



November Sermon Series ~ Family Harvest

By: Mike Langley

In my elementary and early middle school years, I grew up in a Midwest farming community. When the month of November rolled around, two major things happened. First, extended family got together for Thanksgiving. We would eat great food and the kids (all of us boys) would head to the school grounds to play basketball.

The second thing that happened in November in this Midwest farming

town was bringing in the remaining harvest. Even though my allergies would be a mess, I enjoyed driving the machinery. I probably began driving the tractors and trucks when I was 10 or 11 years old. So many of my childhood Novembers were filled with family and harvesting.

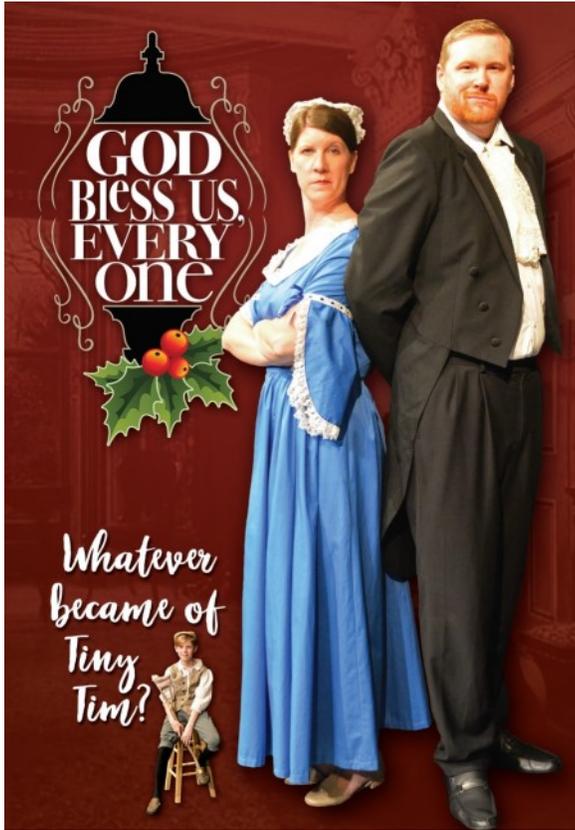
When thinking about a sermon series for the month of November, the preaching team came up with the idea of talking about family and how, as families, we might harvest some

of God's teachings to help us have and be a part of a stronger family.

When we considered lessons a family might harvest from the Bible, we thought the book of Ruth would be a great place to do our gleaning. So this November, we will spend time together learning about the ups and downs, and the strengths and weaknesses, of the family written about in the book of Ruth. And hopefully we will be healthier families for it. ■

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Performance Schedule

Held in the Worship Center
No Tickets Necessary or Available

Friday, December 1st.....	7:00pm
Saturday, December 2nd	2:00pm & 7:00pm
Sunday, December 3rd	3:00pm (Nursery Available - Inf-3yo)
Friday, December 8th	7:00pm
Saturday, December 9th	2:00pm & 7:00pm
Sunday, December 10th	3:00pm (Nursery Available - Inf-3yo)

We need your help! We are recruiting volunteers to serve during the 8 performances of God Bless Us, Every One. Sign up in the Worship Center lobby on Sunday morning or contact Chris Santasiere (csantasiere@fairmountchristian.org) or Sherri Fadoo (sfadool@fairmountchristian.org) for more information.

Needed: Greeters, Ushers, Parking Attendants, and Welcome Center Volunteers.

Manna Sunday Update

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our November Manna Sunday food drive. All items collected are given to the MCEF Food Pantry. Our monthly goal is to collect one ton of food. Thanks to your generosity, we not only met our goal in November, but exceeded it! Thank you again for your support. **Our next Manna Sunday will be on December 3rd.**



The truck bed and back seat were both overflowing with donations!



Remembering Our Loved Ones
A Concert of Remembrance
Sunday, November 19th at 6pm in the Sanctuary

The **Concert of Remembrance** is a comforting, uplifting, and encouraging 45-minute service to help those who have lost loved ones cope during the Holiday Season. The service includes encouraging songs of faith and comfort, a pictorial tribute to those who have passed away, and an optional fellowship time where you can view the pictorial tribute up close while enjoying refreshments.

To participate in the tribute, **email photos of your loved ones, along with their full name, date of birth, and date of death, no later than Nov. 13th to cbranch@fairmountchristian.org.** To use a photo you've submitted in the past, simply call the church office and let them know. If you know of a neighbor, friend, work colleague, or relative that has lost someone, please encourage them to join you for this special event. ■

Bad Brakes!

