

Bridge Builders Newsletter

First Baptist Church of Macomb
136 W. Carroll
Macomb IL. 61455

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Join Us For Worship
Sunday Morning Service
9:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship
5:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Macomb
136 W. Carroll St. - Macomb, IL. 61455
Phone: 309 833-2479
Walter Holt, Pastor
www.fbcmacomb.com/

January 2007
Issue 379

Vision and Purpose Statement:

To encourage and empower changes within ourselves,
to meet the needs of the congregation, community and the world.

Phil. 4:13, James 2:26

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2007 Daily Bible Reading Guide for January

1/1	Genesis 1-4		1/17	Genesis 45-48	
1/2	Genesis 5-8		1/18	Genesis 49-50	Job 11
1/3	Genesis 9-10	Job 1	1/19	Exodus 1-2	Job 12
1/4	Genesis 11-12	Job 2	1/20	Exodus 3-4	Job 13
1/5	Genesis 13-14	Job 3	1/21	Exodus 5-6	Job 14
1/6	Genesis 15-16	Job 4	1/22	Exodus 7-10	
1/7	Genesis 17-18	Job 5	1/23	Exodus 11-14	
1/8	Genesis 19-22		1/24	Exodus 15-16	Job 15
1/9	Genesis 23-26		1/25	Exodus 17-18	Job 16
1/10	Genesis 27-28	Job 6	1/26	Exodus 19-20	Job 17
1/11	Genesis 29-30	Job 7	1/27	Exodus 21-22	Job 18
1/12	Genesis 31-32	Job 8	1/28	Exodus 23-24	Job 19
1/13	Genesis 33-34	Job 9	1/29	Exodus 25-28	
1/14	Genesis 35-36	Job 10	1/30	Exodus 29-32	
1/15	Genesis 37-40		1/31	Exodus 33-34	Job 20

- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday 3:00 p.m. Adult Small Group Study
5:30 p.m. Light Meal
6:30 p.m. Adult Small Group Studies
Veggie Connections
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Thursday 6:30 p.m. Sunday Praise Team Practice
- 6, 13, 20, 27 Saturday 7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Sunday 10:45 a.m. Sunday School
3:00 p.m. Adult Small Group Studies
- 8, 15, 22, 29 Monday 7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Sunrise Family
Restaurant
- 2 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. United in Prayer
7:00 p.m. ABW Ministries
Hostess: Zelma Harman
Meet at FBC
- 14 Sunday 5:00 p.m. Meal
6:00 p.m. Annual Meeting
- 16 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Boards Meet
- 21 Sunday 3:30 p.m. American Guild of Organists
Monthly Meeting at FBC

January 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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	27
28	29	30	31			

Last year at this time, we looked ahead with great anticipation to what God was going to do for us in the year 2006. We have reached the end of 2006 and what a year it has been. We have seen children and adults accept Christ and then travel through the waters of baptism and join our church family. We have seen adults recommit their lives to Christ. We have seen parents dedicate their children to our wonderful Lord. We have seen people coming out of their comfort zones to serve Christ in new and exciting ways. Today as I look back over the past few weeks and months, what do I see? I see God's wonderful grace and joy and love touching the lives of many because of their growing relationship with Christ. The Bible says in **1 Cor. 2:9-10** However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"¹⁰but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. God has an eternal purpose for your life. As you understand this marvelous truth and discover the gifts through which God enables you to accomplish that purpose, you can unleash your God-given potential. You can make a difference in your world. You can serve a living God! God created you with a purpose. This truth can open up a new way of thinking on the importance of your life and prepare you to join Him in a life fulfilling service. As we celebrate our 150th anniversary in 2007, may God help each of us to find out what it is HE, GOD, wants us to do for HIM. I do look forward to serving with you in 2007.

Pastor Wally



A thank you letter has been received from Barbara Houck and the McDonough County Chapter of the American Red Cross for help serving the canteen at the blood drive Nov, 30 in the WIU Union.

Workers included Phyllis Rule, Kathleen Barry, Eva Fortune, Zelma Harman, Meryl Cook, and Jo Sanders. Sandra Riggins, Meryl and Zelma also supplied 6 dozen cup cakes.

Your help was much appreciated.

A Christmas Love Offering was received for Alan and Whitney, missionaries from Greece. The amount of \$141.30 was received.

