



March 2022

Fox River Life



The proceeding article is written by Brian Hedges and is entitled: Your Fight Against Sin Is Normal. Brian Hedges is lead pastor of Redeemer Church in Niles, Michigan. He is a husband, father of four, and author of

several books, including Watchfulness: Recovering a Lost Spiritual Discipline and Hit List: Taking Aim at the Seven Deadly Sins.

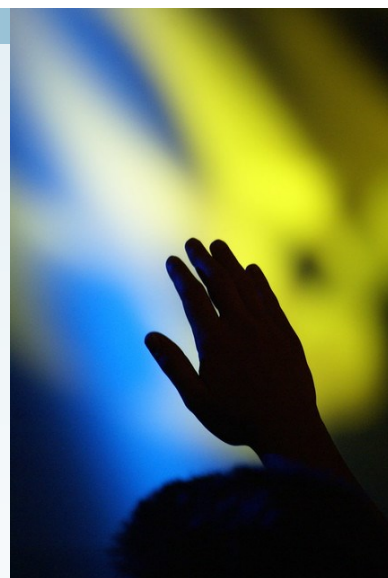
In light of what is going on in our world as I write this, I thought the following article would encourage us in our own battle. As the world is inspired by the people of Ukraine as they fight against a formidable foe, may our resolve to fight our sin by an inspiration to the Body of Christ and those outside of it.

*In His Name & For His Glory,
Pastor Tim*

Your Fight Against Sin Is Normal

Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. (1 Timothy 6:12)

Have you hit the wall in your fight for holiness? Athletes speak of hitting the wall when they experience extreme exhaustion due to depleted reserves of glycogen in the liver and muscles. Many believers feel similar spiritually. If you find yourself in an ongoing cycle of three steps forward, two steps back; if your prayers, resolutions, and frustrated attempts at mortification still leave you struggling with the same old sins; if you are weary in the race set before you and feel ready to quit, you've



Inside this issue

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.).....	2
Women's Ministry Update.....	3
From the Pastor's Desk	4
Intentional Discipleship Update..	4
Library Update	5
Sunday Evening Schedule	6
Mission Update.....	7
Young at Heart Update	7
Birthdays and Anniversaries	8



God is for Me

"Be merciful to me, my God, for my enemies are in hot pursuit; all day long they press their attack. 2)My adversaries pursue me all day long; in their pride many are attacking me. 3)When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. 4)In God, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me? 5)All day long they twist my words; all their schemes are for my ruin. 6)They conspire, they lurk, they watch my steps, hoping to take my life. 7)Because of their wickedness do not let them escape; in your anger, God, bring the nations down. 8)Record my misery; list my tears on your scroll — are they not in your record? 9)Then my enemies will turn back when I call for help. By this I will know that God is for me.

continued on p.4

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)

hit the wall.

Don't stay discouraged. There is hope for weary saints. Take heart from these truths: the conflict is normal, the battle is winnable, and the war is coming to an end.

The Conflict Is Normal

Soldiers should expect combat in wartime. The passions of the flesh are waging war against your soul, and our adversary the devil is a prowling lion hunting fresh prey (1 Peter 2:11; 5:8). Ongoing conflict with both sin and Satan is the common experience of all believers. As J.C. Ryle wrote in his classic book *Holiness*, "True Christianity is a struggle, a fight, and a warfare. . . . Where there is grace there will be conflict. The believer is a soldier. There is no holiness without a warfare. Saved souls will always be found to have fought a fight" (53–54).

This should not surprise us. If you feel alone in your experience, take heart. You're not. Even the apostle Paul knew the misery of a heart divided between indwelling sin and delight in God's holy law: "For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing" (Romans 7:18–19; see the context in Romans 7:14–25).

This reality is not an excuse for laziness, but a summons to sober-minded watchfulness. But it is also a humbling reminder that we're still waiting for final redemption and need the help of others in the good fight of faith.