By: Kevin Bartlett

For a guy who touts the merits of good vehicle maintenance, I recently found myself wishing that I would heed my own teachings. I was traveling home from work on a Tuesday evening, in a hurry as usual because I wanted to have dinner with my wife before heading back out to a meeting at church. As I was clipping down the road at fifty-five miles per hour, the car in front of me suddenly jammed on the brakes. It really shouldn't have been a big deal because I was far enough behind to make a nice slow stop, but when I hit the brakes the pedal had that spongy feeling that would tell any first year auto mechanics student that there is air in the hydraulics, indicating a leak in the braking system. Now is where I have to make a confession to you guys. About a year ago I had to replace one of the metal brake lines on my truck because rust had eaten a hole in it. While replacing that line, I noticed that the rest were not looking very healthy either. So, being the smart automotive technician that I am, I ordered a kit to replace every line on the truck. When it arrived, I did what any normal person would do knowing that they had some iffy-looking brake lines on their vehicle - I put it upstairs in the shop to await the day that I would have the "extra time" to install it. So as I carefully, and at a significantly slower speed, traveled on after the sudden stop incident, I was thinking, "I guess I will stay late tomorrow evening and do what I should have done a year ago". Then as I neared the roundabout at the end of the road I live on, the driver of

another pickup truck decided that following the direction of the triangular shaped sign that the state posted to warn people to yield to oncoming traffic was for everybody but himself, and he proceeded to pull out in front of me. This, my friends, is about the time that I had a near death experience because, as you can imagine, knowing that I had an already-compromised braking system, my heart stopped when I had to mash hard on the brake pedal to keep from hitting this numbskull. The pedal went to the floor while my truck continued toward its target at what seemed to be a very fast five miles per hour. Some people would say that it was just luck that kept me from hitting the other truck, but I know it was the prayer that I was sending up to God to save me once again, from myself!

Again and again I have had to come to grips, just like many if not all of you, with the notion that I don't do nearly enough maintenance in the every day things of this life. I am not just talking vehicle maintenance here, but things like my relationship with my wife, my family, and my friends. When the brakes go out at fifty-five miles an hour, or something happens to strain or even sever a relationship, I beg God to repair it. Or some temptation pulls out in front of me when I already have a compromised braking system and I go crashing into Satan's trap all because I didn't do the maintenance of prayer and living out of God's word which would have stopped me on a dime. After the crash, I pray that the Great Physician shows up in a Heavenly Volunteer ambulance to heal whatever wounds I have caused



myself and others because of my own neglect. Instead of limping through life with a compromised faith, moving at a reduced speed for fear that I may blow through another yield sign leading to sin, maybe I should pay more attention to the manual that my Maker provided and the tune-ups that the Holy Spirit works on me every so often. Maybe I should spend some time inspecting my life, looking for cracks and rust holes in my relationships and my faith and repairing the parts of my life that are most important to me.

When we take the word of God seriously and yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit, we often find that the dangers of this world, the temptation and the sin that follows, can be avoided because we have the discernment to realize what we are heading for and the ability to stop before we cause a wreck that we were never intending to be a part of. But, I also understand that sometimes no matter how much I try, I still crash through all of the warning signs and barrel headlong into sin and for that I have an advocate, Jesus Christ, and as much as I hate the thought of sinning and disappointing my Heavenly Father again, Jesus' love for me covers those times when my neglected braking system fails me. ■





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The
FORECASTER
 best viewed online @
fairmountchristian.org

OUR CHURCH - November 5, 2017

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members:

October 28th

Eric & Lori Sweeney - Transfers

November 5th

Josh & Tracy Norman - Transfers

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

8:15 Traditional Worship: 157
 Children's Worship: 3

9:30 Contemporary Worship: 572
 Children's Worship: 33

11:00 Traditional Worship: 215
 Children's Worship: 83

11:15 Modern Worship: 280

Total: 1,343

Bible School: 635

Budget Requirements: \$44,862

Budget Receipts: \$66,939

Sermon Series
 Continues Sunday!



FAIRMOUNT CHRISTIAN CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rick Raines - Senior Minister
Chris Santasiere - Associate Minister
Mike Langley - Associate Minister
Tracy Thomas - Worship/Music Minister
Josh Smith - Interim Youth Minister
Ashley Sears - Children's Director
Amber Grubbs - Early Childhood Director
Brandon Woodard - Church Executive

Sat., Nov. 11, 6:30pm
Worship Center Lobby
 Join Niños de México for a
 cake reception as they
 celebrate 50 years of ministry
 to kids in Mexico!