

Bridge Builders Newsletter

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

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March 2008
Issue 393



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
Life Line Screening	5
Maundy Thursday/ Good Friday Worship	6
Area III Annual Meeting 2008	7
Sunday, March 23 Activities	8
Thank You/ Daylight Savings Begins/ First Day of Spring	9
FBC Youth Fundraiser/ Easter Egg Hunt	10
America for Christ Offering 2008	11
Sermon Calendar	12
Calendar of Events	13
Kids Page	14

2008 Daily Bible Reading Guide for March

3/1	Leviticus 5-6; Psalm 105; 1 Corinthians 14	3/16	Leviticus 24; Psalms 131-134; Luke 7
3/2	Leviticus 7; Psalm 106; 1 Corinthians 15	3/17	Leviticus 25; Psalms 135-136; Luke 8
3/3	Leviticus 8; Psalm 107; 1 Corinthians 16	3/18	Leviticus 26; Psalms 137-139; Luke 9
3/4	Leviticus 9-10; Psalm 108-109; 2 Corinthians 1-2	3/19	Leviticus 27; Psalms 140-142; Luke 10
3/5	Leviticus 11; Psalms 110-112; 2 Corinthians 3-4	3/20	Numbers 1; Psalms 143-144; Luke 11
3/6	Leviticus 12-13; Psalms 113-114; 2 Corinthians 5-7	3/21	Numbers 2; Psalms 145-147; Luke 12
3/7	Leviticus 14; Psalms 115-116; 2 Corinthians 8-9	3/22	Numbers 3; Psalms 148-150; Luke 13-14
3/8	Leviticus 15; Psalms 117-118; 2 Corinthians 10-11	3/23	Numbers 4; Proverbs 1; Luke 15
3/9	Leviticus 16; Psalms 119:1-40; 2 Corinthians 12-13	3/24	Numbers 5; Proverbs 2; Luke 16
3/10	Leviticus 17-18; Psalms 119:41-80; Luke 1	3/25	Numbers 6; Proverbs 3; Luke 17
3/11	Leviticus 19; Psalms 119:81-128; Luke 2	3/26	Numbers 7; Proverbs 4; Luke 18
3/12	Leviticus 20; Psalms 119-129-176; Luke 3	3/27	Numbers 8-9; Proverbs 5; Luke 19
3/13	Leviticus 21; Psalms 120-124; Luke 4	3/28	Numbers 10; Proverbs 6; Luke 20
3/14	Leviticus 22; Psalms 125-127; Luke 5	3/29	Numbers 11; Proverbs 7; Luke 21
3/15	Leviticus 23; Psalms 128-130; Luke 6	3/30	Numbers 12-13; Proverbs 8-9; Luke 22
		3/31	Numbers 14; Proverbs 10; Luke 23

Home Mission on our Door Step

Affluent and influential as it is, the United States remains a mission field, as challenging and in need as almost any across the globe. Indeed, on our very own doorsteps lie just the sort of people whom Christ comforted, healed and empowered. And if we assume the responsibility to be ambassadors for Christ, we will eagerly move out into the world, our towns, our cities, and our neighborhood, sharing and caring in his name. Understanding our nation's spiritual and physical needs means identifying and confronting the impediments for wholeness that millions of our women, men, and children face every day. To that end, National Ministries continues its widespread outreach across the United States and Puerto Rico. The America for Christ Offering is a significant source of funding for this work. Only with the continuing generosity of mission-focused American Baptists can National Ministries and American Baptist regions provide the resources that have changed countless lives through Christ-centered caring. Consider some ways in which mission on our doorstep takes place: Through volunteers in mission, the love of Christ has urged us to give of our time, talents, resources, and compassion. Through evangelism ministries, the love of Christ has urged us on to share the incomparable good news of God's astounding love. Through youth ministries, the love of Christ has urged us to nurture and support our youth, our future leaders, and witness to their and future generations. All these endeavors and many others are made possible by the money that is given to the America for Christ offering. Our goal this year is \$2500. I ask you to pray about your gift.