Our ABWM also sent \$10 to each of our 8 Special Interest Missionaries. They are: Kristy Engel, Dominican Republic; Kristina Gutierrez, Nicaragua; Dwight & Kari Davidson, Japan; Matt & Lori Mann, Thailand; and Flint & Debbie Miller, Philippines. National Missionaries are Kathy Baillargeon, Milwaukee, WI; Michelle Bradley, Peirre, SD; and Susan Harding, Cordova, AK..

These are the current Specials for Great Rivers Region.

The GRR Mission Conference will be held January 26-27 at the Cherry Hills Baptist Church in their new facility at 2126

Woodside Road, Springfield, IL.

Featured speakers will be Dr. Rick Gutierrez and wife, Dr. Anita Gutierrez who practice family medicine in Durban, South Africa. This land area is about the size of Texas. Some of their mission challenges include healing and reconciliation, extremes of wealth and poverty, AIDS, and leadership development.

Also featured at the conference will be Dr. Kristina Gutierrez on home assignment from Nicaragua. (The Gutierrez are not related). Kristina is one of our GRR Specials.

Former International Missionaries to Kodaikanal, India, David & Susan Brown, are now living in Midland, Michigan where David is an Associate Pastor at FBC. Their teenage children are Benjamin and Meredith. Alistar Brown, former pastor of Macomb FBC, is now interim pastor at FBC in Shelbyville, IN. He & Clarice live at Ellettsville, IN. They are David's parents. Other siblings are Douglas who lives in Chicago, and Mark, a firefighter in Indianapolis. Mark has four children.

The following is part of a letter written by Joan Brown, Director of Murrow Indian Children's Home, Muskogee, OK.

"For over one hundred years of Christmases, ministry of love and care has

continued to reach out to Native Children that are hurting from rejection, loss, and trauma and feeling forgotten.

It saddens me that we are in a financial crisis and are now living from day to day. The next three months may be our last. Donations of food, supplies, and gifts to the children have increased, but the financial funding of a skeleton staff is falling and bills are going unpaid.

Our little mission is small but the ministry is large and has touched and changed many lives.

Your gifts and prayers are vital and deeply appreciated. Blessings to you and your families as we rejoice in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.”

Rev. Dr. Reid Trulson has been nominated to serve as Executive Director of International Ministries. He has been serving as IM Area Director for Europe and the Middle East, as well as IM’s Global Mission Team. If approved by the General Board of ABCUSA, Dr. Trulson assumes his new duties Jan. 1, 2007.

There are many opportunities for volunteers in Global Mission. The Association of Baptist churches of Rwanda needs an optometrist to provide qualified eye care. The eye clinic in Kigali has been equipped by the generosity of Baptists in New Jersey and trained Rwandans are in place to run the equipment to make glasses. All that is needed is you.

Couples or singles are needed in Bluefields, Nicaragua to be house parents for 24 children (6-15 years) whose parents are working on cruise ships for 6-8 months. The children will live in “Safe Harbor” and the ministry will be responsible for their well being. This is an outreach of Bethel Church where an after school program is provided. The children speak English.

Peggy Burke is 70 years young and leading the way for American Baptist Volunteer missionaries in Vietnam. Whether living with a Vietnamese family, teaching English, or riding on the back of a motorbike, Peggy has completely immersed herself in Vietnamese life. Peggy is an active member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Columbus, OH.

More information can be obtained by calling the International Missionaries in Global Mission office at Valley Forge, PA, 1-800-222-3872.

Don’t forget to save the barcode with the little boy on the Campbell Soup labels.

Bible Book for January—Hosea

Birthdays:

January 11—Ann Borquist, IM Brazil

January 13—Virgil Nelson, IM Congo

January 24—John Coats, IM Cambodia



Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 - Jerry McKamy
- 2 - Jim Harman
- 7 - Caleb Carper
- 9 - Mikaylia Oppel
- 10 - Roger Riggins
Richard "Rich" Sample I
Tony Starr
- 14 - Christina Harman
Adron & Donna McMahon (a)
- 15 - Barb Arvin
Tyler Green
- 17 - Kathleen Barry
- 19 - Sarah Lambert
- 20 - Bob Alexander
- 22 - Steve Smart
- 23 - Bryce Carper
- 26 - Margaret (Alexander) Ellis
- 31 - George Noper



