

Bridge Builders Newsletter

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

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First Baptist Church of Macomb
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Wally Holt, Pastor
www.fbcmacomb.com/

August 2007
Issue 386



Join Us For Worship
Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.

Vision and Purpose Statement:

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

Philippians 4:13, James 2:26

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2007 Daily Bible Reading Guide for August

8/1	Jeremiah 47-48	Psalm 104	8/16	Ezekiel 29-30	Psalm 115
8/2	Jeremiah 49-50	Psalm 105	8/17	Ezekiel 31-32	Psalm 116
8/3	Jeremiah 51-52	Psalm 106	8/18	Ezekiel 33-34	Psalm 117
8/4	Lamentations 1-2	Psalm 107	8/19	Ezekiel 35-36	Psalm 118
8/5	Lamentations 3-5	Psalm 108	8/20	Ezekiel 37-40	
8/6	Ezekiel 1-4		8/21	Ezekiel 41-44	
8/7	Ezekiel 5-8		8/22	Ezekiel 45-46	Psalm 119:1-56
8/8	Ezekiel 9-10	Psalm 109	8/23	Ezekiel 47-48	Psalm 119:57-120
8/9	Ezekiel 11-12	Psalm 110	8/24	Daniel 1-2	Psalm 119-121-176
8/10	Ezekiel 13-14	Psalm 111	8/25	Daniel 3-4	Psalm 120
8/11	Ezekiel 15-16	Psalm 112	8/26	Daniel 5-6	Psalm 121
8/12	Ezekiel 17-18	Psalm 113	8/27	Daniel 7-10	
8/13	Ezekiel 19-22		8/28	Daniel 11-12, Haggai 1-2	
8/14	Ezekiel 23-26		8/29	Zechariah 1-2	Psalm 122
8/15	Ezekiel 27-28	Psalm 114	8/30	Zechariah 3-4	Psalm 123
			8/31	Zechariah 5-6	Psalm 124

"We are required to love God's Family"

We are required to love God's family because Jesus commands us to. **The Bible says in John 13:35 "your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."** Do you realize that the whole world is watching how we love one another? His disciples survived in His absence by obeying His example of **love**. The command is **new** in that it is a special **love** for other believers based on the sacrificial love of Jesus: **As I have loved you, so you must love one another.** Christians' love and support for one another enable them to survive in a hostile world. As Jesus was the embodiment of God's love, so now each disciple should embody Christ's love. This love is a sign to the world as well as to every believer that the best thing we can do is love each other. Until the world sees the love of God modeled in our family of believers (the church), they are going to have trouble believing that it could ever exist. When we show love for one another, we show the world a love that they are not used to seeing. A love that becomes so contagious that they cannot help but be attached to it. The world is desperate for love and a sense of belonging to something that is alive and well. Our love for one another shows the world our unity with the Father, and shows that community requires unity—a oneness about the purposes of life. Listen to what Jesus prayed for in **John 17:21 "My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father—that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me."** What Jesus is telling us here is the influence of our congregation is not how many people we have attending or what a great building we have or the great programming that we have. Our influence within the greater community is based upon our love for one another. Do you realize that we make a statement about God by the way we love one another? You may be the only picture of Jesus people will ever see. What kind of a snapshot are people seeing through you? Too many times congregations are known for what they are against rather than by what they are for—which is to build the Kingdom of Christ. Our community of unity should reflect the faith we have in the love of Jesus Christ. Our small groups are meant to be points of love and light in the darkness of our communities. The people in our communities want to know if what they hear about Jesus is true. Jesus is telling us in John 13:35 that our love for one another is the proof the world is looking for. People are less impressed with our words than they are with our actions of love for one another. How loud is your voice speaking? I do look forward to working and worshiping with you this month.

Pastor Wally



MISSIONS



On Sunday, June 3, 2007, FBC of Jacksonville, IL held its first commissioning service in 75 years. Abby Sullivan, church music director for the past year, recently accepted a position as teacher of English & Choir for the American Baptist school outside Bangkok, Thailand. She left in June for 2 years, to serve as a volunteer.

Abby has Colchester roots. She lived in Colchester, IL with her family until they moved to Meredosia. Her grandparents are Gerald & Ella Mae Waddill of Plymouth & Arlene (Shelley) Sullivan of Colchester. Her parents are Mike & Debbie Sullivan of Meredosia. She has several relatives who attend Bethel Church.