I do look forward to working and worshipping with you this month.

Pastor Wally

CONNECT
Experience Relationships



March 2008

Musing on Missions



MISSIONS



Once again FBC has had a successful drive of canned soup for Loaves and Fishes during our Souper Bowl emphasis. 1552 cans were dedicated February 10.

WOW! Last year 1525 cans were collected. The soup was delivered to the Loaves and Fishes pantry on Thursday by Donnie Garlick, A.J. and Marilyn Bourn, and Debbie and Ashley Derry.

Thank you to everyone for your fantastic response and to the group that delivered.

Congratulations also go to those who made the Ham and Bean Dinner a huge success. In spite of 5 inches of new snow Friday morning, the community responded and \$1389 was cleared.

More than 300 volunteers are needed to complete the 5 new houses in the "Blitz Build" campaign 2008 between April 28 and May 17. Once again National Ministries, on behalf of American Baptist Churches USA, will partner with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Baton Rouge to build homes for families displaced by hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

150 volunteers will be needed the first week beginning April 28. The work will focus on framing exterior walls, installing windows, doors, and vinyl siding. Construction skills are not required but construction experience is appreciated.

The second week will require volunteers with specialized skills to complete subcontractors work. Beginning May 12 another 150 will be needed to

paint and install trim, cabinets, and landscaping. It will end May 17 with the dedication of each home.

In 2007 National Ministries built 12 homes with 200 plus American Baptist volunteers in Baton Rouge. Since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit in 2005, National Ministries has sent more than 1600 volunteers to help with rebuilding the Gulf Coast.

Participants must be at least 16 years of age and are responsible for their own transportation to and from Baton Rouge plus pay a weekly fee of \$100 for food and lodging.

Registration deadline for participants is April 1. For more information, contact Victoria Goff at vgoff@abc-usa.org or call 1-800-ABC-3USA, extension 2449.

Dwight Stinnett, Executive Director of GRR, plans to volunteer this time. Last year David and Christina Harman helped for a week.

Pontiac, IL suffered significant river flooding this winter. Funds from the One Great Hour of Sharing are being used to help the flood victims. Pastor Jim Wolfe of FBC Pontiac, has been chosen to help lead the longtime flood relief for the community.

ILLAAAP (Illinois Church Action on Alcohol and Addiction Problems) once again took the lead in a long, massive effort to stop expansion of gambling in our state. This year was difficult and tenuous because legislators who had previously opposed the expansion of gambling, were prepared to vote for the massive expansion by linking capitol construction projects in each district to the gambling

bill as a funding source. The gambling bills were being touted as the only way to fund capital construction projects in the Legislator's district. Multiple pressures were brought on our legislators to focus on the projects that could be funded for their district and ignore or minimize the cost of gambling. ILCAAAP wrote letters to the editors, contacted legislators, spoke on radio and TV, enlisted church groups to oppose more gambling, spearheaded a petition drive in legislative districts and worked with other reform groups in the battle.

January 8, 2008, was a key date when the House Gaming Committee met and finally conceded that it was too late to authorize a billion dollar casino in Chicago, to put slots on our tracks, or turn our telephones into wagering devices. It has been a victory of the people.

Thank yous have been received from the Executive Director of International Ministries for the Christmas gifts sent to 5 missionaries who are serving overseas. They are Kristi Engle, Dominican Republic; Flint and Debbie Miller, Philippines; Matt and Lori Mann, Laos; Dwight and Kari Davidson, Japan; and Scott and Tan Coats, Thailand.

Letters sent directly to our National Missionaries have also been received. They are Kathy Baillargeon, Milwaukee Christian Center; Michelle Bradley, Prison Pastor Pierre, SD; and Susan Harding, Community Center, Cordova, Alaska.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education approved a WIU request to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies beginning in the fall of 2008. A minor in

Religious Education has been offered since 1978. The new 120 hour program will encompass a number of religious traditions including Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. It will examine the interplay between religion and culture, and the relationship between religion and violence, science, and spirituality.

