

THE CONNECTING WIRE – March 28, 2008
ISSN: 1537-968X
For the week of 03/30

THE CONNECTING WIRE

The Men's Ministry e-mail newsletter of **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH KETTERING**
www.Histask.org

THE CONNECTING WIRE is the opt-in newsletter for the men of **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH KETTERING**. It's a periodic service that helps connect you with God and with other men at **FBK**. If you'd like its delivery to your email address stopped, scroll down and follow the instructions at the end of this message. Also let me know if you change your email address and want to keep subscribing to **THE CONNECTING WIRE**.

“As God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 3:12

CONSIDER

“He is too busy who is too busy to be kind.” James Alexander

BORN WITHOUT LIMBS, REFUSING LIMITATIONS

25-year-old Nick Vujicic was born without arms or legs. Through the ministry he calls Life Without Limbs and a motivational program titled "Attitude is Altitude," Vujicic says he's made 1,600 speaking appearances in 12 nations. "No matter who you are, no matter what you're going through, God knows it," he says. "He is with you. He is going to pull you through." Vujicic was born in Brisbane, Australia, the son of Serbian immigrants. Doctors have never been able to determine why he was born with no limbs and only a small foot with two toes on his left side. His father is pastor of a local church, and because the cause of his condition was unknown, they spent months trying to figure out the reasons why.... Read this in full at <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Story?id=4531209&page=1>

Also see

<http://www.lifewithoutlimbs.org/>

CHUCK COLSON: 35 YEARS OF FAITH

Author of The Faith, Charles Colson, the infamous Watergate "hatchet man" and Chief Council to President Richard Nixon, learned many years ago that what appears important is really of no value at all. He learned this lesson in 1974 when he was indicted for conspiring to cover up the Watergate burglary.

Chuck Colson: I was stripped of everything, public enemy number one, and thrown into a prison. And that too was a great experience. I look back and I use to look at life from the top looking down, but from prison you look at life from the underside, and you see people hurting and suffering. It changed my whole perspective.... Read and watch this interview with Charles Colson at

http://www.cbn.com/700club/features/amazing/Chuck_Colson030508.aspx

BE AN ADVANCE READER

Zondervan is inviting you to be an Advance Reader. Advance Reader Copies (ARCs) of great books by fabulous authors are offered free by Zondervan from time to time to give you the opportunity to review and comment on them before they're available in bookstores. Available now: An Agenda for Change by Joel Edwards, and other books. To learn more, visit

<http://www.zondervan.com/arc>

SEE GOD EVERYDAY

“Unless we can touch and feel God in the commonplaces, He is going to be a very infrequent and unfamiliar guest. For life is made up of very ordinary experiences. Now and again a novelty leaps into the way, but the customary tenor is seldom broken. The ordinary stars shine upon us night after night; only occasionally does a comet come our way. Look at some of the daily commonplaces: health, sleep, bread and butter, work, friendship, a few flowers by the wayside, the laughter of children, the ministry of song, the bright day, the cool night. If I do not perceive God in these things, I have a very unhallowed and insignificant world.” John Henry Jowett

UP COMING EVENTS

National Day of Prayer – May 1

<http://www.ndptf.org/>

Global Day of Prayer – May 11

<http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/>

STUDY: SPIRITUALITY A BIG PART OF KIDS' HAPPINESS

Spirituality is a major contributor to a child's overall happiness -- even more so than for adults - - according to a new study from the University of British Columbia. The study tested 315 children aged 9 to 12, measuring spirituality and other factors such as temperament and social relations that can affect an individual's sense of happiness. Past studies have shown that in adults, spiritual feelings and higher levels of religious behavior typically account for about 5% of a person's overall happiness, said a UBC statement. The results of the UBC study came as a surprise: 6.5 to 16.5% of children's happiness can be accounted for by spirituality.... Read this in full at

http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2008-03-25-kids-spirituality_N.htm

LEADERSHIP TIPS (BUSINESS, FAMILY, LIFE)

TAKE THE RISK

Dr. Carson is a neurosurgeon renowned for his intricate and delicate surgeries to separate the brains of conjoined twins. In his new book, *Take the Risk*, he takes a look at risk. Whenever he faces a hard or risky situation in life, personally or professionally, he asks himself four key questions, and based on those answers, he makes a reasoned decision. Greater risks bring greater success. With risk there is the chance of failure.

