



Supporting Those Called by God

c/o Faith Community Church, 4301 Cleveland Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44709

February 2016

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Pastors and Stress

All of my life I have been athletic. In high school I played football. In college I played squash 2-3 times per week. In seminary I switched over to swimming. Once Joanne and I arrived at First Congregational Church in Elyria, I picked up racketball. Since that time racketball and swimming have been my outlet. However, about two years ago I pulled a sprain in my foot and a sprain in my index finger that forced me off the court. Happily, I have recently walked back onto the racketball court and found I can resume that routine. Hooray! Nothing like working up a sweat!

Change frequently creates stress. The change in my exercise routine was a stressor for me.....a favorite way for me to blow off steam, create endorphins, keep my respiration up, etc., was gone. The situation changed, and I had to adapt.

Pastors in our day are serving in the context of paradigmatic changes in our culture that are creating higher-than-normal levels of stress for them, their families, and their churches.

What are some of those stressors? In general, smaller churches are getting smaller, and larger churches are getting larger.

In general, churches founded before the electronic revolution - i.e. the public availability of the internet in the early 1990's - are having to adapt and incorporate electronic media into their ministry. In general, smaller churches are increasingly calling bi-vocational pastors because they cannot afford a full-time pastor. In general, the upcoming generation is burdened with debt and cannot give as much as their parents did.

Here's a big one: in general, our culture's moral fabric has changed, and Christianity is regarded by many as a problem, not a solution. Increasingly, following Christ may cost.

The Ohio Association winter banquet this year will feature a guest who will talk about pastors and stress, and a resource that will help. Full Strength Network will be devoted to offering support to pastors and their families. Note that families are included. I could not have served as an associate, solo, senior and founding pastor for 37 years without Joanne's emotional support. But where does the pastor's spouse go for support? Full Strength Network will be there for the family as well as the pastor. If you haven't registered for the winter banquet yet, email John Hood at johnhood@roadrunner.com. Walk-ins are welcome. Cost is \$10/person, starting time is 6:00 at the Brehme Center at Malone. It'll be worth it. Hope to see you there! *For Him, always, Dave Kimberly*



Pastor Dave and Joanne

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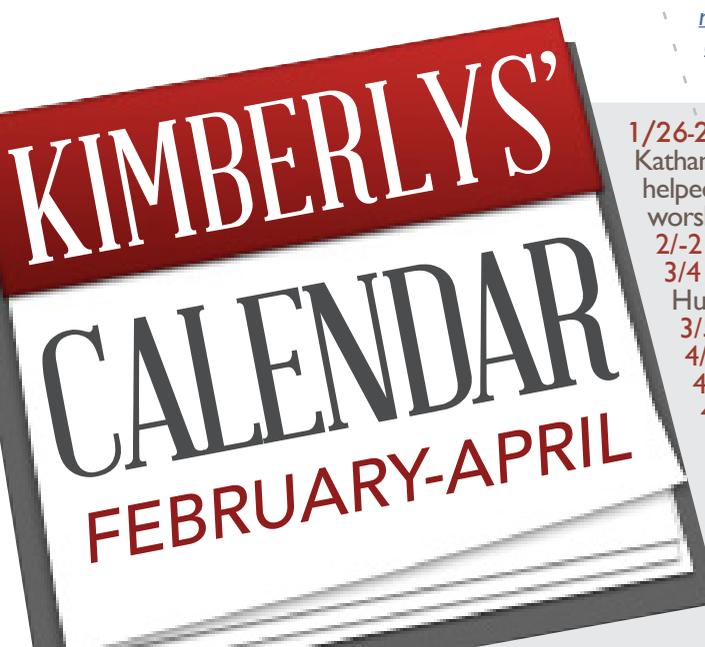
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Praise God! In the first 6 months of the OA Barnabas Ministry appeal 60% of the needed support has come in! It takes the average TEAM missionary 18 months to raise at least 70% of their support! To support those called by God through the Barnabas Ministry, go to www.cccohio.org/Barnabas-Ministry. Thank you, and God bless you!



1/26-2/2 Pastor Dave and Joanne at TEAM Nepal's Ministry Area Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal. Pastor Dave spoke on spiritual and emotional resilience, and Joanne helped teach the missionaries' children. The kids presented a puppet at the concluding worship service! (Of course!)

2/-210 Pastor Dave at 4C's national board meeting in Orlando.

3/4 Ohio Association Winter Banquet at Malone University.

Hugh White of Full Strength Network will be the speaker.

3/5 Pastor Dave and Joanne at Salem Evangelical & Reformed Church in Marion.

4/17 Pastor Dave and Joanne at Vermilion Evangelical & Reformed Church in Vermilion

4/24 Pastor Dave and Joanne at Parkman Congregational Church in Parkman.

4/25-4/26 Pastor Dave at 4C's Community Pastor's Training near Pittsburgh.

4/26 Ohio Association spring meeting at Christ Memorial Church in Robertsville. David Brand will be the speaker.

PRAY FOR: the timing of Pastor Dave and Joanne's next Timothy Network trip to Nepal, and the timing of an initial Timothy Network vision trip to the Czech Republic.

Every dollar given to the OA Barnabas Ministry preserves three to four dollars on the mission field! The Ohio Association is a 501(c)3 organization; all donations are tax deductible.

Going to Nepal was extremely rewarding. We have grown in our affection and admiration for the missionaries there, and aware more than ever of their need for prayer and "member care" support.

PRAY FOR DAVE & JENNY

This is Dave and Jenny Kim.

Dave and Jenny have 3 young children: Naomi, Aida and Phoebe.

They are both M.D.'s, currently serving at a hospital in Lamjung. Pray for Dave as he deals with not only the medical cases that come in, but also recent turnover in personnel at the hospital. Pray for Jenny as she works at the hospital one day/week and home schools their children...especially Phoebe, who has had a number of health problems. Pray for God's guidance as they return to the States on home assignment this summer and Dave prepares to take another set of medical boards in November. Also pray about their desire to go to the far west in Nepal and reopen a hospital that was closed years ago.



Phil's ministry has been devoted to training Nepali pastors in preaching and discipleship. He is fluent in Nepali, Sanskrit, German, one other local Indian dialect, and works readily in Biblical Hebrew and Greek. Pray for God's leading for Phil as he continues to disciple pastors and devotes more time to teaching the Bible to Nepali pastors and evangelists, possibly in a seminary in the region.

PRAY FOR PHIL

GOD'S GRACE AGAIN!

Joanne and I can't help but praise the Lord for the birth of our first grandchild, Aislynn Grace Kimberly!

Having been born at 32 weeks, her doctor is amazed how she's been responding like a normal newborn instead of a preemie. She's gained weight quickly, and James and Alaina are bringing her home earlier than expected!