Volunteers are needed in many locations. Construction help is needed in the Czech Republic for building the Baptist Theological Seminary in Pelhrimov. Work teams are needed to restore facilities in disrepair at an orphanage for mildly disabled children in the Kakheti region of the Republic of Georgia. Eye surgeons are needed in the Dominican Republic to do cataract surgery and exams. A qualified English teacher is needed to serve in rural northern Thailand at a school in Musikie. Terms could be from several days to several months. A person with marketing skills is needed to continue

and expand the marketing program of Freeset Bags in India. A woman candidate is preferred. The Nekursini Christian Hospital in West Bengal, India, needs nurses, physicians, and X-ray technicians with experience in healthcare. The best time for service is October & March for a term of 1-2 months. Housing is provided.

There will be a Mission Gathering, August 4-9, 2007, at the Baptist Conference Center, Green Lake, WI. The purpose is to interact with missionaries and attend hands-on workshops that will train and equip for possible service overseas. This includes 12 missionary families who expect to be on home assignment, as well as 3 former missionaries.

This special training replaces the former World Mission Conference held the first week in August. Later, weekend conferences will be held in 3 areas of the U.S. These are Sept. 14-16 in Sioux Falls, SD, Oct 12-14 at Canandaigua, NY, and Nov 16-18 at Central Seminary in Shawnee, KS.

Susan Harding is one of our Special Interest Missionaries serving in Cordova, Alaska. In a June letter she says that she and husband, Richard, are in El Paso, Texas, caring for their oldest grandchildren while the parents are in Virginia looking for a house to move to later this summer. Mark, the father, is being transferred. He & Nancy took their 9 month old baby girl with them.

Susan asks that we pray for Richard who has strep infection in his lungs & other health problems. He was formerly a minister of Cordova Baptist Church. Now their son, John, is the minister.

Two work groups were expected the last of June. One would help with Vacation Bible School & the other would repair the roof of the church.

She writes that the Kids Of The Kingdom, Good News Kids, Sunday School, and Children's Church have all been growing this year. They have emphasized memory work. The Hardings have served in Cordova since 1975.

In 1990, Meryl Cook had the opportunity to join 17 other ABW from across the nation and 2 co-leaders on a mission tour to Alaska. They flew to Fairbanks from Seattle where they visited the Christian Radio Station KJNP, University Museum, Baptist Churches, and a riverboat ride. They took the train to Anchorage & flew to Kodiak & Cordova.

Susan took the group to see the Childs Glacier and the Million Dollar Bridge that went nowhere. She drove the school bus and they nearly upset when someone spotted a mother moose & her baby. Upon returning, Susan asked if the group would mind cleaning the kitchen cupboards at the church. There were huge salmon in roasting pans on the stove ready to bake. There was a wonderful meal that night at the church. She also showed the group the White Cross

rooms where supplies were stored. The whole town depends a lot on White Cross items & the Annual Handicraft Fair before Christmas. Cordova is a small fishing village where all produce, food, etc., is brought in by air. There are no connecting roads with other towns. Susan is a most gracious and energetic hostess.

On August 23, Areas II and III will meet at Lake Springfield for "Senior Day." The speaker will be Rev. Dr. James Middleton, Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church, Peoria. The cost is \$12 and includes lunch and morning/afternoon snacks. Please make your check payable to Area III and bring to the church office before August 19.

Several persons from the GRR went to Judson College at Elgin, IL on a work mission in July. David Harman from Macomb First Baptist was one of the participants. They built new shelves for the library, painted, did maintenance repair and tended to flower gardens. Several women helped make up the work team.

Bible Book for August—II Kings

Birthdays:

August 1 Pat Brown, IM Thailand

August 23 Debbie Miller, IM Philip-
pines, Our Special

August 27 Gabe Gutierrez, son of
Kristina, IM Nicaragua, Our Special



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 - Sterling Davis | 18 - Dalton Smith
Robert Waight |
| 5 - Tara Geltmacher | 21 - Stephanie (Smart) Foulk |
| 7 - Teri Farwell | 23 - Stephen Smart |
| 8 - LaDawna (Hurt) Cale | 24 - Wayne & Lou Melvin (a) |
| 9 - Jared Burns
Debbie Derry
Stephen Hartman | 27 - Jim & Claudia McCain (a)
Moises & Andrea Molina (a)
Roger & Sandra Riggins (a) |
| 12 - Alice Arvin
Karen Aunko | 29 - A.J. Bourn |
| 13 - Mike & Annette Carper (a)
Lora Wallace | 30 - Carolyn Raymond |

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

(Begins Sunday, September 2)

To register, call the church office at 309-833-2479

FaithWeaver Classes:

