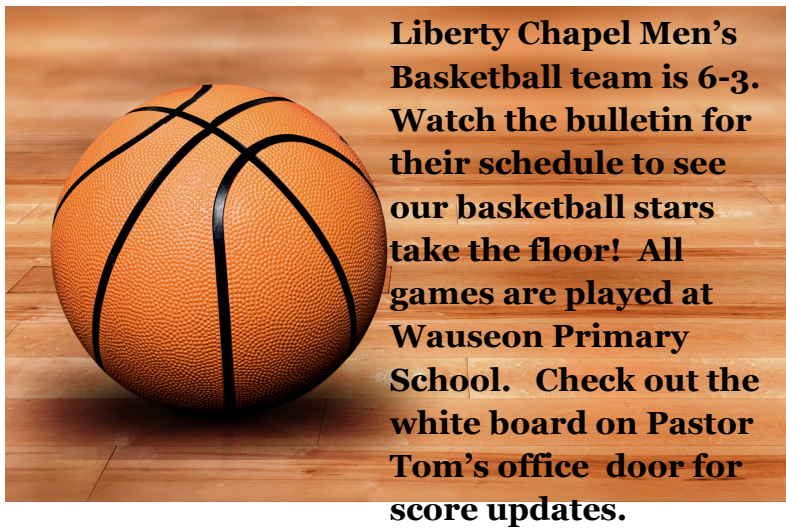
	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
8:15 Door Greeters	S. Tedrow Family			D. Mohler Family
8:15 Nursery	D. Mohler Family			O'Neal Family
S. S. Door Greeters	Tom Gerberich		Krugh Family	D. Mohler Family
S.S. Nursery		Graber Family	Estelle Family	T. Myers Family
10:30 Door Greeters	Tom Gerberich		Krugh Family	
10:30 Nursery		Oberhaus Family	Masuwa Family	Shadday Family
Greeters Welcome Center	Whitman Family	Witte Family	Shadday Family	Todd Shafer Family

Prayer
 *Changes things*
Let us pray for you with Faith
Believing
 HE WILL LIFT YOU UP

Rebecca Livengood (Vicky Leatherman's mother) - Health concerns; Connie Cramer (Christy Myers' mother) - Lymphoma; Jim Vollmar—Mantle Cell lymphoma; Family and Friends of Norma Miller Family (Cheryl Carter's mother) - Passed away January 24th.

Long-Term Needs: Sandy Wolf—(Tom Wolf's sister-in-law) - Stage 4 cancer; Sara Myles—Cancer; Ken Silveus; Morris Myers—Lung Cancer; Leo "Bud" Zenz, Patsy Leatherman, Ruth Gramling, Kent Spiess, Francis Brown, Joyce Schwyn (sister of Max Fetterman); Braden Kramer - (Fetterman extended family) - Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia; Brady Chapa—Cancer. Also, members of the military and their families, our missionary families.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Patty McIntosh	2 Judy Strayer	3 Alex Tedrow
4 Emily Leatherman Andy Spiess Dan & Brenda Hogrefe	5 Evan Hogrefe	6 Wyatt Leatherman Toby Ernsberger Sharon Sharpe	7 Gary & Lori Gra-ber	8 Tim Mack Steve & Mary Seagrave	9 Brad Howe	10 And the two shall become one <i>epiphany</i> 2021
11 Viki Mack	12 	13	14 Todd Mohler	15 Jessica Trapp Ross McLaughlin	16	17 Jeanette Saneholtz
18 Matthew Orr	19 Josh Wiechers	20 Lucas Bare	21	22	23 	24 Lillian Case
25	26 Lowynn Atkinson	27 John Sharpe Beth Thobe	28			



® Confirmation Class for seventh and eighth graders will begin Sunday, February 18, during Sunday School in Pastor Brad's office. He will teach, and students will learn about our beliefs and practices. The class will run through May 6 when students will be confirmed as church members. To sign up for the class or if you have questions, contact Pastor Brad or the church office.



The M&M's will be collecting items for College Care packages for 18 young adults. If you would like to add something to the boxes, please have them to the church by February 12th. Examples of things we are looking for: cookies, snacks, pens, pencils, candy, gum, etc. If you have any questions, please see Sue Krugh or Dawn Sharpe.



February

Sunday Worship Times: 8:15 a.m. (Nursery Provided)
 10:30 a.m. (Nursery Provided)
 9:15 a.m. (Nursery Provided)

Classic Worship
 Praise Celebration
 Classes for All Ages

Sunday School:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 3-5 pm ROCK	2	3 7 am Men's Prayer Time Louisiana Mission Team leaves
4	5 6 pm Trustee 7 pm Ad. Council 7 pm Ladies of Liberty 8 pm Worship	6 6 am Charlie's 3-5 pm ROCK	7 3-5 pm ROCK 6:30-7:30 pm WNM & Pastor Brad's Methodist Class 7-8:45 pm Sr. High YF	8 3-5 pm ROCK 7:30 pm Men's Basketball	9	10 7 am Men's Prayer Time Louisiana Mission Team comes home
11 1:45 pm-5:45 pm Jr/Sr High to Skyzone 6 pm Girl Scouts	12 6 pm UMM 7 pm Ladies of Liberty 7:30 pm Evangelism 8:00 pm Worship	13 6 am Charlie's 9:30 am Ladies Bible study 3-5 pm ROCK 7 pm SPRC 7:30 pm Men's basketball	14 3-5 pm ROCK 6:30-7:30 pm WMN & Pastor Brad's Methodist Class 7-8:45 pm Sr. High YF	15 3-5 pm ROCK 7 pm ROCK team	16	17 7 am Men's Prayer Time
18	19 12 pm Senior Luncheon 6-7:30 pm Bountiful Blessings 7 pm Ladies of Liberty	20 6 am Charlie's 6:30 pm Men's Basketball	21 3-5 pm Rock 6:30-7:30 pm WNM & Pastor Brad's Methodist Class 7-8:45 pm Sr. High YF	22 3-5 pm ROCK	23 9-11 am Bountiful Blessings	24 7 am Men's Prayer Time
25 6 pm Girl Scouts	26 6:30 pm Missions 7 pm Ladies of Liberty	27 6 am Charlie's 9:30 am Ladies Bible study 3-5 pm ROCK 7 pm Christian Ed. 8:30 pm Men's Basketball	28 3-5 pm ROCK 6:30-7:30 pm WNM & Pastor Brad's Methodist Class 7-8:45 pm Sr. High YF			

Liberty Chapel United Methodist Church

9474 County Road V, Liberty Center, OH 43532

Lead Pastor Dr. Brad Martin Youth Pastor Tom Gerberich

Church Phone 419-533-2881

Church Office Hours M – F 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS – 8:15 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:15 A.M.

E-mail: libertychapel@metalink.net

Web site: Libertychapel.net

*“A body knowing and growing in Christ so deeply that He is
overflowing to others.”*

Return Service Requested

February 2018

