

FB FAITH BUILDERS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, INC.

"Discipling the head, heart, and hands"

Issue 78

December 2005

GOOD NEWS

As men count time, the year 2005 is drawing to a close. This nation is at war in a distant land with an implacable and elusive enemy. The economy "spits and sputters" but seems to be revving for some moderate growth. Natural disasters pounded the Gulf Coast, reminding us that in spite of our arrogance, we are quite vulnerable. The Lord lifts His finger; the seas rage, and the most sophisticated civilization on the face of the earth finds its Gulf Coast reduced to chaos in a matter of hours.

The news media selectively controls the emphases of the information age. Daily they post the number of soldiers who have died in Iraq since the fighting began—2,144 and counting. The reporting of these numbers ought to underscore the somberness and reality of war. But what of the three to four thousand babies who are murdered in America daily? Why doesn't the media report include a daily accounting of these atrocities? Those numbers will sum 1.35 million dead this year in America alone, slaughtered by their mothers and highly educated doctors. Joseph Stalin was correct when he said that a publicized murder of a person who is given a face, a name, and an identity by the media is perceived by the masses to be a tragedy, but the execution of millions is a mere incomprehensible statistic. The public will read and forget it.

But I have some good news to tell you! Our God reigns! The construction of His Kingdom advances on schedule. He sent His Son some 2,000 years ago to recruit the workers and set them to the task. Oh, He had to save them from their self-destroying sins first, and this He did! It cost Him dearly; yea, it cost Him His very life. Have you heard about this good news? If you haven't, please contact me! Some of us will be celebrating His birthday in just a few days. His name of course is **JESUS!** Come join us.

Oh, yes, I have some local news too. Faith Builders is growing. This fall semester we had the blessing of 24 enrolled full-time students, and if I may say so myself, they are some of the finest people in the world. We as staff are humbled with the opportunity to serve them. We are also impressed with the work of the renovation/maintenance staff who has prepared the facility for more students. **We are ready for more students** who want to prepare themselves for a life of service in the Kingdom of God. Oh, here is more good news. We are making funds available through the **FBEP Scholarship Program** to assist new fall-term students who need financial assistance.

Yes, my fellow-pilgrims, let us be encouraged. We have much for which to praise our heavenly Father. We live in a day of great opportunity, perilous as it may be. The news media is quite adept at emphasizing and even embellishing the "fallenness" of the world in which we live. Let us be equally adept—and more so—at emphasizing the majesty of our sovereign Father in heaven and His mighty works throughout the earth. Our fall semester theme verse at FBEP captures the essence of what I wish to tell you about this holiday season: "Fear not little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom" –Luke 12:32. The **GOOD NEWS** is that Jesus is Lord and so the Kingdom of heaven is at hand.

~ Melvin B. Lehman

KINGDOM COLLOQUY

January 28, 2006, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Melvin Lehman will present an extended discourse on "Contours of a Kingdom Theology," a vision for life in the Kingdom of God. Brothers Richard Herr and John D. Martin will respond to his theme paper and discuss the issues he raises. The audience will also have opportunity to question or comment.

Are you interested in attending Faith Builders but not sure you can afford it?

Some financial scholarships are available for new TAP and MAP students enrolled for Fall Term 2006. If you are interested in attending FB and wish to apply for financial assistance, contact the office for a student and scholarship application. Initial awards will be made on January 16, 2006. Additional awards will be made on May 15, 2006. Scholarships are only considered after admission to FB is approved.

You are invited to attend our March Workshops DISCIPLESHIP AT FAITH BUILDERS

March 18-19, 2006

Join us to consider issues in discipleship, evaluate strengths and weaknesses of our current mentoring program, and reflect on similarities and differences between student mentoring and church discipleship. We invite prospective students and their friends or parents, pastors or church workers, and anyone interested in developing intentional relationships for personal spiritual development. (This event postpones our "Vision & Goals for the Local Church" workshops until a later year.)
Please register if you wish to attend this event.



FBEP Staff:

Esther Bean
 Monica Beiler
 Irene Bontrager
 Steven & Cynthia Brubaker
 Kyle, Desirée, Antoine,
 Courtney, Travis
 Dave Gingerich
 Matthew, Jewel, Melody,
 Marcus
 Lois Hershberger
 Beatrice King
 Melvin & Shelia Lehman
 Kyle, Erikson, Jordan
 Vivian Mast
 Gerald & Cathy Miller
 Brendan, Kara, Tyler
 Willie & Sylvia Miller
 Moses
 Brandon & Marie Mullet
 Patrick, Kipp, Stuart,
 Christopher
 Stephen Russell
 Amos & Shaunda Stoltzfus
 Angeline
 David & Grace Strubhar
 Jonathan, Marianna
 Sharon Yoder
 Geryll & Carla Zehr
 Milo & Mary Sue Zehr
 Ryan & Shari Zook

Aarick

FBEP Volunteers:

Miriam High
 Cindi Hostetler

 Sarah Kauffman
 Alena Martin
 Mark Nisly
 Joel Thomas
 Pam Witmer
 Joanne Yoder
 Hilda Yoder



Consider investing two years of your life in study at Faith Builders...



