

Bridge Builders Newsletter

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

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

September 2007
Issue 387



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 September

9/1	Zechariah 7-8	Psalm 125	9/16	Nehemiah 13	Psalm 135
9/2	Zechariah 9-10	Psalm 126	9/17	Malachi 1-4	
9/3	Zechariah 11-14		9/18	Matthew 1-4	
9/4	Esther 1-4		9/19	Matthew 5-6	Psalm 136
9/5	Esther 5-8		9/20	Matthew 7-8	Psalm 137
9/6	Esther 9-10	Psalm 127	9/21	Matthew 9-10	Psalm 138
9/7	Ezra 1-2	Psalm 128	9/22	Matthew 11-12	Psalm 139
9/8	Ezra 3-4	Psalm 129	9/23	Matthew 13-14	Psalm 140
9/9	Ezra 5-6	Psalm 130	9/24	Matthew 15-18	
9/10	Ezra 7-10		9/25	Matthew 19-22	
9/11	Nehemiah 1-4		9/26	Matthew 23-24	Psalm 141
9/12	Nehemiah 5-6	Psalm 131	9/27	Matthew 25-26	Psalm 142
9/13	Nehemiah 7-8	Psalm 132	9/28	Matthew 27-28	Psalm 143
9/14	Nehemiah 9-10	Psalm 133	9/29	Mark 1-2	Psalm 144
9/15	Nehemiah 11-12	Psalm 134	9/30	Mark 3-4	Psalm 145

Supporting Each Other

How do we go about supporting each other? The Bible says in **1 Peter 3:8** **Finally, all of you should be of one mind, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds.** God enables us to love the fear out of one another. We do that by loving one another so supportively that each member feels safe inside the group. This safety allows people to feel comfortable in sharing their lives with one another- including all our joy and pain, our difficulties, our victories and our defeats. We give each other the same uncommon safety Christ gives us-to be real, to be sad, to be messed up and confused, yet to be loved. God wants us to support each other with **tender hearts and humble minds. Tender hearts!** How do we exhibit tender hearts? We do so when we say to one another: it is ok to have a bad day, it is ok to be tired, it is ok to admit your mistakes, it is ok to confess your addiction, it is ok to share that you're scared; it is ok that you want a day away from your toddler; it is ok to grieve this loss. **Humble minds!** True humility means to understand our own value in Christ, and our own unique purpose. This allows us to celebrate the successes of others. We exhibit humble minds when we say to one another: it is ok be happy you got a new car; it is ok to celebrate that you got a huge raise; it is ok to say you won the sales competition; it is ok to shout "Hallelujah" because God's presence in your life is good. We demonstrate a tender heart when we weep with those that weep. We demonstrate a humble mind when we rejoice in the blessings of others as though they were our own. Supporting each other also means we see each other for what we will become through God, not for what that person is now. Jesus called Peter a "rock" when the fishermen was still acting on impulse and God called Gideon a mighty man of courage when he was hiding from the enemy. The Bible says in **1 Thes. 5:11** **So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.** We must see others in terms of their mission and purpose in life. I want to leave you with these thoughts. The word "support" literally means to "lend strength to". We find strength in places that are supportive, places where it is safe to be ourselves. **The Bible says in Romans 14:19: So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up. I want** encourage you to join a small group or a Sunday school class and get involved.

I do look forward in working and worshiping with you this month.

Pastor Wally



MISSIONS



Musing on Missions
by Meryl Cook

Our One Great Hour of Sharing special offering surpassed the goal of \$1,800 by 85 cents. Thank you!

The White Cross Quota was accepted at the August meeting of ABWM. \$325 in cash will be sent to the Democratic Republic of

the Congo. In past years, health kits, school kits, and baby kits were optional for Church World Service. This year, however, we are asking for two each or \$10 to purchase the articles. Another first time request is for 3 first class postage stamp sheets to go to Murrow Children's Home. A list of additional needs for Murrow Children's Home is on the bulletin board outside the church office. The special offering we have in March is used to help cover these requests from our missionaries.

