



Hello
November

IMPACT



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2 Samuel ~ 1 Kings ~ 2 Kings ~ **1 Chronicles** ~ 2 Chronicles ~ Ezra ~ Nehemiah

*12 Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.
In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.
13 Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name. 1 Chronicles 29:12-13 (NIV)*



3001 Riggs Avenue ~ Erlanger, KY 41018 ~ 859.727.6522

Jim's Journal



I celebrate a GREAT fall meeting for Northern Kentucky Baptists! A great turnout, great food, great fellowship, and great music and preaching were the results of lots of planning, especially by our host church, Erlanger Baptist and their Transitional Pastor Rusty Ellison, and Worship Pastor, Chris Young. Faye Francis and Jo Baker lined up an extensive list of volunteers who helped in every step of the journey! SO excited to induct our first members of the Northern Kentucky Hall of Faith! We stand on the shoulders of those who have established a life that is marked by sacrificial service and generosity. Thanks to you all!

As we enter a season for Thanksgiving and the celebration of Christ's birth I want to reflect on the importance of generosity as a core value in our churches. I am convinced that lost and searching people in our world will attend a generous church. I believe many of them could be compelled by seeing the teachings of Jesus related to love, money, and compassion lived out in missional community. Our world is crying out for churches like this and they are few and far between.

When a church focuses on generosity as a core value, it is often (and BEST) driven by finding ways to first share the gospel message of salvation! In that context giving becomes a joy and not a hardship. When a church blesses the poor, the vulnerable, the needy then others are excited to join that mission. For generous people, the combination of intentionality of ministry, demonstrated results, communication, and trust is a powerful incentive and model to give. This breed of generous Christ-followers don't just want to give to a church. They want to be a part of something bigger and do something more than they can do on their own. They want to make a difference in the world, in the name of Christ. That is why they are willing to give their time, talent, and money to churches that model this kind of generosity. THAT is the beauty of Southern Baptists and our example of serving together in our community as an Association. WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER! "When a church lives generously-caring about the hungry, the homeless, ministering to the sick and grieving-then even people who are not members will spread the word about its good work." (Bevin, The Generous Church, Abingdon Press, 2016)

When a church lives the generous life that Jesus described that is living in a mindset of ABUNDANCE. Generous churches believe when God gives a vision, resources will follow. Despite our selfish desire to have all the provision for the mission up front, these Christ-followers are content to pick up manna day by day, learning to trust that God will not forget their needs as they pursue Him.

The generous church is a place where people WANT to be involved! It's exciting because something important is always at stake...the transformation of death to life that comes through repentance in Christ. If you don't show up, you may miss a glimpse of God's grace and glory. If you don't give, a child may go hungry. If you don't volunteer, someone may not learn about Jesus or child will drop out of school since they have no mentor to help them. As a church, we must do as Jesus did. From a mindset of ABUNDANCE and GENEROSITY we must constantly create ways to heal the spiritual, physical, economic, and social needs of our community.

If we don't live generously, faith becomes a form of spiritual narcissism. The church's primary focus becomes its members, especially those who are MOST VOCAL about their preferences, needs, and disappointments. This is the basis for the mindset of SCARCITY and FEAR. Driven by this, church's decide that money cannot be spent, ministry cannot be undertaken, people should not be made uncomfortable or challenged to change. Frankly, it's takes very little time to identify congregations that don't live generously. They are stalled, inwardly focused, and dying.

By contrast, when we are selfless and LIVE OUT THE GOSPEL, the church becomes a lamp set high on a stand, bringing light, love, and grace to a community. When a church lives generously caring about the hungry, the homeless, ministering to the sick and grieving-then even people who are not members will spread the word about the good work. Suddenly, evangelism isn't a spiritual duel with doubters; it is sharing an experience and a community where lives and eternities are forever changed. It's easy to argue with beliefs and doctrines, but it's hard to argue with generosity in acts of selfless love, expressed by a community who hold the teachings and example of Jesus in common. That kind of missional community can change the world because it turns the church inside out.

Jim's Journal continued on page 3

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| <div></div> <div><p>SEEKING:</p><p>The First Baptist Church of Highland Heights is prayerfully seeking a God-called Minister dedicated to serving Him and His people, leading them to grow spiritually through God-inspired messages from His Word, and encouraging each to use his spiritual gifts to help reach others so that our church will grow abundantly in Him.</p><p>Resume's will be accepted until January 1, 2017 and may be sent to First Baptist Church Highland Heights, ATTN: Pastor's Search Team, 2315 Alexandria Pike, Highland Heights, KY 41076. Resume's may also be submitted electronically to fbchh@hotmail.com.</p><p><i>Submitted by Connie Nutini, FBC HH</i></p></div> | <div><p>Fort Mitchell Baptist Church Senior Ministry</p><p>will once again sponsor a Veteran's Recognition Program, Thursday, Nov. 10 at 11:00 a.m.</p><p>This event is open to anyone who would like to attend.</p><p>A traditional Thanksgiving luncheon will follow the program. Reservations are required for the luncheon.</p><p>Reservations must be made by Sunday, November 6, by calling Pat Burkhart at 859-341-2372 or by emailing xavprof@fuse.net.</p><p>All veterans in attendance will be recognized with a gift.</p><p><i>Submitted by Pat Burkhart, Fort Mitchell BC</i></p></div> <div></div> |
| <div><p>Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting November 15, 2016 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Florence Baptist Church—Mount Zion Campus</p></div> <div></div> | <div><p>Kentucky Baptist Convention Men's Chorale Concert</p></div> <div></div> <div><p>November 15, 7:00 p.m. Erlanger Baptist Church 116 Commonwealth Avenue, Erlanger, KY</p></div> |
| <div><p>Jim's Journal continued,</p><p>THAT is the church that an overwhelming number of people in the greater Cincinnati area are looking for. Friends, resolve to BE THAT CHURCH! BE THAT PEOPLE! Practice generosity during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, but determine to carry that out through the entire year. May the lost world around us know us by our message of love, mercy, and grace as we practice it through a mindset of ABUNDANCE AND GENEROSITY!</p><p>There are many opportunities to engage in this season from Operation Christmas Child, the adoption of families in need, the Lottie Moon Christmas offering for Southern Baptist missionaries around the world, and other expressions of generosity through your local congregation. Just never forget that true compassion and mercy ministries ALWAYS connect the act to the story of life change!</p><p>Following Him, <i>Jim</i></p></div> | <div><div></div><div><p>Position Available</p><p>HighPoint Baptist Church, Alexandria, KY, is searching for a Youth Director to reach out, build, lead and love the teens of HighPoint and Alexandria. The position is bi-vocational and includes a part-time salary plus parsonage. For more information or to apply, contact Pastor Ron Duty at pastorronduty@gmail.com.</p></div></div> <div><div><p>The NKBA Ministries Building will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25.</p></div><div></div></div> |

Northern Kentucky Baptist Association

3001 Riggs Avenue
Erlanger, KY 41018-3045
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Address Service Requested

**Mark Your Calendars
Upcoming Events**

- November 4—Ministry Assistants' Workshop 9am - 4pm, KBC, Louisville
- November 6—Disaster Relief Appreciation Day
- November 7—Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer
- November 14—KBC Pastors Conference, 2 - 9pm, Florence Baptist
- November 15—KBC Annual Meeting, 8am - 5pm, Florence Baptist
- November 21—Leadership IQ, 10am, Gano Baptist Church, Georgetown
- November 24 & 25—NKBA Office Closed, Thanksgiving

