

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

February 2008
Issue 392



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

Vision and Purpose

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

Philippians 4:13, James 2:26

Table of Contents

A Message from Pastor Wally	1
Musings on Missions	2
Birthdays/Anniversaries	4
Thank You/ Taize` prayer services	5
Ham & Bean Dinner	6
Bible Quiz/ FBC Youth Group News	7
GRR Annual Meeting	8
Thank You/ Souper Bowl Plus	9
Welcome/ Building Committee meeting	10
One Accord Quartet	11
Sermon Calendar	12
Calendar of Events	13
Kids Page	14

2008 Daily Bible Reading Guide for February

2/1 Exodus 5-6, Psalm 58-59, Romans 10-11	2/16 Exodus 27, Psalm 81-82, Mark 12
2/2 Exodus 7-8, Psalm 60-61, Romans 12	2/17 Exodus 28, Psalm 83-84, Mark 13
2/3 Exodus 9, Psalm 62-63, Romans 13-14	2/18 Exodus 29, Psalm 85-86, Mark 14
2/4 Exodus 10, Psalm 64-65, Romans 15-16	2/19 Exodus 30, Psalm 87-88, Mark 15-16
2/5 Exodus 11-12, Psalm 66-67, Mark 1	2/20 Exodus 31-32, Psalm 89, 1 Corinthians 1-2
2/6 Exodus 13-14, Psalm 68, Mark 2	2/21 Exodus 33-34, Psalm 90-91, 1 Corinthians 3
2/7 Exodus 15, Psalm 69, Mark 3	2/22 Exodus 35, Psalm 92-93, 1 Corinthians 4-5
2/8 Exodus 16, Psalm 70-71, Mark 4	2/23 Exodus 36, Psalm 94-95, 1 Corinthians 6
2/9 Exodus 17-18, Psalm 72, Mark 5	2/24 Exodus 37, Psalm 96-99, 1 Corinthians 7
2/10 Exodus 19-20, Psalm 73, Mark 6	2/25 Exodus 38, Psalm 100-101, 1 Corinthians 8-9
2/11 Exodus 21, Psalm 74, Mark 7	2/26 Exodus 39-40, Psalm 102, 1 Corinthians 10
2/12 Exodus 22, Psalm 75-76, Mark 8	2/27 Leviticus 1-2, Psalm 103, 1 Corinthians 11
2/13 Exodus 23, Psalm 77, Mark 9	2/28 Leviticus 3-4, Psalm 104, 1 Corinthians 12-13
2/14 Exodus 24-25, Psalm 78, Mark 10	2/29 Leviticus 3-4, Psalm 104, 1 Corinthians 12-13
2/15 Exodus 26, Psalm 79-80, Mark 11	

The Danger of Rejecting Christ

I accepted Jesus Christ into my life at age of 16. Since that time, I have worked hard at building an intimate love relationship with Him. It is hard for me to comprehend why anyone would want to reject Jesus Christ. Without Jesus Christ in my life, I am nothing. In my years of study, I do know why some would reject Him. For some, it is because Christ does not fit into their concept of a world leader or savior, a point well illustrated in the life of a former American leader. In the fall of 1775, the Baltimore's largest hotel refused lodging to man dressed as a farmer, because the inn-keeper thought this fellow's lowly appearance would discredit his inn. So the man left and got a room elsewhere. Later, he discovered that he had turned away none other than the vice-president of the United States, Thomas Jefferson! Immediately he sent a note to the famed patriot, asking him to return and to be his guest. Jefferson replied by instructing his messenger as follows: "Tell him I have already engaged a room. I value his good intentions highly, but if he has no place for a dirty American Farmer, he has none for the Vice-President of the Untied States. **The Bible says in 1 Peter 3:4-8 You should be known for the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. 5That is the way the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They trusted God and accepted the authority of their husbands. 6For instance, Sarah obeyed her husband, Abraham, when she called him her master. You are her daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do.7In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat her with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. If you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not be heard. 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.**

I do look forward to working with you this month.



MISSIONS



The National project of AB Women's Ministries with a global impact for 2007-2009 is *Break the Chains: Slavery in the 21st Century*.

A p p r o x i m a t e l y

800,000-900,000 victims are trafficked into the US. The majority of these are women and girls. The monetary goal for this mission project is \$250,000. Our Regional goal is \$15,000 each year.

The following is taken from the October issue of *Vital Woman* magazine, published by American Baptist Women's Ministries. The title is "Traffic Jam at the MOA" by Cathy Schracker of Minneapolis.