Area III Rally will be held at FBC in Galesburg, September 29 (same days as Western's Homecoming). Lottie Nast, Area III president, joined 70 from GRR for "Post Katrina Baptist Blitz in Baton Rouge". She will be the speaker. Registration is at 9 a.m. An offering will be received for the "Say No To Worms" project in Nicaragua. International Minister, Dr. Laura Parajon spoke of this project at the Mission Conference last January in Springfield.

Bulgaria is the country for special emphasis of the ABWM during 2007-2008. Baptist women's work began in Bulgaria in 1922, but after communism came in 1944, Sunday Schools, youth work, and women's work was

forbidden. This did not stop women from meeting together; they did it in secret. In 1989, when the communist system collapsed, many new opportunities opened for Baptist women. A National Baptist Women's Congress was held in 1991, and the Bulgarian Baptist Women's Organization (BBWO) was established.

Many of the 75 churches in the Bulgarian Baptist Union have regular meetings with various kinds of programs. They also do social work, such as helping in orphanages and hospitals and ministering to the poor and elderly. Although there is now religious freedom, the economic situation creates many problems for women and their families.

Tom and Terry Myers have been International Missionaries in Bulgaria since January 2002. Tom had farmed 18 years in Colorado and participated in the Colorado Agriculture Leadership Program. His ministry is in agriculture and rural development, helping members find ways to meet the needs of their families and strengthen the local church. Terry's work is multifaceted and includes working with women, teaching English to children, orphanage work, and coordinating the partnership between the Bulgarian Baptist Union and International Ministries. They are parents of two boys, Andrew and Nathan.

Susan Linderman was commissioned as a missionary to Bulgaria in April 2005 by the AB Churches of the Dakotas and International Ministries. She works in cooperation with the Bulgarian Baptist Union to develop and implement strategies to address the issues of prostitution and sexual trafficking called Project Hope.

Because of extreme poverty, lack of education, and discrimination, many women feel they have no choice.

Some sobering facts have come to Meryl's attention from the Churches in the Action ILCAAP Newsletter for June/July 2007.

Voters approved the Lottery more than 30 years ago to help fund education. Sales of lottery tickets increased in 2007 by approximately 1.3% but the amount of revenue transferred to the Common School Fund decreased by 10.8%. (IL. Dept. of Revenue figure 4-4-07)

Gambling has expanded rapidly during the last 20 years. Utah and Hawaii are the only states that do not have gambling. 28 states have tribal casinos, 41 states have lotteries, 43 states have betting on dogs/horses, and several of these tracks have slot machines.

Professor Earl Grinols, former senior economist on the President's Council of Economic Advisors and now of Baylor University, writes on average, casinos actually make no net tax contribution. The effect on jobs could actually be negative, because many modern casinos need fewer employees per customer than the businesses they tend to replace. He estimates that as much as half of the gambling revenue at casinos comes from problem and pathological gamblers. Another cost of gambling is an increase in crime. About 8% of crime in casino counties was attributed to casinos. Grinols has concluded that the introduction of a casino ultimately incurs an average net cost of at least \$97 per resident per year.

The State of Iowa commissioned a study as to the rate of pathological gambling prior to the beginning of riverboat gambling and five years after they were operational. The rate of pathologi-

cal gambling increased 200% from 1.7% to 5.4%. In California, a study commissioned by the state, found nearly 1 million residents, one in every 28 adults, had developed "significant lifetime problems relating to gambling".

Nevada ranks near the bottom in per pupil spending on education and ranks number one in gambling addiction, divorce, and high school drop outs. "With the aggressive encouragement of state governments, US gamblers, mostly scraping by on limited income, had to lose \$84 billion last year in casinos and lotteries for the states to raise 24 billion new revenues" reported the Christian Science Monitor, May 2007.

Gambling promises more than it can deliver. Revenue from the Illinois Lottery accounts for only 9% of education funding. Lottery and riverboat casino revenue account for 4.8% of the general fund in the 2007 budget. Gambling has not, and will not, solve the budget problems in Illinois.

Bible Book for September —Obadiah

Birthdays:

September 8—Sierra Brown, daughter of Alan and Whitney Brown, Greece

September 11—Miriam Noyes, IM Congo, daughter of Arley and Ruth Brown

September 25—Terry Myers, IM Bulgaria

Visitors are invited to the "ABWM World Series" at Lafayette Square hosted by Alice Bishop, Tuesday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. Please wear a ball cap.