The Battles Are Winnable

Though inner conflict is normal, you can win more victories in your daily battles with temptation and indwelling sin. Listen, beloved in Christ. Yesterday's failures do not determine the outcome of today's battle. Look to Jesus, your brother, captain, and King. He has already crushed the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15). Your bondage to sin was decisively broken by Jesus at the cross (Romans 6:6). You are joined to the crucified and risen Lord by faith and the Spirit (Galatians 2:20). You were baptized into his death and raised to "walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). You are no longer a slave to sin. You are not a prisoner of war. You are free. This is decisively and irrevocably true for every born-again believer.

Therefore, "consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus," and do not let sin "reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions" (Romans 6:11–12). You can win the next skirmish against sin and the flesh, however large or small it proves to be. Your victory over the next temptation is the fruit of his triumph.

Make no mistake: today's battle does

(continued on page 4)



*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your path straight."
Proverbs 3:5-6*




As a Women's Ministry, we are loving seeing the pack 'n play in the foyer filling up with you donations! We will continue accepting donations through March 27th. The updated needs list is printed here, but will also be in the bulletin each week until then. Thank you to all that purchased Kwik Trip cards from Hannah & Lily Hoffman! 17 \$10 Kwik Trip cards will be donated to Vida from those sales, and you also helped the girls raise funds for their band and choir trip to Hawaii in June!

The Single Women's Supper met on March 1st. Their next meeting will be on April 5th.

The valentine blessings were delivered to Brewster Village and they were once again, very appreciative of our remembering the residents.





(Formerly Mother & Unborn Baby Care, Inc.)
Thank you so much for donating to our ministry!

New and gently used material donations fill The Little Dear Boutique. We are completely dependent upon the generosity of individuals, groups and businesses to keep our shelves stocked. Please see our current list of needs, and items we are not able to accept below.

Vida Support Services Current Needs:

- Girls Pullups 3T-4T
- Boy Toddler clothes (2T - 5T)
- Formula
- Baby hygiene items (shampoo, baby wash, lotion)
- Boys and Girls winter boots, jackets, snowpants
- Maternity clothes - only gently used and current styles
- Gas gift cards (\$10 each)
- Grocery gift cards (\$10 each)
- Baby Equipment (Under 10 years old)
 - Cribs (no drop-down sides)
 - Pack-n-plays
 - Strollers
 - Highchairs
 - Exersaucers
 - Swings

We Cannot Accept:

- Baby food
- Used car seats
- Elementary age toys
- Used breast pumps

*We cannot take ANY cribs with drop down sides or bumper pads.

In the Name of Jesus

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

13) Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.

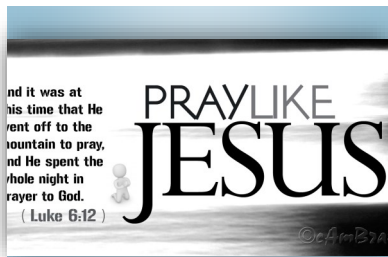
Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

14) And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15) Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

And be thankful. 16) Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17) And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:12-17

Our Ladies' Craft & Lunch date has been changed to April 24th. We will be making a fun, spring wreath using cardboard egg cartons. If you have any, please bring them to the office, and Linda will keep them for the craft. Watch for more the sign-up coming soon!



10) In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise— 11) in God I trust and am not afraid.

What can man do to me? 12) I am under vows to you, my God; I will present my thank offerings to you. 13) For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life."

Psalms 56

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)

matter. As C.S. Lewis said, "The smallest good act today is the capture of a strategic point from which, a few months later, you may be able to go on to victories you never dreamed of. An apparently trivial indulgence in lust or anger today is the loss of a ridge or railway line or bridgehead from which the enemy may launch an attack otherwise impossible" (Mere Christianity, 132). While we shouldn't be paralyzed by yesterday's defeat, we must not make light of present and future obedience.

The War Is Coming to an End

"Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:13). That grace includes the gifts of perfect sanctification and final glorification. The day is coming when the fight will be finished, the war will be over, and the agonizing conflict against sin and the flesh will be no more. D-Day has come; V-Day is coming. This "blessed hope" is the fuel that powers the engine of our present pursuit of godliness (Titus 2:12–13).