The Mall of America makes some women grab their purses, squealing children, and still sleepy husbands and head for the door. Under one roof exists more than 500 stores, 50 restaurants, 7 nightclubs, an amusement park and the largest underground aquarium in the world. The 12,000 employees see more than 35 million people per year from all over the world. The Mall of America is one of the most popular baby sitting services in town and one of the area's trendiest hot spots for adults as well.

What you won't see on the overhead signs is that MOA is also one of the region's prime pick up locations for youth and adults of both genders

who have been lured onto the highways of human trafficking, particularly into the international industry. With so many amazing attractions under one roof, what more could a savvy trafficker ask for than a daily buffet of unaccompanied youth and disenfranchised adults to choose from?

In spite of its wholesome appearance, Minnesota has been a hub for recruiting girls and women into prostitution since the 1960s, with recruits typically trafficked to Nevada or New York. A popular strip in New York City, Minnesota Avenue, is mostly staffed by girls and women from the Land of 10,000 Lakes.

While we would like to believe that the sex industry is confined to the dark brothels of Thailand or the red light district of Amsterdam, it is time to swallow hard and realize it is all around us and has been for many years.

Human trafficking has occurred in nearly every state of the nation. When your instincts warn you to something you have seen or heard about that is unusual, resist the urge to ignore it. The first step to putting an end to this modern day slavery is to have an awareness that it exists.

Lauren Bethell serves as International Ministries International Consultant to encourage and facilitate Christ-based ministries which addresses the exploitation of women and girls.

She is based in Prague, Czech Republic. Annie

Dieselberg, IM to Thailand, has a special ministry which employs women affected by the sex trade in Bangkok. They make jewelry. Susan Linderman works with Project Hope, an Eastern European ministry that ministers to women caught in the sex trade. Susan is based in Bulgaria, helping the Belgium Baptist Union reach out to women trafficked to the rest of Europe.

\$12 billion is received by traffickers in the US each year, more than professional sports, ABC, CBS, and NBC combined. Pornography is one of the causes of human trafficking. 200 women are bussed into South Dakota during pheasant season each year to serve the hunters.

Human trafficking produces as much revenue as illegal arms and is rapidly moving up to the level of illegal drug revenue.

As a Christian, ask God to show you how you might do something to protect our society that is under attack.

Bacone College has entered into an agreement with Central Baptist Theological Seminary to offer a Master of Theology Degree. Portions of this degree work will be held on the Bacone College Campus with the remainder of the instructional work at Central Baptist in Shawnee, Kansas. Seven students enrolled in the program this fall.

A partnership with Drew Theological School in New Jersey has allowed clergy from this region to attain their degree for Doctorate of Ministry on the campus of Bacone College with a 3 week intensive study course on the Drew Campus during the

summer months.

These are examples of how Bacone College continues to grow and mature.

One of the outreach programs of the America for Christ Offering is to help resettle refugees. The FBC of Moline has accepted the challenge of resettling a Karen family from Burma. At present 23 Karens have been attending worship at FBC. The ABC/USA is working to resettle 10,000 Karen refugees who have been living in camps in Thailand.

The America for Christ Offering will be received in March.

On December 16, the McDonough County affiliate of Habitat for Humanity dedicated the 10th house constructed in the county since 1996. It is home for Bill and Jennifer Petty and children, Jacob, Brianna, and Billy, on East Wheeler Street.

14 students from University Baptist, Urbana, and Judson Fellowship at ISU are ready to go on a work mission during Spring Break to the Dump area in Mexico to build a home for a needy family. Dr. Jan Hazekamp is campus pastor. They are in need of building material and donated items for the Mexican families.

Judson Fellowship has tripled their attendance from last year.

Bible book for February—Esther Birthdays:

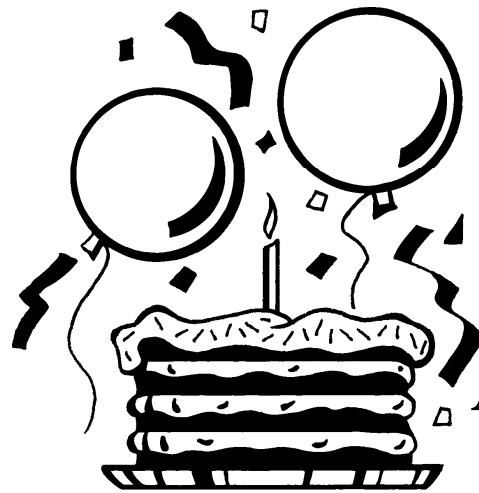
Feb. 8—Gary Baits, IM Costa Rica

Feb. 16—Tan Coats, IM Thailand

Feb. 18—Bucky Sydnor, IM Nepal

February 2008

Birthdays/Anniversaries/Celebrations



Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month!