2 - *Annette Carper*

19 - *Timothy Green*

4 - *Lavon Smart*

20 - *Maureen Hamilton*

5 - *Lillian Lambert*

22 - *Homer & Eileen Icenogle (a)*
Marilyn Smith

8 - *Lola Holstine-Kelly*

23 - *Erin Brown*

9 - *Andrea Molina*

24 - *Mike & Stephanie Foulk (a)*

12 - *Carroll Arvin*

25 - *David Harman*

13 - *Craig Burns*

29 - *Richard & Mary Hainline (a)*

16 - *Justin Derry*

18 - *Matt Garlick*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR OCTOBER FUN

On October 13th, the CE Board will sponsor a Fall Family Festival. We will start at 4:00 pm with outside games for everyone, at @ 4:40 pm, we will meet in the sanctuary for a puppet show. And @ 5:00 pm, we will go downstairs for chili and dessert.

WHO CAN MAKE THE BEST CHILI IN THE CHURCH? Let's find out! If you would like to enter your chili in the contest, make a pot and bring it to the Fall Family Festival. Please let Gee Min Glaue know if you are planning to bring chili. Everyone at the supper will try all the various entries and vote on which one is best! Plan to enter! After we eat, we will again go to the church yard and sponsor a "Trunk or Treat" for the children. Fill your trunks with treats and our children will go from car to car to obtain their treats.

This will be an opportunity for fellowship, safe Halloween trick or treating, and loads of fun. Mark your calendars now and save the date for the church Fall Family Festival!





Remember when cleaning out your closets, the FBC Rummage Sale is coming soon. Dates will be announced in the October Newsletter.

Lay off on Labor Day

Pope Benedict XVI would appreciate our Labor Day holiday. Recently, while addressing a large audience, the Pope warned against working too hard. It is “bad for the spirit,” he said.

He quoted the 12th-century writings of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, who spoke of “the dangers of an excessive activity, whatever the ... office held, because many occupations lead to a hardening of the heart.”

Whatever our work, we must take at least one day each week to rest. For most people, this will be the Lord’s Day, the Christian Sabbath. As the Bible says: “Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work” (Exodus 20:8-10, NRSV).

Sunday Church School

10:45-11:45 a.m.

Classes for all ages

FaithWeaver Classes

Ages 3-Kindergarten, Upstairs East Sanctuary

Grades 1-3, Upstairs North Sanctuary

Grades 4-6, Upstairs Belfry

Junior High – Grades 7-8, Upstairs North Sanctuary

Experiencing God for Youth

High School – Grades 9-12, Upstairs Youth Room

Adults

The Gleaners, Basement Fellowship Hall

The Friendly Class, Friendly Classroom, North Sanctuary

Young Adult Couples (through age 35), South Balcony

Celebration of Discipline, South Sanctuary

Mid-Week Ministries

Recovering from the Losses of Life

Wednesday afternoons, 1:00-2:45 p.m., South Sanctuary

Calm My Anxious Heart/Come Thirsty

Wednesday Afternoons, 3:00-4:15 p.m., Friendly Classroom

Pioneer Club

Ages 3-5th Grade, Basement Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Serving God, Discovering & Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Friendly Classroom

The Purpose-Driven Life

Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Upstairs North Sanctuary

The Book of Acts

Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

YOU'RE INVITED TO A SPECIAL MOVIE EVENT

FACING “A great movie...every family in America should see it!”
—Dan Reeves, *NFL Coaching Great*
THE GIANTS

NEVER GIVE UP
NEVER BACK DOWN
NEVER LOSE FAITH

MOVIE EVENT DETAILS

Saturday, September 22, 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Macomb, Basement Fellowship Hall

136 West Carroll Street (corner of Carroll & McArthur)

Invite your friends - admission is free - nursery is available

WHAT IS FACING THE GIANTS?

It's the movie that touched the hearts of more than 1.5 million people in theaters across the country. Now, you can be part of the big-game excitement as faith, family, and football collide in this feel-good hit of the year.

In his six years of coaching, Grant Taylor has never had a winning season. Even the hope of a new season is squelched when the best player on his Shiloh Eagles decides to transfer schools. After losing their first three games of the season, the coach discovers a group of fathers are plotting to have him fired. Combined with pressures at home, Coach Taylor has lost hope in his battle against fear and failure.