**Leadership
Summit**
**at First Baptist Church
of Macomb**
Saturday, February 3, 2007
8:30 am – 3:00 pm

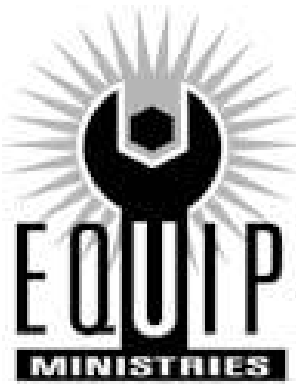
For all

**FBC Board Members, Committee Members
Teachers & Small Group Leader, and
anyone who serves FBC in any capacity, large or
small**

Featuring Bill Allison

*Author of Grow, Minister, and Lead: Ten Lifelines for Volunteer Leaders in the Church and Time
Management for Painfully Pooped Out People: Ten Biblical Principles for Taking Control of Your
Life and Time.*

To register, please call the church office so that we can order enough refreshments and materials. Registration is free.



EQUIP 2007
Christian Workers Conference
Peoria Civic Center
Friday and Saturday February 16 & 17

**"Something for everyone who ministers
in the body of Christ"**

Friday Workshops Include:

Preschoolers; It's the Little Things
Teaching Children How to Pray
The Five Non-Negotiables in Teaching Children
Put Sizzle in Your Children's Ministry Lessons
How to Manage Children with Difficult Behaviors
Teaching the Brain to Change the Heart
Help! We Need More Space to Grow
Financial Freedom for Your Family
Pastor's & Women in Ministry Seminars

Saturday Workshops Include:

A repeat of several Friday workshops
The Journey to New Facilities
Architecture for Church Growth
VBS Preview,
Forgive & Live
Turning Spectators into Players
Why Minister to Men?...to Change the
World!
Secrets for Success in Puppet Ministry

Saturday Special Seminars (\$30 additional)

Churches Training Leaders, with James Roberts
High Impact Small Groups, with Jim Egli
Becoming a High Impact Teacher, with Bill Allison
Kidology: Relational Ministry that Grows Healthy Kids & Families, with Tim Balogh

For a complete workshop schedule visit www.equipconvention.org or see the brochure on the church office bulletin board



Altar Flowers

Every Sunday, there are two bouquets of flowers on the altar. These flowers are provided by members of the church and cost \$15/Sunday. Flowers can be purchased in memory of someone or in honor of a special occasion if you wish. These flowers are available for you to take home or if not, they are delivered by one of our flower committee members each Sunday afternoon to shut-ins or people in the hospital. A calendar is posted just inside the Friendly classroom and you may indicate a date for which you would like to be responsible for the altar flowers. A \$15 check, marked for flowers, may be put in the offering plate to cover the cost. Please think about providing flowers for a Sunday or two in 2007.

What a great congregation we serve! We are overwhelmed by your love and generosity to us at Christmas and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. It is a privilege to serve our Lord together at First Baptist Church in Macomb.

Pastor Wally and Annetta



George & Johnsy Mangalaraj



They moved here after George joined WIU. They were married in 2005. They are expecting their first baby girl in February. They have felt at home and welcomed here at FBC. They believe this church will help them grow in their relationship with the Lord.

Thank You! THANK YOU!

Dear FBC,

I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful flowers, cards and visits.

Thank you,

Dorothy Riney

Many thanks to the members of the First Baptist Church who donated cupcakes and served the donors at our November 30 blood drive.

We certainly appreciated the continuing service your church provides to help us provide blood products to people who need them.

Sincerely,

Barbara Houck

McDonough Co. Chapter of the Red Cross

Dear Church Members,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, the cards, the food, and for the prayer calls that I have asked for.

Sincerely,

Jane Beck

Thank you to everyone who contributed food for the meal boxes. We were able to fill 20 large boxes.

Thank you,

The Deacon Board

Thank you to FBC for the food box and for a nice visit with Richard & Judy Hurt. It was very thoughtful. And thanks to the Santa's Elf who always leaves a gift card on the tree downstairs.

God Bless you,

Alice Bishop

Dear Baptist Church members:

Thank you for the Christmas Box.

Bennie, Alice, and Tony Arvin

Heaven's Grocery Store: Author Unknown

As I was walking down life's highway many years ago,
I came upon a sign that read Heaven's Grocery Store.

When I got a little closer the doors swung open wide,
And when I came to myself I was standing inside.

I saw a host of angels. They were standing everywhere.
One handed me a basket and said, "My child shop with care."

Everything a human needed was in that grocery store
and what you could not carry you could come back for more.

First I got some Patience. Love was in that same row.
Further down Understanding, you need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of Wisdom and Faith, a bag or two,
and Charity, of course, I would need some of that too.