Weaving Faith into Life

Ages 3-Kindergarten

Gee Min and Russell Glaue,
Leaders

Grades 1-3

Wendy Geltmacher, Leader
Kathy Brooks, Assistant

Grades 4-6

Dustin Lambert, Leader

Junior High—Grades 7-8

Pastor Wally, Leader

High School—Grades 9-12

Moises & Andrea Molina, Leaders

Experiencing God

Knowing and Doing the Will of God

Adapted from the best-selling adult study, students will learn to experience God – day by day, moment by moment, through issues and situations that youth face today. They'll learn how to hear when God is speaking, find out where God is working and join Him, discover that God pursues a love relationship that is real and personal, face crises of belief as they join God where He's working, and experience God doing through them what only God can do.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

(Begins Wednesday, September 5)

To register, call the church office at
309-833-2479

Pioneer Clubs® (ages 3-5th grade)

Teaches Biblical values and life skills that
will last a lifetime!

Jean Oppel, Director
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Each week this Christ-centered program integrates spiritual and personal development, emphasizes evangelism and discipleship, and gives children opportunities to learn new skills, make friends, have fun, and develop Christian values that affect every area of their lives. *Pioneer Clubs®* gives children a place to belong and experience God's love.

YOUTH MINISTRY

(New Time begins Sunday, August 26)

To register, call the church office at
309-833-2479

FBC Youth—Grades 6-12

Julie Bunch, Student Leader
Adult Volunteers Supervising
Sundays, 12:00 — 2:00 p.m.

FBC Youth focuses on group discussion of issues and challenges that teens face on a daily basis. The goal is to help strengthen the faith of teens and prepare them to become the adults God has called them to be.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

(Begins Sunday, September 2)

To register, call the church office at 309-833-2479

Celebration of Discipline

(for adults, all ages)

Annetta Holt & Claudia McCain, Leaders

A study of Celebration of Discipline, the Path to Spiritual Growth by Richard J. Foster

Together we will explore the “classic Disciplines,” or central spiritual practices, of the Christian faith. The inward Disciplines of meditation, prayer, fasting, and study offer avenues of personal examination and change. The outward Disciplines of simplicity, solitude, submission and service help prepare us to make the world a better place. The corporate Disciplines of confession, worship, guidance, and celebration bring us nearer to one another and to God.

The Gleaners

(for adults, all ages)

Mary McKamy, Leader

The Friendly Class

(for adults, all ages)

Judy Hurt, Leader

Bible-in-Life Curriculum

by David C. Cook

Deep Truth. Bold Faith. Lives Changed.

Spiritual growth – at any age – can be a struggle, but it can also be one of the most rewarding parts of your life and ministry. So, whether you're a mature Christ-follower or a young disciple, journey with us into a deeper, transformative relationship with Jesus.

Young Adult Couples

(for adults through age 35)

Michael & Stephanie Foulk, Leaders

A study of A Couple's Guide to a Growing Marriage by Gary Chapman

So much more than a personal and group study, *A Couple's Guide to a Growing Marriage* will teach you to share your life more fully with God, and as your relationship with God grows and deepens, so will your relationship as a couple. Learn how to share yourself more fully with your spouse: how to understand and be understood, how to express love, how to handle anger, and how to resolve conflict.

ADULT SMALL GROUP STUDIES

(Begins Wednesday, September 5)

To register, call the church office at 309-833-2479

Recovering from the Losses of Life

by H. Norman Wright
Marlise Rittenhouse, Leader
Wednesdays, 1:00-2:45 p.m.

Life's inevitable losses can knock the props out from under you and can plunge you into devastating despair: *Recovering from the Losses of Life* offers encouragement and practical guidance for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or who has experienced other profound losses such as loss of a job, a broken relationship, leaving home, loss of an identity, or even loss of a dream or goal.

Calm My Anxious Heart

by Linda Dillow
followed by

Come Thirsty

by Max Lucado
Mary McKamy, Leader
Wednesdays, 3:00-4:15 p.m.

We worry a lot. We worry about our children, our friends, our careers, our families, our spouses – the list could go on and on. Yes, we want to be content and trust God with our worries, but it's a struggle to let go and free ourselves from the burden of anxiety. With *Calm My Anxious Heart*, you will learn how to let go of your anxiety and experience the contentment that comes from trusting God.

You're acquainted with physical thirst. Deprive your body of necessary fluid, and it will tell you. Deprive your soul of spiritual water, and it will tell you. Dehydrated hearts send desperate messages, snarling tempers, waves of worry, growing guilt and fear, hopelessness, resentment, loneliness and insecurity. God invites you to treat your thirsty soul as you would treat your physical thirst. *Come Thirsty* and drink the water of life.