The new WIU degree program is only the second religious studies program offered at an Illinois public university.

The America for Christ Offering will be received during March.

Coming Events:

March 7—World Day of Prayer

March 8—Area III Annual Meeting at FBC Peoria, Dr. Reid Trulson, International Ministries, Speaker

March 12—Area III ABWM Spring Rally at FBC El Paso

Bible Books for March: 1st and 2nd Peter, Jude

Birthdays:

March 2—Annie Dieselberg, IM Thailand

March 17—Joan Brown, Director, Murrow Indian Children's Home, Muskogee, OK

March 19—Kristi Engle, IM Dominican Republic (our special)



Birthdays & Anniversaries

1	-	Kathy Brooks	21	-	James & Phyllis Rule (a)
6	-	Doris McClure	23	-	Bob & Marjorie Alexander (a)
9	-	Trissy Smith	24	-	John Ceder
10	-	Angie Green	25	-	Marvin Cook Bill & Jo Sanders (a)
17	-	Moises Molina	26	-	Betty Adair
18	-	Don Garlick Wilbert Hoff Sandra Riggins	27	-	Mary Ida Conn
19 (a)	-	Richard & Judy Hurt	28	-	John Shaver

March 2008



Monday, March 10
8:30 a.m.—5:15 p.m. at FBC
Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-324-1851

Life Line Screening is America's leading provider of quality health screenings. These tests quickly detect arterial abnormalities which can cause disrupted blood flow. Our screenings are fast, accurate, and available at an affordable rate.

We provide these non-invasive, completely painless screenings using Doppler ultrasound technology

<p>Stroke Screening/ Carotid Artery This screens the carotid arteries in the neck for plaque buildup. The #1 cause of stroke is linked to carotid artery blockage.</p>	<p>Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening This screens for the existence of an aneurysm in the abdominal aorta. The vast majority of people who have an aneurysm have no symptoms.</p>	<p>Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening This screens for peripheral arterial disease (plaque buildup) in the lower extremities which is linked to coronary artery disease.</p>
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Mauudy Thursday

Thursday, March 20
7:00 p.m.
First Christian Church
120 N. McArthur St.
Mauudy Thursday Worship

Friday, March 21
At the First
Baptist Church of
Macomb

11:30 a.m. and at
12:20 p.m.



“How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good
news, who proclaim peace, who
bring good tidings, who proclaim
salvation, who say to Zion,
‘Your God reigns!’”

I s a i a h 5 2 : 7

March 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

At the door: \$15.00

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



Thank you so much for your cards, flowers, and visits each month. They are very much appreciated.

God Bless you,

Dorothy Riney

**Daylight Savings Time begins
Sunday, March 9
At 2:00 a.m.**



**Thursday,
March 20
First Day
Of
Spring**



FBC YOUTH FUNDRAISER FOR QUEST

Sunday, March 30

12:00 —2:00 p.m.

Potato Bar in the FBC Fellowship Hall

Come and help the FBC Youth Group

SATURDAY, MARCH 15
2:00 P.M.

EASTER EGG HUNT AT FBC (PRIOR TO THE PALM SUNDAY SKIT PRACTICE AT 3:00). ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. ALL ADULTS ARE INVITED TO HELP OUT WITH THE EVENT—PLEASE CONTACT ROB WALLACE AT 836-5341. YOUR ASSISTANCE WOULD BE APPRECIATED!



GIVE TO THE AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2008

Affluent and influential as it is, the United States remains a mission field as challenging and in need as almost any across the globe. The America for Christ Offering is a significant source of funding for our nation's spiritual and physical needs.

These gifts support Christ-centered ministries that are transforming lives across the United States and Puerto Rico—from building new homes on the Gulf Coast and resettling refugees violently driven from their homeland, to providing training in evangelism, and developing resources that help children in poverty.