1	-	Marjory Alexander George & Maxine Noper (a)	18	-	Janel Ensinger Judy Hurt Dorothy McKee
8	-	Lucille Terry	19	-	Justin Ensinger
10	-	AJ & Marilyn Bourn (a)	20	-	Mildred Bricker
12	-	Eldon Derry	23	-	Rob Wallace
14	-	Eddie Green Langdon Lambert	24	-	Jo Sanders
17	-	Jean Simmons	25	-	Celena Esther Man- galaraj Mark Pichla

February 2008

**To Pastor Wally and the First Baptist
Church of Macomb,**

**Thank you, Pastor Wally, for
visiting Bob in the hospital. Many,
many thanks to the Deacons for the
box of food at Christmas time.**

Thanks for the flowers.

— Marjory

Alexander



Heartfelt Thanks

**Taize` prayer services will be on Wednesday afternoons at
5:00 p.m. at St. Paul Church, 309 W. Jackson, Macomb.**

February 13

February 20

February 27 and

March 5

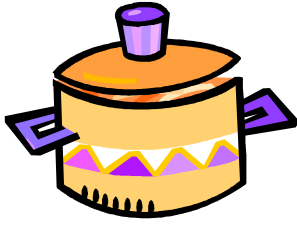
March 12

March 19

Taize` is an ecumenical religious community in France. It was founded in the 1940's as a witness for peace and reconciliation in Europe during the time of WWII. In the 1960s, it became a popular pilgrimage site. Pilgrims continue to gather at Taize` for prayer and the unique chanted music which has become characteristic of Taize` community prayer. The recent wars in Eastern Europe led to prayer services around the cross commemorating Christ's suffering and His solidarity with all who suffer. The prayer services at St. Paul will follow the pattern of the

February 2008

**HAM & BEAN DINNER
WITH CORNBREAD, FRUIT PIE,
AND DRINK**



**FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 1, 2008
11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
136 W. CARROLL
MACOMB, IL
309-833-2479**

SUGGESTED DONATION \$5.00

HOME DELIVERIES IN MACOMB

February 2008

Bible quiz

What did Jesus say about the proper way to pray? Choose the correct answer below:

A. Go to a public place and witness by praying where others can hear you.

B. Go to a private place such as your room, shut the door and spend quiet time with God.

C. Diligently prepare ahead of time the words you wish to use in prayer, write them out and then read them to God.



The answer is in Matthew 6:5-6, NRSV.

(Answer: B)



Starting Sunday, February 3, the FBC Youth Group's new meeting time will be on Sundays at 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

February 2008

Annual Meeting 2008
Area III of American Baptist Churches
Great Rivers Region

Learn, Fellowship & Celebrate God's Work
with Reid Trulson, Executive Director of
International Ministries, ABC/USA

March 8, 2008

First Baptist Church, 411 W. Lake St., Peoria, Illinois

Schedule:

8:30 a.m.	Registration
9:30 a.m.	Gathering
10:00 a.m.	Workshop Sessions I (with Reid
Trulson,	Paul Weers, and
more)	
11:00 a.m.	Workshop Sessions II
12:15 – 1:20 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Worship
3:00 p.m.	Benediction

Advance Registration: \$12.00

At the door: \$15.00

To register in advance, please complete the following and turn in to the church office by Thursday, February 28th. Make checks payable to “Area 3”.



Thank you for the food. It is nice to receive such a nice gift for the holidays!

- Donna Ruth

Thank you so much for the fruit plate you sent me for Christmas. It was such a nice surprise.

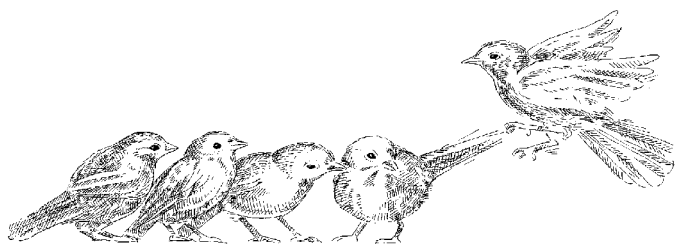
— Mrs. Mary Kline

**Sunday,
February 10
Souper Bowl Plus**

February 3rd is the Super Bowl but we will celebrate *Souper Bowl Plus* the following Sunday, February 10.



It's time to bring cans of soup to the front of the sanctuary. Last year, we collected 1525 cans. Our goal this year is to collect 1600 cans to be donated to Loaves & Fishes. Start bringing your soup now and



OUR CHURCH WELCOMES

PAT ALLISON

Pat was adopted at age 5 by a Christian couple who had lost their own 3 children in early childhood. She

was raised on a farm near Adair. She has always known her biological family, living within 3 miles of them. She was married for 47 years. She has 3 daughters, 1 son, 7 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

Saturday

February 2, 2008

9:00 a.m.