Carson says that 35% of stories in U.S. newspapers, and about 47% of front page articles deal with various risks of contemporary life. There are people in this world who are risk adverse and the other group takes the wrong risks. Whether to actively take risks or even stand back and do nothing, there is an element of risk involved in both options. The key is figuring out which risks to take.... Read and watch this interview with Dr. Carson at http://www.cbn.com/700club/guests/bios/Ben_Carson032708.aspx

VERSE TO PONDER

“Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 1:5-8

CONSIDER

“This life is all the heaven the worldling has, and all the hell the saint ever sees.” Unknown

EVANGELICALS CHALLENGED TO PRESENT CHRIST CREDIBLY

"Far from evangelicals being an embarrassment, we should think of ourselves as integral to God's great news for our community, and tell ourselves again with a certain humility and confidence that we have a vital role to play as active Christians and active citizens in the public square." Such were the words of the general director of the Evangelical Alliance, Joel Edwards, at the launch of his new book *An Agenda for Change*. The book is Edwards' contribution to an ongoing discussion among evangelicals worldwide on how to present Christ credibly and "rehabilitate" the term "evangelical" to mean "good news" again.

Edwards says the heart of the matter is not about advancing evangelicalism as a political or Christian system, but is instead about "how we help people understand that God is ultimately the God of Good News and is interested in people's wellbeing." Edwards has announced that he will step down as general director of the Evangelical Alliance (UK), after 11 years as the organization's head. He plans to continue his involvement with Micah Challenge International and the Churches Media Council, both of which he chairs. He also remains passionate about issues of human rights and freedom of conscience, and will continue to champion these through

his role as a commissioner for the Equality and Human Rights Commission in the UK.... Read this in full at

http://www.christianpost.com/article/20080307/31449_Evangelicals_Challenged_to_Present_Christ_Credibly.htm

TODAY IS THE DAY

“There are many fine things which you mean to do some day, under what you think will be more favorable circumstances. But the only time that is surely yours is the present. Hence this is the time to speak the word of appreciation and sympathy, to do the generous deed, to forgive the fault of a thoughtless friend, to sacrifice self a little more for others. Today is the day in which to express your noblest qualities of mind and heart, to do at least one worthy thing which you have long postponed, and to use your God-given abilities for the enrichment of some less fortunate fellow traveler. Today you can make your life significant and worthwhile. The present is yours to do with it as you will.” Grenville Kleiser

HAVING FAITH CAN MAKE YOU HAPPY!

Scientists suggest that people with religious beliefs are likely to be happier than atheists or agnostics. They say research shows religion can act as an "insurance policy" against the adversities of life and regular churchgoers appear to be better able to cope with events such as divorce or unemployment.

This is not the first research to suggest links between religion and happiness and many psychologists say a belief or its observance, offers benefits. For the study the researchers from the Paris School of Economics examined data from household surveys across Europe to analyze the attitudes of Christians, both Catholic and Protestant, not only to their own happiness, but also to issues such as unemployment. They found higher levels of "life satisfaction" in believers but the degree to which religion provided a stress buffer varied according to the life event and religious denomination. The researchers say the idea of religious belief as a "fortress" is not new, but has in the past received only limited attention.

It was also found that attending church and praying were also associated with greater satisfaction and that religion can even influence the evolution of social and economic institutions. Experts suggest that the benefit might come from the increased "purpose of life" felt by believers and say the findings are consistent with other studies which suggest that religion does have a positive effect. The research was presented at the Royal Economic Society's annual conference.

