

HEART ^{PLUS} SOUL

Ministry Update

May, 2009



2009 Marv Nafziger Memorial FCA Golf Scramble

This year's Annual FCA Golf Scramble will be held on Saturday, May 30th. The incredible Orchard Hills Golf Course in Bryan, Ohio, will play host to our Scramble. Cost is \$75 per golfer to play. Your cost covers 18 holes of golf, a cart, lunch, prizes, and more!! ALL money raised will benefit our Camp scholarships! We need you golfers!!!! You still have time to sign up.

To register your team, contact our office at: (419) 583-7013 or email Rex at rstamp@fca.org

Bring Them Home!

"Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too." Philippians 2:3-4

One of the toughest things in baseball is when you are losing, your team is up to bat, and you have base runners in scoring position with two outs. The obvious goal is to get the runners home and not leave them on base. Leaving them on base is like eating a half-baked pie, washing your hair and not rinsing, or mowing part of your yard. You didn't finish the job.

Now, imagine being up to bat, with the bases loaded, two outs, and you are down by one run. Your palms are sweaty, your stomach is turning and you feel like the weight of the world is on your shoulders. But then you hear words of encouragement. "You can do it!" from your teammates. You hear "Let's go number 9!" from the stands. And your coach screams, "Bring them home!" With a new sense of strength and nerves of steel, you step up the plate and focus on victoriously finishing the game!

Our ministry in FCA is very similar to this baseball scenario. We have all kinds of students and coaches stranded in the world, apart from Christ. We step up to the plate against an opponent (Satan) that wants to take us out. But our Heavenly Father has equipped us to bring them home and we are surrounded by teammates that cheer us on!

YOU are those teammates cheering us on! There are days when I know your prayers and support encourage us to step up to the plate. We have an incredible mission of bringing thousands of lives home, and we can't do it without your encouragement. **Thank you!** Just as you encourage us, I want to encourage you to keep praying, keep sharing, keep cheering on one another in making an eternal impact in the lives of others!

"Few things in the world are more powerful than a positive push. A smile. A word of optimism and hope. A "you can do it" when things are tough." Richard M. Devos

Rex Stump, Area Director

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at rstamp@fca.org or jstamp@fca.org.



Why FCA Baseball Teams?

Over 44 million youth ages 18 and under participate in youth sports, up from 38 million in 2000. This represents 60% of the U.S. youth population. Over 7 million adults participate in youth sports as coaches, officials, and volunteer positions.

With so many children involved in youth sports, and so many children hurt and neglected – **what can we do to make a difference? What can we do with our children in shaping their values to compete on the field and to compete in making a positive impact off the field?** That is part of our mission. We are not here to be victorious on the scoreboard, but in developing leaders who will begin today to make an impact in their school and community.

As I watch the kids on our 10U and 12U teams care for one another and consol each other in the dugout, give high fives, and cheer each other on – I'm reminded of the huge mission we have on our FCA Travel Teams. I'm already impressed with their desire to compete, to learn, and even to pray. We are blessed with great children and we will do our best to help them move in a positive and victorious direction.

My greatest joy has been seeing our 10 and Under and 12 and Under kids lead their team in prayer! Go Tigers!

Campus News

Ayersville School Assembly With Joel Penton:

Former OSU football player, Joel Penton, spoke to the Ayersville Middle and High School student body. Joel did a fantastic job of challenging the students to keep their commitments. I would encourage you to check out his website at standyourground.org.

Evergreen Middle School Huddle: Brad Hurtig, who lost both of his hands in an industrial accident in high school, never stopped playing sports in high school. Today, he is sharing his faith and challenging students to never give up. Brad has been busy visiting FCA Huddles and sharing his testimony. Recently he visited the Evergreen Middle School FCA. Brad did a great job of sharing his story, the gospel, and how you can be positive and make something good out of a tough situation. He kept 170 junior high students captive for 20 minutes!

Evergreen High School: The Evergreen High School FCA volunteered at Cherry Street Mission on Monday, April 13th. We had 27 students who volunteered on their last day of Spring Break to feed approximately 35 women at the Sparrow's Nest. The Sparrow's Nest can house a maximum of 75 women who are homeless or in a court ordered drug rehab. program. Many of them leave during the day for work or visits with family. The students were not only able to serve lunch but then also offered up their personal testimonies. We were surprised and pleased when several of the residents in turn offered their own testimonies back and shared why they were in their own personal situations. We definitely felt God's presence and actually had to push students out the door when it was time to leave. Many of them wanted to stay and continue visiting. Hopefully we have encouraged a new generation of ministers!

- Reported by Bill Blanchong, Huddle Leader

Waldron School Assembly: Recently we had the opportunity to share with the Waldron Middle and High School how FCA helps students and adults listen to the right voice in a world of chaos. FCA is a ministry in which we present Jesus Christ as the only one to commit and listen to in a world of multiple choices. We are thankful that schools have invited FCA staff to lead entire school assemblies.

Wauseon High School: On Thursday, May 7th, the National Day of Prayer, Wauseon HS FCA hosted a time of prayer and pizza. The students led a time of praying for the school, community, and nation. Over 100 students prayed during three lunch periods.

FCA Baseball



The FCA Tigers 10U Baseball travel team placed second place in the Oregon Classic Tournament. This young team consist of players from Wauseon, Delta, Evergreen, and Pettisville. The FCA Tigers are focusing on improving their baseball skills and developing spiritual disciplines for life. Players spend weekends playing in tournaments, while spending the weekdays playing on their city league teams.

Standing in the team picture above: **Front row (left to right)** - Gavin Foote, Mac Warncke, Gavin Ritter, Johnny Ruth, Mauricio Barajas, Trent Armstrong. **Back Row:** Gabe Freeman, Marcel Barajas, Brendan Britsch, Brooks Gype, Zach Meeker, and Carter Stump. The FCA Tigers are coached by volunteer, Steve Cheney.



2009 Camp News

- **June 8-12: Shiloh Power Camp:** This is a partnership camp with Shiloh Christian Union Church; Location: Shiloh Christian Union Church, Delta; Boys/Girls in grades K—6; Cost: FREE.
- **June 15-17 - Volleyball Camp:** Location: Burr Rd. Middle School, Wauseon; Girls in grades 4 - 8; Cost: \$40.
- **June 22-25 - Soccer Camp:** Location: Bryan Parks, Bryan; Boys/Girls in grades K - 6; Cost: \$60.
- **June 22-26 - Tennis Camp:** Location: Adrian College, Adrian, MI; Boys/Girls ages 8 and up; Cost: \$65-75.
- **June 29-July 2 - NW Ohio Sports Camp:** Location: Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio; Boys/Girls ages 12 - 18; Football, Boy's and Girl's Basketball, Volleyball, Boy's/Girl's Cross-Country, Cheerleading and Wrestling. Register on-line or contact our office. Cost: \$310.
- **July 6-10 - Baseball Camp:** Location: Lenawee Christian School, Adrian, MI; Boys ages 8 - 14; Cost: \$35-80.
- **July 27-28 - Defiance College Football Camp:** Location: Defiance College, Defiance, OH; Boys in grades 5 - 8; Cost: \$35.
- **July 30 - 31 - Adrian College Football Camp:** Location: Adrian College, Adrian, MI; Boys in grades 5 - 8; Cost: \$35.