

### **"GREAT MOMENTS ARE BORN FROM GREAT OPPORTUNITY!"**

by Timothy Barton, Jr., Pastoral Intern

Over the past 4 years, this quote has likely been used more than any other in motivational speeches. It comes from the movie *Miracle*, which centers on the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team. The U.S. team, comprised of young college hockey players, were about to go onto the ice to face the Soviet Union hockey powerhouse. Outmatched and facing incredible odds, coach Herb Brooks looks at his players in the locker room and says, "Great moments are born from great opportunity!" For those players, that opportunity was to play the greatest hockey team in the world with one chance to beat them. Their great moment came at the final buzzer with victory completed.

For many parents and grandparents alike, some of our greatest opportunities that we think of may have come in sports situations. You think of that chance when you came to the plate with your team down by 3 runs with 2 outs and the bases were loaded. Or perhaps you recall the opportunity to make the winning free throw in the basketball game. Maybe you feel that your opportunity never came in the area of sports.

Regardless of our past, whether we have made great moments out of opportunity, "failed" to make the great moments, or even if we feel that we have never had the opportunity for a great moment, each of us as parents and role models have an opportunity greater than anything sports can offer. Each of us has the opportunity to shape the lives of our children.



Meet the Bartons!  
(L-R) Caryann, Garrison & Timothy

We have the opportunity to shape their lives as we demonstrate how we are to live and interact with the people that are around us every day. I am learning myself that children pick up on everything, even when we think they are not paying attention. We need to be aware of this opportunity and model how to care for other people.

We have the opportunity to teach our children by discipline, because every one of our children will need it at some point, just as we do. The Bible says in Hebrews 12:8-11 that if we love our children, then we will discipline them just as God disciplines the ones he loves.

We have the opportunity to shape our children's lives by showing them unconditional love. When our children make mistakes and do things that are not necessarily wrong, but leave us saying, "What were you thinking?" we continue to love them rather than demonstrating frustration and anger with them. This is the type of love God shows his children.

We do all this because God had the greatest opportunity of all and made it into the greatest moment the world has ever known. It was greater than the US hockey teams victory. It was greater than Davidson College's success in the recent NCAA tournament. It was greater than that big account you landed at work...God saw the sinful condition of man, and that all people had disobeyed him. He knew that as a just God he would have to punish them. But the Bible says that because he loved those whom he created (all of us) even though we are sinful, he sent his one and only son because he was the only one who could pay the penalty for our sin so that we could be saved if we trust in him to be our Lord and Savior. This was a great moment. God made this moment because he loved those whom he created!

We need to love our children and make great moments with the opportunities we have to love them and guide them as they grow.

## Upcoming Youth Events

### Youth Group

Middle & High School

#### Sunday Nights

Bible Study  
6:00 - 7:30pm

#### Wednesday Nights

Open Gym, Dining Out, etc.  
6:30 - 8:00pm

#### Middle School Retreat

Ridgehaven, Brevard N.C.  
May 16th - 18th

## Children's Ministry

### Imagebearers

1st - 5th grade  
Sundays 6:00 - 7:30pm

## Summer Sports Camp

Daily, June 9th - 13th

9:00am - 12:15pm

Ages 6 - 12

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Cheerleading

To keep sports fun for your child:

- Emphasize skill development, not winning
- Maintain realistic expectations
- Stay positive. Avoid criticizing your child's play.



Need one more reason to keep it fun? Young people report a variety of reasons for dropping out of sports, but the one reason that stands out is this: "It just wasn't fun anymore."

Source: Hedstrom & Gould, 2004



## Soccer News

Of the 18 million Americans who play soccer, 78% are under the age of eighteen. In the 1990s, soccer was recognized as the fastest-growing college and high school sport in the United States. The experts say soccer has become popular with children because almost anyone can play. There are teams for girls, boys, older children and young adults. This widespread participation among youth is making the sport more popular. Many Americans become interested in soccer because their children play. This has produced a new American expression, "soccer mom." This refers to the large group of mothers who drive their children to soccer games and watch them compete. The group is so important that it has been recognized as an informal political interest group to be reckoned with in elections. [USA SPORTS](http://USA SPORTS)

### The Corner Kick

A Corner Kick is a method of restarting play. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, only against the opposing team.

A Corner Kick is awarded when the whole ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, passes over the goal line, and a goal is not scored.



Procedure:

- the ball is placed inside the corner arc at the nearest corner flagpost
- the corner flagpost is not moved
- opponents remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play
- the ball is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- the kicker does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player

Adapted from [The Official Soccer Site](http://The Official Soccer Site)

*Ephesians 2:8*

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God –*



**First Presbyterian Church**  
Stanley, North Carolina

Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

Morning Service

8:30 Worship Service

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship Service

Evening Service

6:00 Care Groups

Image Bearers

6:00 Youth Group

Call us at 704.263.4275

Visit us online at

[www.fpcstanley.org](http://www.fpcstanley.org)

Team Rosters

Game Schedule

### FPC Child Development Center

The Child Development Center has a few openings in our Pre-school and Mothers' Morning Out (MMO) program for the 2008/09 school year. We also have a few openings in our Summer and Afterschool Programs.

Summer Program begins 6/9/08  
7am-6pm

Afterschool Program begins 8/25/08

Pre-School begins 9/2/08

MMO begins 9/2/08

Contact Debbie Smith, CDC Director  
704.263.4274

Special thanks to Malcolm Mize for photos!