<http://www.news-medical.net/?id=36474>

SHROUD OF TURIN'S AUTHENTICITY PROBED ANEW

The Shroud of Turin, the 14- by 4-foot linen believed by some to have been wrapped around Jesus after the crucifixion, might not be a fake after all, according to new research. The director of one of three laboratories that dismissed the shroud as a medieval artifact 20 years ago has called for the science community to reinvestigate the linen's authenticity. "With the

radiocarbon measurements and with all of the other evidence which we have about the shroud, there does seem to be a conflict in the interpretation of the different evidence," says Christopher Ramsey, director of England's Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit, which carried out radiocarbon dating tests on the cloth in 1988.... Read this in full at <http://dsc.discovery.com/news/2008/03/21/shroud-turin.html>

Also see "Shroud of Turin debate rekindled"
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23742885/>

BRETT FAVRE, CATHOLIC HERO

by Joseph Kip Kosek

Legendary Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre announced his retirement after 17 years in the NFL. He walked away holding most of the major records at his position, and as much as any athlete of his time he attracted not just admiration but veneration, inspiring even a "Packers Prayer" ("Our Favre . . . Hallowed be thine arm"). Favre has become a football deity, but he has also achieved the status of an exemplary American Catholic. Indeed, the website Catholic Online (www.catholic.org) names him second among the "Top 10 Catholic Heroes of the Super Bowl." For many Americans, "Our Favre" is less a divine figure than a fellow believer. Favre, though, is a peculiar Christian athlete whose career defies familiar evangelical optimism in favor of a darker, distinctly Catholic vision.

Brett Favre would never be mistaken for Kurt Warner, the born-again former St. Louis Rams quarterback who accepted the Super Bowl trophy in 2000 with a "Thank you, Jesus." Unlike his late Baptist teammate Reggie White, Favre did not convene on-field prayers or claim to receive personal communication from God. Green Bay's gunslinger was never that earnest or, frankly, that devout. The product of a small Mississippi town, his career brings to mind the fiction of Flannery O'Connor or Walker Percy, Southern Catholics for whom faith was often occluded and salvation often arduous.

More than any public proclamations of devotion, Brett Favre's well-publicized personal suffering marked him as a model Catholic for those who cared to look. Early in his career, he struggled with addictions to painkillers and alcohol. In December 2003, his father died unexpectedly. Ten months later, his wife Deanna was diagnosed with breast cancer, only a few days after her brother had been killed in an ATV accident. The next year, Brett's mother's home was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Most of these travails followed his lone Super Bowl victory, evoking not so much the generous God of prosperity theology as a more inscrutable Almighty, intent on humbling the exalted. In her bestselling 2007 memoir *Don't Bet Against Me!*, Deanna Favre compared the couple's ordeals to those of the biblical Job. Indeed, Brett increasingly exuded a Job-like equanimity, remarking after his wife's diagnosis that "if I asked why my father died or why Deanna has breast cancer, I would have to ask why I throw touchdown passes.".... Read this in full at http://marty-center.uchicago.edu/sightings/archive_2008/0327.shtml

CONSIDER

“The only kingdom that will prevail in this world is the kingdom that is not of this world.”
Unknown

VERSE TO PONDER

"My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge." Psalm 62:7

THIS WEEK'S HYMN: OUR LORD IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD

Words: Charles Wesley, 1743

Music: John Hatton, 1793

Our Lord is risen from the dead!
Our Jesus is gone up on high!
The powers of hell are captive led,
Dragged to the portals of the sky.

There His triumphal chariot waits,
And angels chant the solemn lay:
Lift up your heads, you heavenly gates;
You everlasting doors, give way!

Loose all your bars of massy light,
And wide unfold the ethereal scene;
He claims these mansions as His right
Receive the King of glory in!

Who is this King of glory? Who?
The Lord that all our foes overcame;
The world, sin, death, and hell overthrew;
And Jesus is the conqueror's Name.

Lo! His triumphal chariot waits,
And angels chant the solemn lay:
Lift up your heads, you heavenly gates;
You everlasting doors give way!

Who is the King of Glory, who?
The Lord of glorious power possessed,
The King of saints and angels, too;
God over all, forever blessed.

>from CyberHymnal at

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/o/u/ourlordi.htm>

ON PRAYER

“O Father, may it never be said of us that having come to an open door, we closed it; having come to a lighted candle, we quenched it; having heard the voice of a neighbor begging bread, we made denial, speaking of our own case.” Jean Mc Kenzie

PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS TODAY

<http://christiansincrisis.net/>

PRAY

- For the Intercessory Prayer Room Ministry
- For our Church Staff
- For our community and the outreach program.
- For installation of sound panels in the Fellowship Hall
- PPP Prayer Breakfast, 8:30 – 10 a.m. April 5 with Jerome Byrd as our guest speaker**
(Please sign up at welcome counter)
- For the *Be Real Crusade/Revival* with Evangelist Ken Freeman May 18-21 (Sun. – Wed.) Pray for God to move mightily!
- PK Adventure activity (Flyer at end of newsletter)
- Please pray about meeting Sunday mornings from 6:30 to 7:30 to pray with some of the other Men. It's a great way to start the Lord's Day!

