

THE BEACON

First Baptist Church of Dundalk

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Christopher Gudmundsson, Pastor

September 2006

(This was written by Kelly Boggs to whom special thanks is due along with the Baptist Press – from whom this was largely plagiarized! I've edited it a little and am printing it because as I thought, it made the point in such a clear clever and unanswerable way.)

Cheating is an activity that young people have engaged in since prehistoric humans began giving lessons on how to skin an ox. And several studies indicate that the practice is on the rise in the present day. With increased competition for admission into top colleges and graduate schools, some students opt to plagiarize, share answers, steal tests, buy term papers, or use cheat sheets – all in pursuit of an attention-grabbing GPA.

It is clear that students are going to cheat, and that nothing can be done about it. Anyone who thinks otherwise is simply out of touch with the realities of the world in which we live. We need to take the same common-sense approach that currently is applied to unmarried sex, and apply it to cheating.

Since there will be those who are going to cheat, no matter how much they are told not to, there should be instruction on how to cheat effectively and discreetly. Classes should be introduced and students instructed in the pros and cons of cheating. A variety of effective cheating or study methods should be presented and explored. Care must be taken so this instruction is accomplished in a nonjudgmental way. Students should not be given the impression that cheating is somehow inherently wrong, or that studiousness is in itself a virtue.

But information alone will not be enough. In order to ensure that we do not stigmatize those who choose to cheat, an area must be set up where a student

can have access to the best in cheat sheets and plagiarized papers. Cheating paraphernalia must be dispensed discreetly and without cost. There should be no barriers to keep students from cheating once they determine that they are ready to cheat.

If a student chooses to access the cheating materials, schools should be very careful not to tell the parents. After all, if parents were to find out, they might overreact. They might even revert to the long-obsolete practice of "grounding" the student. Parents simply cannot be trusted to grasp the complexities and nuances of the issue like trained educational professionals do. Many parents don't realize that just because a student experiments with cheating once or twice it doesn't mean he or she is a cheater.

Who knows? In experiencing cheating firsthand, a student might realize that he or she is not really ready for the emotional consequences of cheating, and return to studying.

Let's all pray for our young people as they go back to school and also pray for our nation.

Passionately, persistently pursuing pure pleasure

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C.G.' or similar initials.

Upcoming Events

Sunday School Promotion and Commissioning Day Luncheon and the Labor Day Picnic is a combined event this year and is scheduled for Sunday, September 3 immediately following the 11 a.m. service. You may bring a favorite dish to share. Everyone is invited.

Sunday Prayer Meeting starts at 8 a.m. in the conference room.

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship Service starts at 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship Service starts at 7 p.m.

Youth Group meets every Sunday at 7 p.m.

K.I.D. Hour (Kids in Discipleship) meets at 7 p.m. each Sunday.

GRACE Teams meet each Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room.

Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.

Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting is scheduled each week at 7 p.m. **Youth Group, GA's (Girl's in Action) and RA's (Royal Ambassadors for boys)** also meets at 7 p.m. weekly on Wednesday night.

Multi-Focus Ladies Group plans to meet on Thursday September 7, at 7 p.m. in the conference room.

New Members Weekend Retreat is planned to take place on Friday and Saturday, September 8 and 9. This change has been made because Pastor is scheduled to teach the Youth Sunday School class on Sunday mornings. The location and exact time of the retreat is to be announced.

Deacon Meeting is planned for Thursday, September 14 at 7 p.m. in the conference room.

WMU Annual Meeting will be held on September 15 and 16 at Middle River Baptist Church located at 610 Middle River Road 21220. The cost for both days is \$15. If you can only attend the meeting one day the cost is only \$10. On Friday, September 15, there will be a dinner and speaker from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. That night's theme is *Understanding the Call*. On Saturday, September 16, Session 1 is to be held from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. and the theme is *Embrace the Call*. Lunch is from 11:30 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Session 2 will be from 12:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. The theme is *Live the Call*. You must register by September 1. Mail your check payable to the BCMD 10255 Old Columbia Road, Columbia MD 21046. For additional information please contact Gail Noda at 410.290.5290 extension 218.

Multi-Focus Ladies Group plans to meet on Tuesday, September 19 at 10 a.m. in the conference room.

WMU Women's Bible Study is on Tuesday, September 19 at 7 p.m. in the conference room.

Business Meeting takes place on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. *Silent Prayer* starts at 6 p.m.

Beacon News Items are due in the church office on or before Monday, September 18.

Men's Fellowship and Bible Study is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26 at 7 p.m. Location to be announced.

Baltimore Baptist Association Annual Men's Breakfast will be held at Long Green Baptist Church on Saturday, September 30 at 8:30 a.m. 13010 Manor Road 21092.

Choir Practice will start on Wednesday, September 6 at 8 p.m. All are welcome!

In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.
Proverbs 16:9 NIV

Embrace Baltimore Walk and Pray

† † †

10 a.m. each Thursday meet at

September 7 First Lansdowne Baptist Church
2320 Alma Road
21227

September 14 Woodbrook Baptist Church
25 Stevenson Lane
21212

September 21 Horizon II
9846 Sherwood Farm Road
21117

September 28 Brantley Baptist Church
5501 Edmonson Avenue
21229

† † †

September Birthdays

02 Henrietta McKee	17 Louise Barlow
04 Jennifer Blackman	17 Roger Stephenson
06 Bill Barr	18 Cathy Heins
07 Jennifer Funkhouser	21 Christi Gallagher
09 Sue Bradshaw	21 Elaine Hastings
09 Michelle Flory	21 Linda Persiani
10 Eileen Heller	23 John Sams
10 Mary Jackson	24 Li Maier
14 Rena Mullins	26 Alexia Flory
15 Shalamaar Brown	26 Dana Smith
15 Mark Persiani	29 Gary Baer
15 David Smith	29 Shelby Heins
	30 Linda Treaster

Change of Address

Miss Colleen Maier
1411 Varsity Lane
Salisbury MD 21801

Positive Side of Life

Living on earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year!