However, an unexpected challenge helps him find a purpose bigger than just victories. Daring to trust God to do the impossible, Coach Taylor and the Eagles discover how faith plays out on the field ... and off.

With God, all things are possible ...

★ Thank You! ★ ★ THANK YOU! ★

Dear FBC family,

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who made our last Sunday so special. We will not forget the past years with you and are looking forward to visiting. We will continue to pray for the future of the youth group.

Love in Christ,
Justin & Janel Ensinger

I want to thank the church for the beautiful flowers I received the day after I was released from the hospital in June. They helped to cheer me up and stayed so pretty for 1 1/2 weeks.

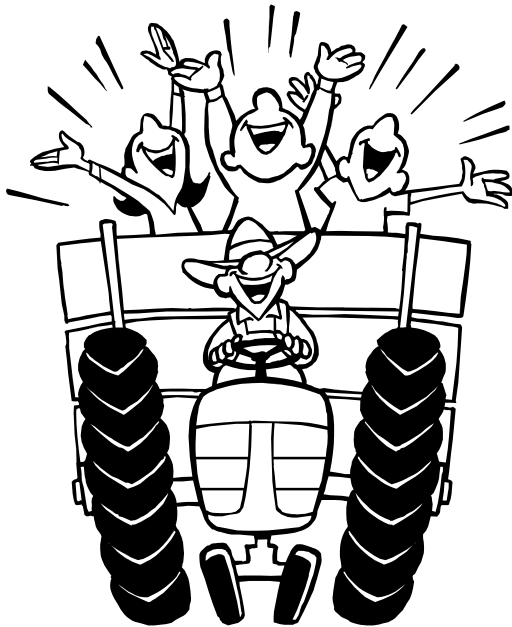
I would also like to thank Dustin Lambert for his help in moving two television sets. I really appreciated him doing that as I was unable to lift or carry them. I would also like to thank Don Garlick for arranging for Dustin Lambert to come.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Tomlinson



**Change
of
Address**

Russell and Gee Min Glaue have moved. Their new address is 1107 Memorial Dr., PO Box 865, Macomb, IL 61455.



Saturday, September 29
(If it rains the raindate
is Saturday, October 6)
5:00 p.m.

Weiner Roast & Hay
Rack ride at Alan &
Barb Arvin's Home.
495 Champaign Rd,
309-776-4394

JOIN US FOR A
HAYRIDE

Maps will be provided
at the church.

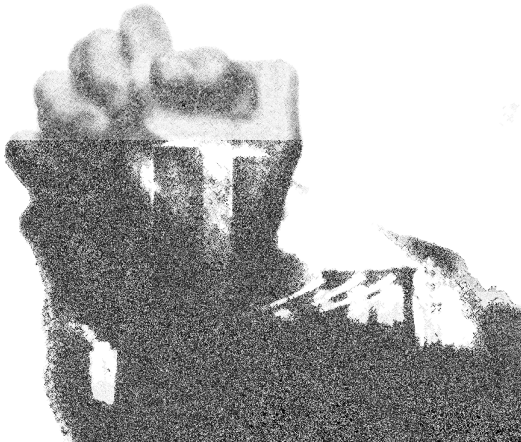
Hotdogs, buns, drinks, and
table servings will be
provided.
Please bring a dish to share.



Adopt A Highway

Tuesday, September 18th, 6:30 p.m. at FBC

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!



Remembering 9/11/01

Dear Lord, loving Creator of us all, we remember with great sadness those whose lives were taken on September 11, 2001. We hold up to you the victims' families that they may know, despite their pain, that they can find solace in your loving presence. Help them bring their hurting hearts to you, realizing that your everlasting arms can bear them up and that they cannot be separated from your abiding love.

Please assure us that even though we cannot understand such horrible deeds, you can bring good out of evil, justice out of injustice and righteousness out of unrighteousness.

Therefore, confessing our human weaknesses, our grief and our struggles to make sense out of this world, we cry out with the psalmist: "Rise up, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed" (Psalm 10:12, NRSV). Strengthen our hearts, this day and every day. Amen.

