

You're Welcome!

It's what we customarily say in response to a heartfelt "Thank You," but we use these same words when someone new has arrived in our home, church, neighborhood, school, or workplace. When spoken with warmth and conviction, it causes the newcomer to quickly feel included and accepted.

As you know, I have only recently joined the ministry team of the Vincentown First Baptist Church, and without hesitation I can say that I have experienced a very warm welcome. You've said, "You're Welcome," and I say, "Thank You."

As you know, the role of Interim Pastor is a temporary and unique form of Pastoral ministry. While it's important for the church and its members to receive competent and caring pastoral leadership and ministry, personal attachments are minimized. So while it is in the DNA of every Pastor to reach out to all who gather for worship or ministry, when it comes to caring for the new

folk and visitors, it is best for the "You're Welcome" to come from the long term residents of the institution.

When church members gather, there may be designated "Greeters" who say the words, and in some church services a few minutes are set aside to "Greet one another," during which time new people can be sought out and given the "You're Welcome."

However, these efforts may come across as mechanical - the challenge is to get to the next level, where not only words are spoken, but are followed up by actions such as learning a name, inquiring about the visitor's family or work, introducing them to another member, or even asking, "May I call you this week?"

In these ways, First Baptist can be a "You're Welcome" church. Thank You.

Joyfully,
Pastor Neil Chadwick

A Real Cop Story - Mother Goose Pleas for Help! - submitted by Dick Higginbotham

Officer James Givens has served with the Cincinnati Police Department for over 26 years, but has never quite experienced anything like this before. He was sitting in his patrol car in a parking lot when he got an unexpected visitor. A goose came up to his car and started pecking on the side of it. He threw food out for her, thinking that's what she wanted, but she didn't take it.

She continued to peck and honk then walked away, stopped and looked back at Officer Givens. Then she came back to his car and pecked at it again. She made it very obvious that she wanted Officer Givens to follow her, so he finally got out of his car and did just that.

The goose led him 100 yards away to a grassy area near a creek. Sitting there was one of her babies, tangled up in a balloon string. The baby was kicking its feet, desperate for help. Being wary of helping the baby on his own, and worried that the goose might attack him, Givens called for help from the SPCA, but no wildlife rescuers were available at the moment.



Luckily, Givens's colleague, Officer Cecilia Charron, came to help. She began to untangle the baby, and the mother goose just stood there and watched, honking occasionally. She didn't become aggressive, and just let Officer Charron do what she had to do to set the baby free. It was like the mother goose knew they were helping. Once Charron untangled the baby, she put it down and it ran right to her mom, and they went right to swimming in the creek. Charron teared up and said it was the highlight of her 24 years on the force.

"It seems like something made up. It was just incredible," Givens said. "I honestly don't know why I decided to follow her, but I did. It makes me wonder – how do they know to turn to humans when they need help?" We may never know the answer to this question, but what we do know is that Officer Givens



was in the right place at the right time to help.

Life is precious. A great story with a good ending .

Verse of the Month for October:

He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' Matthew 25: 45

Get Ready for Socktober!



It's time again for Socktober! Socktober is a month-long Community Sock Drive.

Every night in the United States an estimated 600,000 people live on the streets. This October, we want to be a part of the nationwide drive proving that even the smallest act of caring, like donating a pair of new socks, can help make a huge difference in the lives of our neighbors who are homeless. The number one need-

ed clothing item is new socks, but people very rarely ever donate new socks to the homeless!

Here at First Baptist Church, we will be collecting new socks of every size and color during the month of October. You can drop the socks in the baskets at the back of the sanctuary. At the end of October, the socks will be taken to local homeless shelters. Last year, we collected 210 pairs of socks. Go First Baptist!!

Contact Barbara Moore with any questions.

"If you believe in a God who controls the big things, you have to believe in a God who controls the little things. It is we, of course, to whom things look 'little' or 'big'." - Elisabeth Elliot

October Birthdays

Tristan See	15
Dretha Buser	20
Judy Conner	21
Yanina Almenzar-Milec	21

October Anniversaries

Malcolm & Deanna Thomas	15
Carl & Mary Wlodarczyk	18
John & Jessica Horner	19
Joe and Kathy Zavatsky	24
Harry and Marie Jolly	27

A Christ-centered, community serving, Biblical church

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To:

Here's your newsletter for September 27, 2020