"I highly recommend Faith Builders to anyone who has a desire to be more effective in their church, classroom, or a ministry program."

~ MAP Graduate



Board members of FB

- John Miller, chair (Bourbon, IN)
- Wayne Martin, vice-chair (Wallenstein, ON)
- Sam Bontrager (Middlebury, IN)
- Roy Gingerich (Uniontown, OH)
- Melvin Lehman (Guys Mills, PA)
- Leroy Martin (Latham, MO)
- Reuben Yoder (Free Union, VA)

Service Opportunities at FB

- Kitchen: May, August 2006
- PCH: April, May 2006
- Volunteer youth groups to schedule spring projects

Renovation Project

- Constructing concrete foundation and enclosing lower level of little gym: \$35,000-\$40,000

Special Projects for FB

- Knotted comforters for single beds
- Ladies' dorms hallway carpet: \$3,000
- West wing office A/C: \$7,000
- Safety lighting in front of dorms: \$1,800 remaining
- Woodshop tools: jointer, planer, router with table, band saw
- Gas-powered power washer

FB Calendar

<i>Winter Term</i>	<i>1/3-2/2, 2006</i>
January Colloquy	Jan 28, 2006
Winter Term Choir Tour	Feb 4-5, 2006
<i>Spring Semester</i>	<i>2/13-5/18, 2006</i>
March Workshops	Mar 19-20, 2006
Spring Chorale Program	May 14, 2006
Commencement.....	May 19, 2006
Choir Tour	May 20-29, 2006
<i>Summer Term</i>	<i>6/26-7/28, 2006</i>
College Student Retreat.....	June 29-July 22, 2006
Teachers Week.....	Aug 1-4, 2006
FB Renovation Committee Meeting.....	Aug 10, 2006
FB Council Meeting.....	Aug 11, 2006
FB Board Meeting.....	Aug 12, 2006
<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>8/21-12/15, 2006</i>
Apprenticing Term Begins	August 21, 2006
Weekend Workshop	Oct 21-22, 2006
Men's Music Weekend.....	Nov 10-12, 2006
Off-Site Workshops.....	Nov 17-18, 2006
Chorale Christmas Program	Dec 10, 2006



NEWS from Faith Builders

Welcome to...

- ❖ Alena Martin, short-term kitchen help, Lititz, PA
- ❖ Victoria King, PCH, Mifflinburg, PA
- ❖ Brenda Kuhns, kitchen, Free Union, VA
- ❖ Leon Troyer, maintenance, Bourbon, IN

Farewell to...

- ❖ Beverly Hege, kitchen, Midville, GA, Sept.

Births

- ❖ Darlton & Rose (Troyer) Bontrager, 1st & 2nd children & sons, Trevor Vitaly – Sept. 16, 2000 & Cameron Vladik – July 16, 2002, adopted Aug. 2, 2005

- ❖ Lewis & Jenny (Leis) Martin, 1st child & daughter, Krystal Sierra, born July 20, 2002, adopted Aug. 26, 2005
- ❖ Tim & Karen Ressler, 2nd child, 1st son, Jeremy Lee, Sept. 29, 2005
- ❖ Titus & Hannah Beth (Graybill) Yoder, 1st child & daughter, Cassandra Grace, Oct. 7, 2005
- ❖ Abe & Sonya (Smith) Cates, 2nd child, 1st son, Carlisle Wesley, Nov. 10, 2005
- ❖ Michael & Mary Lois (Breneman) Peter-sheim, 2nd child, 1st daughter, Abigail Ruth, Nov. 16, 2005
- ❖ Richard & Meredith Froese, 6th child, 4th

- daughter, Amalie Maria, Nov. 16, 2005
- ❖ Tom & Galyn (Weirich) Graber, 2nd child & son, Timothy Lee, Nov. 30, 2005

Engagements

- ❖ Leila Lauver & Ben Hartranft

Deaths

- ❖ Evelyn McKay, resident of FBPCCH for 11 years before moving to another facility, died Sept. 29, 2005

Get Involved!

If you would like to become a student, register for workshops, or inquire about VS opportunities and other ways to be a part of the FB vision, you can contact us ...

☎ **By Phone** 814-789-4518

📠 **By Fax** 814-789-3396

✉ **By E-mail** fbep@fbep.org

📧 **By Mail** PO Box 127

Response Form

Please check all that apply.

- 1. I am interested in becoming a student. Please send information.
- 2. I would like information on a workshop or colloquy. _____
- 3. Please correct my address as listed below.
- 4. I am interested in a VS opportunity. Please send an application.
- 5. I would like to make a donation toward _____.
- 6. Please send me information about contributing to student scholarships.
- 7. Please add me to your mailing list.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Church: _____

E-mail address _____

FAITH BUILDERS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

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Address Service Requested



“Discipling the head, heart, and hands”

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