THEME:
How to gain Spiritual Riches

She has gone down in history as “America’s Greatest Miser” yet when she died in 1916, “Hetty” Green left an estate valued at over \$100 million dollars. She ate cold oatmeal because it cost too much to heat. Her son had to suffer a leg amputation because she delayed so long looking for a free medical clinic. She was wealthy, yet she chose to live like a pauper. She hastened her own death by refusing to buy skimmed milk because it cost more than regular milk. Eccentric? Certainly! Crazy? Perhaps. Yet “Hetty” Green is an illustration of far too many Christian believers today. They have limitless spiritual wealth at their disposal, yet they live like spiritual paupers. The Apostle Paul, in his lecture to the church at Ephesus, wants believers to know that Jesus made it possible for all Christians to share in his spiritual riches.

Join Pastor Wally each week to find out how you, too, can gain spiritual riches.

- 2** ***Spiritual Riches***
Ephesians 1:3-14

- 9** ***A Sense of Destiny***
Ephesians 1:3-6

- 16** ***Looking in Two Directions***
Ephesians 1:3-14

- 23** ***Taking off your Grave Clothes***
Ephesians 2:1-10

- 30** ***A Mystery Revealed***
Ephesians 3:1-13

1, 8, 22, 29	Saturday	7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry at FBC
2, 9, 16, 23, 31	Sunday	10:45 a.m. Sunday School
9, 16, 23, 31	Sunday	12:00 p.m. FBC Youth Group
3, 10, 17, 24	Monday	7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Sunrise
5, 12, 19, 26	Wednesday	1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. Adult Small Group Studies 5:00 p.m. Evening Meal 6:00 p.m. <i>Pioneer Club</i>
6, 13, 20, 27	Thursday	6:30 p.m. FBC Praise Team Practice
3	Monday	Labor Day—Office Closed
4	Tuesday	6:30 p.m. United in Prayer 7:00 p.m. ABW Ministries at Lafayette Square Hostess: Alice Bishop
8	Saturday	10:00 a.m. Visit to Cherry Hills Baptist Church Leave FBC at 8:00 a.m.
11	Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Boards Meet
14	Friday	5:30 p.m. Tara Sewell & Shannon Chenowith's Wedding Rehearsal at FBC
15	Saturday	7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry at the Old Dairy 4:00 p.m. Tara Sewell & Shannon Chenowith's Wedding at FBC 5:30 p.m. Chenowith Wedding reception at the LaMoine Room at WIU
16	Sunday	3:00 p.m. American Guild of Organists Meeting at FBC
18	Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Adopt a Highway Meeting at FBC
22	Saturday	7:00 p.m. <i>Facing the Giants</i> movie in the FBC Fellowship Hall
29	Saturday	5:00 p.m. Weiner Roast & Hayrack ride at Alan & Barb Arvin's home

Easy Applesauce Muffins

This healthy recipe will make a great start to your day, a great snack or a great gift for your teacher and classmates.

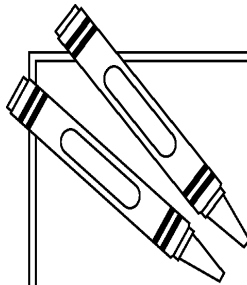
What you need:

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- ⅔ cup brown sugar
- 1½ cups chunky applesauce
- Baking cups



What you do:

1. With an adult's help, heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with baking cups and set aside.
2. In a small, microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter on high for about 30 seconds; set aside to cool slightly.
3. Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt in to a large mixing bowl.
4. In another large bowl, whisk together the eggs and brown sugar. Stir in the applesauce and melted butter until the mixture is smooth.
5. Pour the apple mixture over the flour mixture. Stir with a wooden spoon just until the flour disappears. (This will produce muffins with a nice, crumbly texture.)
6. Fill the baking cups about two-thirds full with batter. (For mess-free muffins, use an ice-cream scoop to spoon batter into the baking cups.)
7. Bake for 20 minutes or until light brown. Test for doneness by inserting a toothpick in the middle; if it comes out clean, the muffins are ready to eat. Makes 12.



Just for **KIDS**

Apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the "apple of your eye," it means it's precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God's instructions in Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye" (NIV).

Find and circle the word "apple" 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.