By taking a brief rest and powering up with carbohydrates, athletes can keep running even after hitting the wall. As believers, we also need to "carb up" for the race set before us, by deep meditation on the glorious realities of the gospel. No one said it better than the sin-fighting seventeenth-century puritan John Owen: "Set faith at work on Christ for the killing of thy sin. His blood is the great sovereign remedy for sin-sick souls. Live in this, and thou wilt die a conqueror; yea, thou wilt, through the good providence of God, live to see thy lust dead at thy feet" (The Mortification of Sin, 79).

The conflict is normal. The battles are winnable. And one day soon, the war will come to an end.

Intentional Discipleship Update

As many of you are aware we are currently amid an interlude in our Sunday School hour. We have decided to do a limited teaching on some of the Puritans and their contribution to the faith in the past and in the present. The first two Sundays were very well attended and we look forward to the next few weeks as we share this important information with you. Once the interlude is complete, we will be going back to our normal Sunday School material, and we will finish that before we take a break for the summer.

The Men and Women's Bible studies continue to go well, and we are being blessed with good fellowship around the Word of God, as we "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Please be in prayer for our children's program that takes place during the preaching section of our Morning Worship. We have seen an influx of children since the beginning of the year, and we are making plans of how to deal with it. Do not be surprised if you are asked to help in one of these opportunities as we have the opportunity to serve the young families of this church.



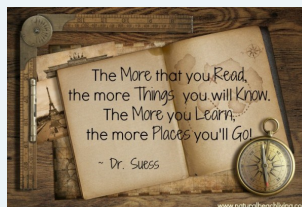
CHURCH LIBRARY News

By Linda Hoffman
or Angela Groff
Church Librarians

This list came from an online article I read that I thought was appropriate. It is geared more towards reading to your children, but I think that it applies to all of us. Enjoy, Linda

10 Reasons Why Reading is So Important

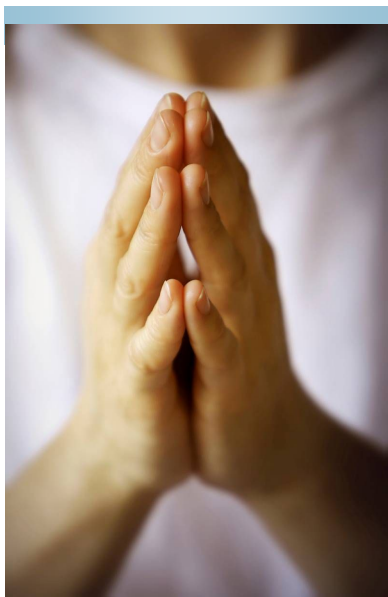
1. Imagination: By reading, you are exposed to so many wonderful things. This helps your imagination when it comes to creating and thinking. By reading, you are painting those pictures of the story in your mind. Books can take you anywhere you want to go.
2. Focus and Concentration: When you are reading, you are focusing and concentrating on one thing. By sitting still and reading, you are training your body/mind and your child's too slow down, relax, and focus on what you are reading. This helps you/your child focus and concentrate on other activities because you are used to doing it.
3. Reading Improves your memory: When you read a book, you are taking in all that the book is about. People, places, things... When you read you are using your memory muscle which lies in the Cerebrum part of your brain. Using this muscle helps your memory long term. I'm sure you've probably heard of muscle memory Same kind of thing.
4. Reading helps with communication: Reading to your children helps build a bond and open up communication. It's always important to be able to talk with your kids especially when they get into their teenage years. Start reading to them and communicating when they are young so they have that connection and comfort with talking to you.—It also helps with communicating as adults and gives you more to talk about.
5. Entertainment: Reading is the best cheap or free entertainment you can get. Love your library and any bookseller, because these books can open up the world you might never have imagined.
6. Bonding: Nurturing and one-on-one attention from parents during reading encourages children to form a positive association with books and reading. Also, goes with #4 above – Communication. Reading to your children is another way of showing them, love.
7. Language Development: Babies and children learn to talk by hearing words. The more they hear, the more likely they are to talk and understand what's being said. Your child's language skills and literacy depend on you talking and reading to them. Now doesn't that sound important?!
8. Cheap or Free Education: Reading a book for something that you want to learn about saves you so much money. We all know how expensive taking classes can be, so why not spend time reading about it instead. You can teach yourself with specific books. Same goes for children. If they are interested in learning about rainbows, they can read books about weather. Or you can read to them. Supplying a variety of books to your children will pique their interests and get them learning even more.
9. Fluency: Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and expression. Powerful and effective language. The more you read, the more fluent you become. Very important for children and adults.
10. Reading makes you smarter: We know its been proven that reading makes you smarter. Readers display greater knowledge of how things work, vocabulary, and language development, as well as information on people, places, and things. Not to mention all of the great info in 1-9 that I just shared with you Reading Rocks!!!