ADULT SMALL GROUP STUDIES

(Begins Wednesday, September 5)

To register, call the church office at 309-833-2479

Serving God, Discovering & Using Your Spiritual Gifts

by Ken Hemphill

Pastor Wally, Leader

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

God created us to know Him, to have fellowship with Him, and to serve Him. Discovering and using our spiritual gifts in order to serve God is a priority for every Christian. *Serving God, Discovering & Using Your Spiritual Gifts* is designed to help participants serve God by discovering their spiritual gifts and using them to build up the church.

The Book of Acts

Rob Wallace, Leader

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Participants will take an in-depth study of the book of *Acts* which was written by Luke, a Gentile physician, between A.D. 63 and 70. Jesus said in Matthew's Gospel that He would build His church, and the gates of hell would not prevail against it. *Acts* is Luke's account of the growth of the early church. As a sequel to his account of the life of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, Luke continues the history of what happens after Jesus returned to heaven.

The Purpose-Driven® Life

by Rick Warren

Annetta Holt & Claudia McCain, Leaders

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

You are not an accident. Even before the universe was created, God had you in mind, and He planned you for His purposes. These purposes will extend far beyond the few years you will spend on earth. You were made to last forever! During our study of *The Purpose-Driven® Life*, we will explore why you are alive and God's amazing plan for you, both here and now, and for eternity.

Thank You! THANK YOU!

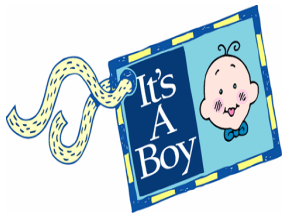
Dear Mary Ida's Church Family,

Mary Ida seems to be settling into her new apartment quite well. She enjoys hearing from her "church family" and I pray you will continue to send her notes and cards along with letting her know what is happening at FBC as well as with individual families. She has been attending a Bible study in her "new" home which they have once a week. She really misses Midget who is a dog of a friend of hers at Wesley. So we have arranged for her to meet Tonner, who is another little dog that visits one day a week at her facility. There is Tommy, the cat, too, who brightens her day because he is such a lover. She has treats to give him to keep him happy! Tommy lives at the facility and everyone is greeted by him as they enter. However, if Mary Ida goes out to the courtyard patio, he will come and lie beside her on the bench and totally gives his full attention to her. This really makes her day.

I haven't been able to encourage her to play the piano for the residents yet but hopefully she will. Please keep her in your prayers and continue to keep in touch.

Mary Ida Conn, Silvercrest of Anamosa, 1615 Breca Ridge Drive, Anamosa, IA 52205

— Terri McMullen



John & LaDawna Cale are the proud parents of a bouncing baby boy. Tobias Joseph Cale was born on Wednesday, July 18. He weighed in at 5 pounds and 13 ounces. Tobias has an older brother named Ozden. His proud grandparents are Richard & Judy Hurt.

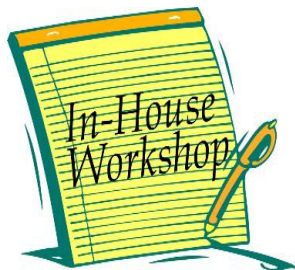
Dr. & Mrs. Matt McClure are the proud parents of a baby girl. Her name is Madelyn K. McClure. Madelyn was born on Tuesday, July 10. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21 1/2 inches long. She is the great-daughter of Doris McClure.



Area III Seniors Retreat

Thursday, August 23
Lake Springfield Baptist Camp
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Areas II & III have decided to hold a combined Senior Adult Day this year at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp. It will be on August 23 (and you don't really need to be a senior to attend!). So, let's get a group together and car pool over. Rev. Jim Middleton will be the speaker of the day; lunch & snacks will be served, and the cost is only \$12.00 each. Annetta Holt & Claudia McCain will drive & take others with them. If we need more than two cars, we will try to draft other drivers. Please complete a check (made out to Area III) or bring cash in the amount of \$12.00 to the office before August 19. We will meet others from our region, get updates on what's going on in the region and have a lot of fun together. The meetings will take place in the air-conditioned Lightbody Building & the dining hall. So we don't have to worry if the weather is hot. Please consider joining Annetta & Claudia in attending the Senior Adult Day on August 23!



August 25, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. In-house Teacher Workshop
 for all Sunday school teachers, small group leaders, *Pioneer Club* leaders, children's church leaders, C.E. Board, teacher assistants, and anyone interested in teaching or assisting in the future.
 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.—Adult & Youth Ministry Leaders
 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.—Children's Ministry Leaders

Sunday, August 26
10:45 a.m.
Sunday School Kick off
Party





Food Pantry Needs

Volunteers are needed to stock the shelves at Loaves & Fishes weekday mornings, 9:00—12:00, during the month of August. There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office on the bulletin board.