Our local goal is \$2500 and will be collected in March

— Missions Committee

“For the love of
Christ urges us on...”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15

EASTER THEME: *JOURNEY TO THE CROSS*

MARCH 2 CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN GOSPEL
WORSHIP LED BY *ONE ACCORD*
QUARTET

MARCH 9 SPECIAL GUEST: *JUDAS ISCARIOT*

MARCH 16 *JESUS AND SIMON PETER*
MARK 14:66-72

MARCH 23 SUNRISE WORSHIP
JESUS AND MARY MAGDALENE
JOHN 20:11-18
EASTER WORSHIP
THE OTHER CARPENTER
(PRESENTED BY THE FBC DRAMA TEAM)

THEME: *THIS IS MY PRAYER*
CONNECTING THROUGH STEWARDSHIP

MARCH 30 *EXPERIENCING GOD THROUGH PRAYER*
PART 1
EPHESIANS 3:14-21

1, 29	7:30 a.m.	Men's Ministry at FBC
2, 9, 16, 30	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	3:00 p.m.	FBC Youth Group
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	7:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Old Dairy
5, 12, 26	3:00 p.m.	Adult Small Group Study
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Small Group Studies
6, 13, 20, 27	6:30 p.m.	FBC Praise Team Practice
2	9:30 a.m.	Southern Gospel Worship <i>One Accord</i> a Southern Gospel Quartet will lead Worship
	4:30 p.m.	Practice for Palm Sunday presentation for FBC children & youth, K-12
4	7:00 p.m.	ABW Ministries at the Riggins' home Hostess: Sandra Riggins
	7:30 p.m.	FBC Drama Team Practice at FBC
8	8:30 a.m.	Area III Annual Meeting at the FBC in Peoria
	2:00 p.m.	FBC Drama Team Practice at FBC
10	8:30 a.m.—5:15 p.m.	Life Line Screening at FBC
11	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting at FBC
	6:30 p.m.	Boards Meet
13	6:30 p.m.	Stewardship Team Meeting at FBC
15	7:30 a.m.	Men's Ministry at the Old Dairy
	2:00 p.m.	Easter Egg Hunt for all children
	3:00 p.m.	Practice for Palm Sunday presentation for FBC children & youth, K-12
16—23		Holy Week
16		Palm Sunday
18	7:00 p.m.	FBC Drama Team Practice at FBC
20	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday at First Christian Church
21		Good Friday Worship (Location TBA)
22	2:00 p.m.	FBC Drama Team Practice at FBC
23	6:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Worship
	7:00 a.m.	Easter Breakfast
	8:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Easter Morning Worship
30	12:00—2:00 p.m.	FBC Youth Fundraiser

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

This craft is a reminder of God's love for the world and of Jesus' sacrifice for everyone.

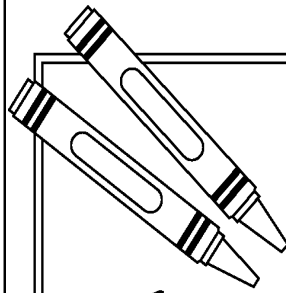
What you need:

- Two pieces of 8½" x 11" white or light-blue construction paper
- Circle shape that fits paper (plastic lid or paper plate)
- Black marker or crayon
- Masking tape
- Shallow box, box lid or old cookie tray
- Blue and green paint
- Two paper plates
- Two marbles
- Two plastic spoons
- Scissors



What you do:

1. On one piece of paper, trace the circle shape.
2. Using two pieces of masking tape, make a cross in the center of your circle.
3. Place your paper inside the box, box lid or cookie tray.
4. Pour blue paint onto one paper plate and green onto the other. Place one marble in each color of paint.
5. Using a spoon, take out one marble at a time and place on your paper.
6. Roll each marble back and forth, around and around, alternating between colors.
7. After your circle looks like the planet Earth with lots of blue and green, cut out the circle.
8. Glue the circle onto another piece of paper.
9. Around the circle, write the words to John 3:16, NIV: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
10. Take off the masking tape and see the cross that's left. Keep your artwork as a reminder of how much God loves you!



Just for KIDS

For everyone

Every day we should be thankful for God's love and for the gift of his Son, Jesus. Complete the maze below to help people from all directions hear about this good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read the words to John 3:16, NIV.