Dear FBCD Members,

Thank you all for your note of encouragement and prayers and food that was sent to our home. George will be missed by his family and so many friends. I need your prayers because I do hurt so much. We were blessed with 62 years of marriage. George was so sick he was ready to be with Jesus. God will take care of me.

God bless you all,
Audrey Schlassnagle

Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank all that prayed for me during my recent illness and stay in the emergency room, especially Doris Stone that was at the hospital the entire length of time until I was released. May God continue to bless each one.

Love,
Viola Pennington

Preschool and Nursery Care

Date	Workers for September
September 3	B-2 Nancy Brown, Tammy Holland P&T Alaina Butzner, Jim Parlamen, Linda Wolfe
September 10	B-2 Fran Fabian, Malvina Fair P&T Kristen Mckee, Li Maier Gary Morrison,
September 17	B-2 Dorothy Smith, Doris Stone P&T Dawn Fritz, Bill Severn, Scott Severn
September 24	B-2 Monica Gudmundsson, Mary Jo Morrison P&T Emily Andrews, Alaina Cline, Debbie Smith
	Thank you for your faithfulness ...for serving in this precious ministry!

Math 101

From a strictly mathematical viewpoint: What equals 100%? What does it mean to give MORE than 100%? Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%? We have all been in situations where someone wants you to give over 100%. How about achieving 101%: What equals 100% in life?

Here is a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these questions:

If: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X
Y Z is represented as: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26, Then:

$$H-A-R-D-W-O-R-K = 8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98\% \text{ and}$$

$$K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E = 11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96\% \text{ but,}$$

$$A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E = 1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100\%$$

And, look how far the love of God will take you:

$$L-O-V-E \text{ O-F } G-O-D = 12+15+22+5+15+6+7+15+4 = 101\%$$

Therefore, one can conclude with mathematical certainty that: while hard work and knowledge will get you close, and attitude will get you there, it is the LOVE OF GOD that will put you over the top! (From email sent to FBCD)

As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love, if you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.
John 15: 9-12 NIV

America the Beautiful

Written by Judge Roy Moore from Alabama

America the Beautiful,
Or so it used to be.
Land of the Pilgrims' pride;
I'm glad they'll never see.

Babies piled in dumpsters,
Abortion on demand,
Oh, sweet land of liberty;
Your house is on the sand.

Our children wander aimlessly
Poisoned by cocaine,
Choosing to indulge their lusts,
When God has said abstain.

From sea to shining sea,
Our Nation turns away
From the teaching of God's love
And a need to always pray.

We've kept God in our temples,
How callous we have grown.
When earth is but His footstool,
And Heaven is His throne.

We've voted in a government
That's rotting at the core,
Appointing godless judges
Who throw reason out the door,

Too soft to place a killer
In a well deserved tomb,
But brave enough to kill a baby
Before he leaves the womb.

You think that God's not angry,
That our land's a moral slum?
How much longer will He wait
Before His judgment comes?

How are we to face our God,
From Whom we cannot hide?
What then is left for us to do,
But stem this evil tide?

If we who are His children,
Will humbly turn and pray;
Seek His holy face
And mend our evil way:

Then God will hear from Heaven
And forgive us of our sins,
He'll heal our sickly land
And those who live within.

But America the Beautiful,
If you don't – then you will see,
A sad but Holy God
Withdraw His hand from Thee.

God's Lamb

Mary had a little lamb. His fleece was white as snow.
And everywhere that Mary went, the Lamb was sure to go.
He followed each day.
the rule. He children laugh
have a lamb at then the rules all day, Illegal it bring the Lamb school, or even Name. Everyday
worse, and days turned into years. Instead of hearing children laugh, we heard gun shots and tears. What must we do to stop the crime, that's in our schools today? Let's let the Lamb of God come back to school, and teach our kids to pray!



Refiner and Purifier of Silver

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver. Malachi 3:3

This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible study.

That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities.

The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot; then she thought again about the verse that says: *He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver.* She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined.

The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed.

The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, how do you know when the silver is fully refined? He smiled at her and answered, Oh that's easy, when I see my image in it.

If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has His eye on you and will keep watching you until He sees His image in YOU. (Page contents from emails sent to FBCD)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DUNDALK
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P. O. Box 8964
BALTO MD 21222
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Address Correction Requested

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21222

God's greater glory. Dundalk's deeper delight. Only one objective.

SUNDAY

Bible Study for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:30 p.m. (September through May)
Evening Worship 7 p.m.
Kids in Discipleship 7 p.m.
Youth Group 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7 p.m.
Choir Practice 8 p.m. (September through May)
Youth Program 7 p.m.
GA's (Girls in Action) 7 p.m.
RA's (Royal Ambassador's 7 p.m.
Business Meeting (3rd Wednesday of the month)

CHURCH STAFF

Christopher Gudmundsson
Pam Kratochvil, Steve Stinnette
Donna Robinson
Dolly Willinger

Pastor
Accompanists
Custodian
Secretary

**Sunday School Promotion
Commissioning Day
Luncheon**

And

**Labor Day Picnic
Sunday, September 3**

Immediately following the 11 a.m. service

Everyone is invited!

† † †

**New Members
Weekend Retreat
September 8 and 9**