

THE WITNESS



October
2024

The fall season brings lots of fun activities at school, church, and in our community. Upward is part of FBC Barnesville's Fall Season, and there are several ways that you and your family can be involved as participants, supporters, and carriers of the gospel.

Upward Sports Ministry brings opportunities to serve and engage the community by using the tool of sports and being intentional in sharing the Gospel. As ambassadors for Christ, we will have moments to share the Gospel by getting to know our community and meeting their needs. Sports ministry isn't self-serving, "just a church league," or inward-focused; it is an avenue by which we can introduce people to Christ and help them grow in a relationship with Him by connecting them to a local church. This year the participants will learn about these four key virtues during the season: Respect, Kindness, Good News, and Forgiveness. This track will introduce athletes to the important biblical concept of kindness and loving your neighbor as yourself. They'll learn that the virtues of respect, kindness, and forgiveness are essential to how God wants us to treat other people. Our key verse, Romans 12:10b (NLT), says, "Take delight in honoring each other" and (ESV) "Outdo one another in showing honor. "

FBC Upward Basketball and Cheer League registration is currently open and will close November 11th. The program hosts Pre-K through 6th graders for basketball and cheer. We are praying to have a minimum of three teams in every age group for basketball and a minimum of three cheer squads. Our 3rd-6th graders must attend basketball evaluations on November 11th from 5:30-7:30p. Basketball evaluations are very important to aid the coaches in creating teams with equal basketball skills. All cheerleaders and Pre-K through 2nd grade basketball do not have evaluations. Upward practices will begin the week of December 9th, and games begin January 4th.

Volunteers are the key to having a successful Upward season. There are many ways to volunteer, from coaching basketball or cheer, becoming a referee, score keeping, giving game-day devotionals, managing concessions, and being a part of the prayer team. These are some of the many parts that help FBC have a successful Upward season. On October 27th at 6:30p, we will have an Upward volunteer meeting for anyone who is interested in volunteering this season. Since COVID, we have been actively building an Upward volunteer team who enjoys serving together. We would love to have you join us in making this season successful by sharing the Gospel, teaching the sport, and building relationships with the kids and their families.

If you are interested in volunteering in any way this season, please contact Jennifer Zeager at jennifer@fbcbarnesville.com.

See more details and get registered today at registration.upward.org/UPW86955.

God bless,
Jennifer Zeager
Children's Minister

UPCOMING EVENTS + INFO

OCC TRAINING & KICK-OFF

Operation Christmas Child is already gearing up for the season! If you are interested in serving as a volunteer at our collection center this year, please join us for a brief training on **Sunday, Oct. 6 at 5:15p** in the gym. A church-wide kick-off will follow at **6:30p** where Gail Donnelly will speak on her experience giving shoeboxes to children in Peru.

FALL FEST

The Lamar County Rec. Department is the place to be on **Sunday, Oct. 20 from 3-5p** for our FALL FEST! With games, a bouncy house, slide, boiled peanuts, snow cones, popcorn, & cotton candy, plus Ramblin Tap iced coffee & Main Street Nutrition tea samples for adults - there is something for the whole family!

THRIVE Y/A FALL RETREAT

"Encounter" is the theme for this weekend for young adults ages 18-25 to gather away from the normal flow of life. The retreat is **Oct. 25-27** in Forsyth at Camp Kaleo, and includes times of worship, community, games, and time alone to encounter Jesus. Young Adults should register [here](#) by Oct. 25.

REFUGE SUPPORT GROUP

There can be many barriers for our exceptional children and those who care for them. Our heart is to create a space for ALL children and their caregivers to feel loved, supported, encouraged, and engaged in Christian community. Caregivers of children with special needs are invited to join our Refuge Support Group on the **last Monday of each month (Oct. 28) at 6:30p** in the gym banquet room.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

The next regular church conference is on **Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 6:30p** in the Annex.

"THAT KID!" TRAINING

More than two-thirds of children report having experienced at least 1 traumatic event by age 16. "That Kid!" is a ministry that helps to inform churches about trauma and its effect on students and children. We are hosting "That Kid!" training on **Nov. 2 from 9-11a** in the Student & Young Adult Building to discuss how to recognize trauma responses and how to respond with a balance of nurture and structure as modeled in the Bible. All church and community members are invited!

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

— *Galatians 5:22-24*

BUDGET UPDATE

Giving as of August 2024

Required: \$846,782.58

Received: \$788,077.17

CHURCH CALENDAR

Everyone in the church may now access the church calendar online at fcbarnesville.com/calendar or by clicking [here](#).

REMIN D MESSAGING

Want to stay in the loop on important church updates like weekly prayer guides, event reminders, and church funeral details? Text "@church411" to the number 81010 or click [here](#) to sign up for our Remind updates!

RIGHTNOW MEDIA

Gain FREE access to 20,000+ Bible study resources, faith-based kids' shows, and discipleship resources through RightNow Media at <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/fcbarnesville>

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