[As you travel on business or vacation, let me know if you'd like the church guys to pray for your safety and spiritual effectiveness. I'll add your name to the list for the time you'll be away.]

CALLING ALL MEN TO BE IN THE CHOIR FOR FATHERS DAY

Start warming up your vocal chords now and join us for an all Men's Choir for Fathers Day 15 June! Don't be shy, we can use everyone and we have lots of room; you can be in one or both services. More to follow

SHARE YOUR FAVORITE WEBSITES

Tell us what sites you find enjoyable and why.

USA Racquetball

<http://www.usra.org/>

BBC World Service celebrates 75 years

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/specials/1122_75_years/

Radio Hall of Fame

<http://www.museum.tv/rhofsection.php>

All links to websites are provided as a service, and do not imply endorsement by our church.

(BTW: whenever the URLs in this newsletter are too long to turn into links on your e-mail program, just copy the entire URL (two lines or more) and paste it into a temporary email message. Then delete the return in the middle of it and copy it again. Then paste it into your web browser and hit enter.)

If you can't sleep, don't count sheep: talk to the Shepherd.

John Guillaum

Editor

johnquillaum@yahoo.com

THE CONNECTING WIRE is a periodic newsletter of announcements, news, recommendations, articles, and other information helpful to men in our spiritual growth. Thanks for welcoming **THE CONNECTING WIRE** into your in-box!

Who to contact:

Contact the following if you'd like to participate in a men's discipleship program.

John Guillaum, 937 427-2095, johnquillaum@yahoo.com

Dave Hendricks 427-7582 (H)

Kelly Malcolm 433-8184 (H)

The mission of **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH KETTERING** is to honor God by equipping believers to reflect and communicate the love of Jesus in our community and beyond. The Men's Ministry Team offers a variety of activities for men to interact with other men on our journey of faith in Christ together. Large group, small group, and one-to-one events encourage relationship building and spiritual strengthening that result in maximizing the potential we all have in Christ.

The meeting place of **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH KETTERING**

is located at

3939 Swigart Rd.

Dayton , OH 45440

Tel: 937 429-1671

Visit our website at www.Histask.org

Take advantage of MensMinistryConnection.com, an alliance member of Gospelcom.net. It's on the web to help men connect with God and with each other. The site is designed to be a quality reference tool for men to use to grow personally and spiritually. Visit MensMinistryConnection.com to get the latest news from the New York Times, a daily Bible verse, men's ministry resources, and a multitude of diverse links specifically of interest to men (such as prostate cancer information, pornography addiction recovery help, barbecue tips,

coffee sites, golf advice, and more). Also, sign up for The eMaleRoom email discussion list to share what's on your heart with other men around the world. Or participate in the site's Message Boards.

<http://www.MensMinistryConnection.com> .

To subscribe, send a message to johnguillaume@yahoo.com with "subscribe" in the subject line.

To unsubscribe, send a message to johnguillaume@yahoo.com with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.



Speaker: Dr Del Tackett

President of the Focus on the Family Institute and Senior Vice
President of Focus on the Family

8:00 a.m. – 12 noon Sat., April 12, 2008

\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

Register online at www.promisekeepers.org/pkadventure

Dayton, Ohio

Regal Cinemas at Fairfield Commons

2651 Fairfield Commons Blvd.

Beavercreek, OH 45431

The PK Adventure cinema event tackles truth and transformation, featuring Dr. Del Tackett, who leads "The Truth Project," aimed at

helping Christians deal with modern issues from a biblical worldview.

Also appearing is Alan Autry, the current mayor of Fresno, CA - a former actor and NFL quarterback. You'll be gripped by his life story, which included meeting his father at age 30. Rounding out the program is great live footage of Promise Keepers music, and another chapter of life in "The Small Group".

After the digital video runs, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., teams of men will be invited to disperse to area community service projects for a few hours probably from around 10:00 a.m. to around 12:00 noon.