I couldn't miss the Holy Ghost, it was all over the place.
And then some Strength and Courage to help me run this race.

Then I chose Salvation for Salvation was for free. So,
I tried to get enough of that to do for you and me.

Then I started to the counter to pay my grocery bill.
For I thought I had everything to do the Master's will.

As I went up the aisle I saw Prayer and put that in.
For I know when I stepped outside, I would run into sin.

Peace and Joy were plentiful, the last things on the shelf.
Song and Praise were hanging near so I just helped myself.

Then I said to the angel, "How how much do I owe?"
He smiled and said, 'Just take them everywhere you go.'

Again, I asked, "Really now, How much do I owe?"
"My child", he said, "God paid your bill a long long time ago."



Live Nativity

We wish to thank everyone who participated in the Live Nativity. It was a great success.

Thank you!!!

Marilyn Bourn and
Don Garlick,
Co-Chairs



Because there are not enough email addresses for the newsletter to make it cost effective, we will continue to mail them via US Mail. Thank you for your interest in email; we hope to do this in the future.

Sunday, January 14

5:00 p.m.—Potluck Dinner
6:00 p.m.—Annual Meeting



Friday, February 9
11:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

We will need volunteers to make fruit pies and also to help serve and deliver.

- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday 3:00 p.m. Adult Small Group Study
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UNFORGETTABLE LESSON
“The Sermon on the Mount”**January Theme: The Big Picture**

6	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Alternative Worship <i>Deep Change</i> Matthew 5:1-12
7	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	<i>Deep Change</i> Matthew 5:1-12
13	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Alternative Worship <i>Two Steps into Humility</i> Matthew 5:1-12
14	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	<i>Two Steps into Humility</i> Matthew 5:1-12
20	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Alternative Worship <i>Two Deep Desires</i> Matthew 5:1-12
21	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	<i>Two Deep Desires</i> Matthew 5:1-12
27	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Alternative Worship <i>The Unfair Exchange</i> Matthew 5:1-12
28	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	<i>The Unfair Exchange</i> Matthew 5:1-12



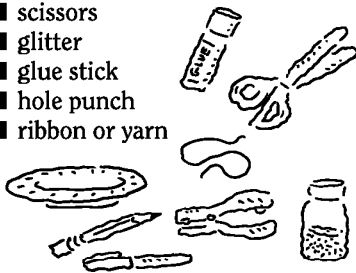
Fancy Flakes

Make a snowflake as unique and as special as you are in God's eyes.



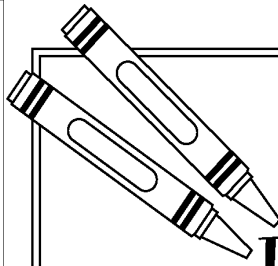
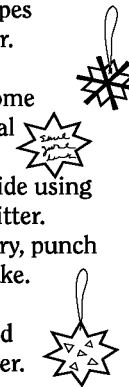
What you need:

- paper (plain white or glittery wrapping paper)
- round plate or saucer (about the size you want your snowflake)
- pencil, crayon or marker
- scissors
- glitter
- glue stick
- hole punch
- ribbon or yarn



What you need to do:

1. Draw a circle on a piece of paper by tracing around the plate or saucer.
2. Cut out the circle.
3. Fold the paper in half three times. (If the paper is thick, fold it just twice.)
4. Use your scissors to carefully cut out shapes from the folded paper.
5. Unfold your paper.
6. On one side, write some things that are special about you.
7. Decorate the other side using the glue stick and glitter.
8. When the glitter is dry, punch a hole in the snowflake.
9. Put ribbon or yarn through the hole, and tie it to make a hanger.























Just for KIDS

Unique Creations

It is the New Year and in many places it is cold enough to snow. God created snowflakes that are so unique that no two are alike! It is the same way with people – we are all one-of-a-kind. If God cares so much about how each snowflake is made, imagine how much God cares about you!

Directions: Draw lines to match the two halves of the snowflakes. Write the letters on the numbered blanks to form the words and to complete the verse.

1			7		
	pra	u		wonder	e
2			8		
	yo	fully		ma	ur
3			9		
	be	ise		yo	de
4			10		
	a	nd		wo	ful
5			11		
	fear	m		ar	fully
6			12		
	a	cause		wonder	rks

“I _____ I _____
 1 2 3 4 5
 _____ ; _____
 6 7 8 9 10
 _____”
 11 12

Psalm 139:14, NIV

Answer: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful....”