150th Anniversary T-Shirts
Adults are \$7.00
Youth are \$5.00



Available Sizes:

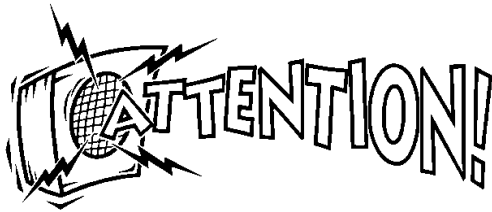
Adult: 1 small; 1 large; 2 extra-large; 1 4XL

Youth: 1 Medium and 3 Large.

Tara Sewell & Shannon Chenoweth will be married on September 15 here at First Baptist. We will hold an all-church wedding shower for her on August 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the church basement. Tara is registered at J.C. Penney's & Wal-Mart. Please join with the women of the church to encourage & wish Tara & Shannon well in their new life together.



- 5 Sunday *The Truth About Sin*
Luke 18:18-23**
- 12 Sunday *The Nature of God*
Psalm 103:1-18**
- 19 Sunday *Guest Speaker*
John Simmons**
- 26 Sunday *A Commitment Worth*
Keeping
Luke 1:26:38**



There will be a short meeting on Tuesday evening September 18th at 6:30 for all people who signed up to participate in the **ADOPT A HIGHWAY PROGRAM**, and any others who may be interested. A short film of instructions will be shown. We'll look forward to seeing you then!



Our deepest sympathies go out to Lee & Glenda Unger and the entire Unger family on the passing of their daughter, Toni, Friday, July 27.

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** **Thursday** **6:30 p.m.** FBC Praise Team Practice
- 6, 13, 20, 27** **Monday** **7:00 a.m.** Breakfast at the Old Dairy
- 4** **Saturday** **9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.**
 Creative Arts Ministry Team Meeting at the Old Dairy
- 7** **Tuesday** **1:30 p.m.** ABW Ministries at FBC
 Hostess: Maxine Noper
 6:30 p.m. United in Prayer
- 18** **Saturday** **3:00 p.m.** All-Church Wedding Shower for Tara Sewell
- 21** **Tuesday** **6:30 p.m.** Boards Meet NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE
- 23** **Thursday** **9:00 a.m.** “Senior Adult Day” @ Lake Springfield Baptist Camp
- 25** **Saturday** **9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**
 In-House Teacher, Leaders, & Assistants Workshop
 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
 Adult & Youth Ministry leaders
 10:00 a.m.—12:00 a.m.
 Children’s Ministry leaders
- 26** **Sunday** **10:45 a.m.** Sunday School Kick Off Party

August 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	

Footprints IN THE SAND



Try this craft at the beach, at the park or in your own sandbox at home. It will remind you whose footprints we should follow.

What you need:

- Plaster of Paris
- Sand (beach, park or sandbox)
- Small shells (optional)
- Water
- Small bowl
- Stick, toothpick or skewer (optional)



What you do:

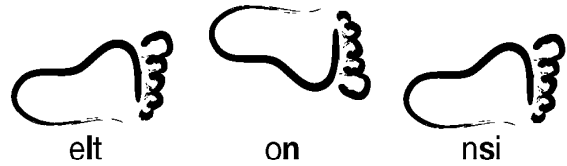
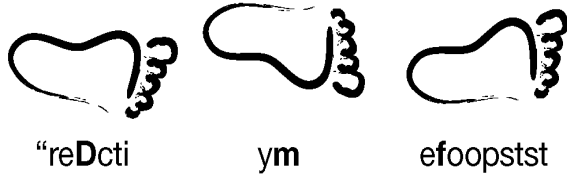
1. Find some moist sand by digging down a little.
2. With a bare foot, make a footprint in the sand.
3. (Optional) Place shells face down on the toe imprints as toenails.
4. Follow the plaster of Paris directions for mixing the dry plaster with water in bowl.
5. Fill the footprint with the plaster and smooth the surface.
6. (Optional) Using a stick, toothpick or skewer, write "Direct my footsteps" (Psalm 119:133) or "Follow Me" (John 10:27).
7. When dry, place the foot in your garden, yard or room.
8. Remember to turn the foot over to remind yourself of whose footprints we should follow, and that we are never alone.



Unique Creations

Have you ever walked along the shore and noticed the footprints you make in the sand? A famous poem called "Footprints in the Sand" reminds us we are never alone.

Unscramble each word and write it inside the footprint. See what Psalm 119:133 (NRSV) says about our footsteps. (The bold letters are the first letters of the words.)



Psalm 119:133, NIV

Answer: "Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me."