Building Committee meeting at FBC. Architect will be here with the floor plans for the new building.



Building Committee



Contemporary
Southern Gospel
Worship
at the
First Baptist Church
of Macomb

The *One Accord Quartet* began ministry in 1999, but the quartet's roots go back nearly 20 years. Larry Louderman and Larry Reagor were part of a group formed to sing at their home church, the Argyle Bible Church, near Colchester, IL. Over the years, members of the group have changed but two things have been constant, the "two Larrys" and a desire to proclaim Christ through music. The desire to minister to others is what prompted the decision to take the show "on the road". With a blend of traditional hymns and contemporary southern gospel, *One Accord Quartet* is equally at home entertaining at community events or leading a Sunday morning worship service. Larry Louderman from Colchester, Larry Reagor from Macomb, Matt Mencil from Blandinsville, and Tim Fross from Colchester, have been given opportunities to proclaim Christ's love through their music all over west central Illinois.

Join Us for Worship
Sunday, March 2
9:30 a.m.

A love offering will be
collected

CONNECT

Experience Relationships

THEME: Laugh Again Experience Outrageous Joy

Joy - you don't see it very often anymore. It's certainly not in the newspapers or on the nightly news. It's not even in many churches. Have you noticed the looks on the faces of the average Sunday morning crowd? One word comes to mind - GRIM. Rows of overcast faces forecast dreary to mildly depressive days, with little or no chance of any laughter. Has the pressures of life dulled your joy in the Lord? Has your laughter become lackluster? How can your Christianity become alive and vibrant again?

Paul, through his joy of living, joy of serving, joy of knowing and joy of resting, encourages the church at Philippi to experience the outrageous joy of Christ. Come - join us as we experience this same outrageous joy.

February 3 *Friends Make Life More Fun*
Philippians 2:19-30

February 10 *It's A Mad, Bad, Sad World...But*
Philippians 3:17-41

February 17 *A Joyful, Grace-Filled Good Bye*
Philippians 4:10-23

February 24 *Guest Speaker*

February 2008

Calendar of Events

2, 9, 23	7:30 a.m.	Men's Ministry at FBC
3, 10, 17, 24	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 3:30 p.m.	Worship Sunday School FBC Youth Group
4, 11, 18, 25	7:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Old Dairy
6, 13, 20, 27	3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Adult Small Group Study Adult Small Group Studies
7, 14, 21, 28	6:30 p.m.	FBC Praise Team Practice
1	11:00 a.m.– 7:00 p.m.	Ham & Bean Dinner at FBC
2	9:00 a.m.	Building Committee meeting at FBC. Architect will be here with the floor plans for the new building
3	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Speaker for Life Line Screening to inform the congregation about their services Commissioning of Board of Christian Education during worship
5	1:30 p.m.	ABW Ministries at Jefferson House Hostess: Carolyn Tomlinson
12	6:30 p.m.	Boards Meet
16	7:30 p.m.	Men's Ministry at the Old Dairy
22	All Day	Equip 2008 in Peoria
23	All Day	Equip 2008 in Peoria

Give a heart



One way to show love is to do something nice for someone else. Luke 10:27 tells us to love our neighbors, but who are our neighbors? Everyone is!

Make these fun heart treats to share with some of your neighbors.

What you need:

- Saucepan
- 2 tablespoons of butter
- 2 or 3 bags of miniature marshmallows
- 4 cups of crisp-rice cereal (regular or chocolate)
- 9 x 13 pan
- Heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bag of chocolate chips (milk or white chocolate)
- Bowl
- Zipper sandwich baggie
- Scissors

What you do (with adult help):

1. Melt butter in saucepan and add marshmallows.
2. Stir until mixture becomes difficult to stir anymore. Mix in cereal and stir.
3. Butter the 9 x 13 pan and spread the mixture evenly in it. Allow to cool.
4. When cool, use cookie cutter to cut out heart-shaped treats.
5. Melt chocolate chips in a bowl in the microwave.
6. Spoon melted chocolate into a baggie. Cut off a corner and drizzle chocolate over the treats.
7. Enjoy giving a heart to your neighbor!

Just for KIDS

LOVE

In the Bible, Jesus says there are two greatest commandments. Below is a heart with continuous words around it. With your pencil, draw lines between the words. Then copy the words onto the lines below to complete Luke 10:27, NIV.

LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH AND WITH ALL YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.

Answer: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."