Seasoned with Salt

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. 3)And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4)Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. 5)Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6)Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

Colossians 4:2-6



Sunday Evening Services Schedule

March 6—Family Movie Night at 5 pm

March 13—Prayer at 5 pm

March 20—Sola Christos at 5 pm

March 27—Prayer at 5 pm

SUNDAY



Financial Update—February 6-27, 2022

Budget needed weekly: \$ 2,606.00

Received: \$ 2,380.00

Contact Rob Mlodzik with questions.



Men's & Women's
Bible Study
Saturdays at 8am

Women's Bible Study
Thursdays at 1:15pm

Women's Prayer
Wednesdays at 9:30am



March 6

Bob Abitz

March 13

Christopher Smith

March 20

Jay Hoffman

March 27

Ray Rudzinski



March 6

Nancy Wildenberg

March 13

Hannah Hoffman

March 20

Jan Jourdan

March 27

Jay Hoffman

St Joseph's Food Pantry

Each month we will collect non-perishable food items.
Place your food items on the table provided in the foyer.



Connect
WITH OUR
CHURCH FAMILY

Here at FRBC, we have a prayer chain meant for the sharing of prayer request needs and for sharing praise for the awesome & mighty work God does in our lives. Please feel free to share any praise or request at our new prayer request email address: prayer@foxriverbaptist.com

Care to be part of the prayer chain? Email or call Becky Godfrey at becl.godfrey@gmail.com — (920) 277-1526 or Linda Hoffman at hofflad@gmail.com—(715) 255-3809.

Missions

“Go Ye into all the World, and preach
the Gospel to every creature.”
Mark 16:15



Please be in prayer for the people of Ukraine and especially our brothers and sisters who are there and seeking to follow Christ in this difficult situation. Also be in prayer specifically for our missionaries in Estonia

(Crick & Mindy Porier) and Moldova (Roman & Emily Citac) as they have the threat of the war looming at their doorsteps and dealing with the influx of Ukrainian refugees. Pray that whatever help they can provide to these



dear people will be given and received in the love of God. Pray that through this event that souls on both side of the conflict would come to faith in Christ. Pray for all the leaders in that area the oppressors and the victims as we are instructed to do so in Scripture.



Finally, be in prayer for Mabel Hurst who a couple of weeks ago fell and broke her hip. She is in excruciating pain and the family believes that she will be going home to her eternal reward, and they are praying for that to happen sooner than later. Be in prayer for



reduction in pain for Mabel and comfort for her family and friends at this



UPDATE...

Our next meeting is Wednesday,
March 16 at 2pm.

Pray Continually

“And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

15)Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

16)Rejoice always, 17)pray continually, 18)give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:14-18



FRBC Vision Statement

We desire that everyone who enters Fox River Baptist Church grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and grow in authentic, loving, familial relationships to make the name of Christ known in our community and world, all for the glory of God and joy of all.



6—Howard Schimke
14—Lynn Abitz
18—Doris Olson
19—Pat Groff
20—Anna Dohms



Fox River Baptist Church

2600 East Henry Street
Appleton, WI 54915

Phone: 920-734-6162
E-mail: office@foxriverbaptist.com
Website: foxriverbaptist.com

Office Hours: Wednesday &
Thursday - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm