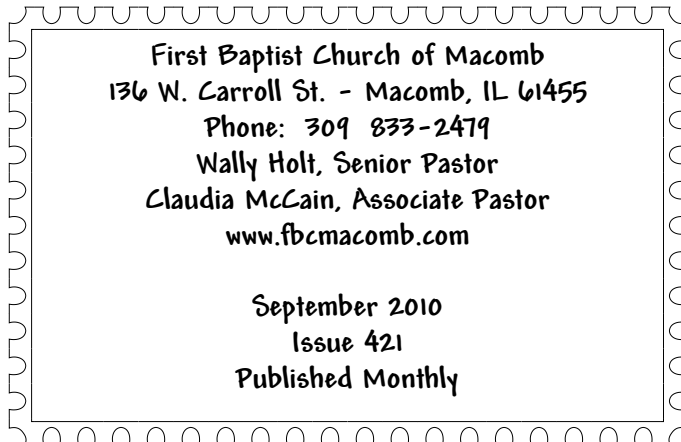


Bridge Builders Newsletter

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MACOMB, IL
PERMIT NO. 491



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

This Months Featured Article	1
Sunday School Kickoff	2
FBC Rummage Sale	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	4
Our White Cross Quota	5
Missions Corner	6
Father's Love Letter	8
Opening Prayer Leaders/Candle Lighters/ General Income & Expense Summary	9
Senior Pastor's Message	10
Help Needed	11
Sermon Calendar	12
Calendar of Events	13

2010 Daily Bible Reading Guide for September

9/1	2 Kings 6	9/11	2 Kings 17	9/21	1 Chronicles 4
9/2	2 Kings 7	9/12	2 Kings 18	9/22	1 Chronicles 5
9/3	2 Kings 8	9/13	2 Kings 19	9/23	1 Chronicles 6
9/4	2 Kings 9	9/14	2 Kings 20	9/24	1 Chronicles 7
9/5	2 Kings 10	9/15	2 Kings 21	9/25	1 Chronicles 8
9/6	2 Kings 11, 12	9/16	2 Kings 22, 23	9/26	1 Chronicles 9
9/7	2 Kings 13	9/17	2 Kings 24, 25	9/27	1 Chronicles 10
9/8	2 Kings 14	9/18	1 Chronicles 1	9/28	1 Chronicles 11
9/9	2 Kings 15	9/19	1 Chronicles 2	9/29	1 Chronicles 12
9/10	2 Kings 16	9/20	1 Chronicles 3	9/30	1 Chronicles 13, 14

FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS**Is Anything
Too Hard
For The Lord?***Genesis 18:14a (NCV)*

A small congregation in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains built a new sanctuary on a piece of land willed to them by a church member. Ten days before the new church

was to open, the local building inspector informed the pastor that the parking lot was inadequate for the size of the building. Until the church doubled the size of the parking lot, they would not be able to use the new sanctuary.

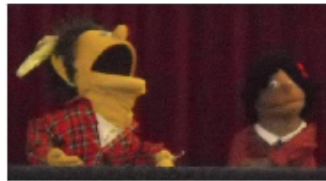
Unfortunately, the church with its undersized lot had used every inch of their land except for the mountain against which it had been built. In order to build more parking spaces, they would have to move the mountain out of the back yard. Undaunted, the pastor announced the next Sunday morning that he would meet that evening with all members who had "mountain moving faith." They would hold a prayer session asking God to remove the mountain from the back yard and to somehow provide enough money to have it paved and painted before the scheduled opening dedication service the following week.

At the appointed time, 24 of the congregation's 300 members assembled for prayer. They prayed for nearly three hours. At ten o'clock the pastor said the final "Amen". "We'll open next Sunday as scheduled," he assured everyone. "God has never let us down before, and I believe He will be faithful this time too."

The next morning, as he was working in his study, there came a loud knock at his door. When he called "come in", a rough looking construction foreman appeared removing his hard hat as he entered. "Excuse me, Reverend. I'm from Acme Construction Company over in the next county. We're building a huge shopping mall. We need some fill dirt. Would you be willing to sell us a chunk of that mountain behind the church? We'll pay you for the dirt we remove and pave all the exposed area free of charge if we can have it right away. We can't do anything else until we get the dirt in and allow it to settle properly."

The little church was dedicated the next Sunday as originally planned and there were far more members with "mountain moving faith" on opening Sunday than there had been the previous week!

Is anything too hard for the Lord? No! Genesis 18:14a (NCV)



A Puppet Show



Music



Sunday School Kickoff

For all ages
Children & adult

Sunday, September 12, 2010

10:45—11:45 a.m.

First Baptist Church of MaComb

136 West Carroll Street

(Corner of Carroll & McArthur)

309-833-2479

Come Join Us!

First Baptist Church Rummage Sale



Friday, September 17

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

&

Saturday, September 18

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

At the 4-H Rabbit Building (far white building) on
the 4-H grounds at 3028 W. Jackson (between N.
1200th Rd. & S. Deer Rd.)

If you have any questions,
please call the church office
at 309-833-2479





14	-	Victor Milleson	25	-	David Harman Angie Richardson
16	-	Justin Derry	28	-	Jim McCain
18	-	Matt Garlick	29	-	Richard & Mary Hainline (a)
19	-	Tim Green			October
20	-	Maureen Hamilton	6	-	Polly Pittman Carolyn Tomlinson
22	-	Marilyn R. Smith	8	-	Laura Fisher
23	-	Erin Brown			
24	-	Mike & Stephanie Foulk			
(a)					

Our White Cross Quota 2010

\$330 for Peoria Friendship House
\$175 cash to India
\$15 cash for school kits to the Philippines
40 roller bandages 3" x 5 yards

In order to meet our White Cross Quota and because of the high cost of postage, we are collecting cash/check instead of gift cards this year. Our goal is to collect \$520 which includes \$330 to meet our share of the needs of Peoria Friendship House, \$175 which will go to India and \$15 for school kits to the Philippines. Please make checks payable to First Baptist Church ABWM and put White Cross in the memo line and give to Carolyn Tomlinson, Lou Melvin or turn into the church office by October 31. We also need 40 roller bandages, 3 inches x 5 yards.

If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Tomlinson.



**MISSIONS
CORNER**

By Meryl Cook

American Baptist Missionaries have been serving in Haiti for 87 years. Herb Rogers, IM Missionary in Haiti (1974-2003) went

to Haiti three weeks after the earthquake to volunteer his services. His fluency in Creole and longstanding relationships with Baptist Convention of Haiti (CBH) proved invaluable as weekly relief reams poured in. When Herb's duty ended another volunteer and former IM Missionary, Gene Gentry, took up residence to continue coordinating the work of IM, Haitian Baptist, and US Volunteers.

Crowded under two pop-up tent canopies in 100 degree heat, more than 300 Haitians received medical care from US and Dominican volunteers. Kristi Engle, team leader and IM Missionary has organized teams totaling over 100 medical volunteers. These teams sort, count, and bag thousands of donated medications, vitamins, supplies and food items for use in the clinic.

Kristi is a registered nurse stationed at the Good Samaritan Hospital in La Romana, Dominican Republic. She is one of our Special Interest Missionaries in the Great Rivers Region and came from Keokuk, Iowa.

The first post-earthquake construction project at the Grand Goáve Baptist Church (epicenter of the quake on the western peninsula) centers on rebuilding the school for 350 students. Learning in the hot sun,

students sit on salvaged wooden benches and recite their lessons.

A GRR Disaster Relief Team of eight persons is going to Haiti October 30 and returning November 5 or 6. Herb Rogers, former missionary, is coordinating the plans with John McConnel, Area I team leader. All expenses for each team member will be paid. This is approximately \$1,500. Those wishing to help may send monetary gifts to ABMens treasurer, Earl Troyer at PO Box 211, Goodfield, IL 61742. Make checks payable to ABMens Disaster Relief and mark the check for "Haiti mission". They will work on the Grand Goáve Baptist Church Center and school.

The Christian University of Northern Haiti opened its doors to nearly 100 displaced students following the earthquake. They will get requests but don't have dormitories or classroom space.

After 15 years living in Thessaloniki in Northern Greece, Alan and Whitney Brown and girls moved August 30 to a suburb of Athens. Alan has been asked by the Greek Evangelical Alliance to improve the relationships and partnership between the Greek Pastors and foreigners serving in Greece.

Amber graduated from high school in Senegal in May and will attend a one year Bible program at the Greek Bible Institute in Athens. She is taking a "gap" year to determine God's will for her life.

Sierra and Nadia will attend a Christian

international school just outside Athens. God also provided an apartment a few blocks from the school that was in their price range. The expense for searching and securing the new apartment, packing and moving will be around \$4000. "Please pray with us that God will provide this amount by the first of September. Also pray that God will show Whitney where and how He wants to use her gifts and strengths in Athens". She ministered to prostitutes through the Door of Life program in Thessaloniki. Pray also that God will strengthen and protect the Gypsy church in Thessaloniki." The new address is Alan & Whitney Brown, Plapouta 4, Elliniko 16777, Greece.

International Ministries Missionaries Dwight and Kari Davidson resigned effective June 30, 2010. The Davidsons spent nearly a quarter of their lives in Japan. Dwight taught Christianity and English at Kanto Gakuin University and served as Chaplain at the school with an attendance of 17,500 students, located in Yokohama. Kari has been involved in the community and in organizing volunteering work among women. They have three children.

One of our new National Ministries Specials for GRR is Rev. Kapzamong (Mang) Sonna, Executive Director of Bethel Neighborhood Center in Kansas City, Kansas. He grew up in a poor family in India so easily feels the pain and hardships of the people he serves. His experience as a key leader in Multicultural student ministry for more than 10 years and a

principal in a Christian college both in India have been helpful. He had Master of Science in Geography in India and a Master of Divinity degree from Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Kansas. In addition to overseeing the work at BNC, he travels to speak to and visit churches and donors, and interprets for refugees from Burma and Bhutan. He also serves as pastor of Bethel Center Baptist Church. He is married to Nem.

One of his goals is to bring financial stability to BNC, improve programs, help BNC participants succeed in school and grow into responsible adults, provide camp opportunities for BNC youth, to expose them to the world beyond Kansas City before high school graduation, and ensuring that BNC continues to be a place of love, acceptance, and renewal for all individuals who come to the center for any needs.

Birthdays:

- September 1—Ketley Pierre IM Nicaragua
- September 24—Kim Kushner IM El Salvador
Our Special
- September 28—My linda Bates IM Costa Rica
Our Special

September Bible Book: 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus

The cry of a Father's heart from Genesis to Revelation...

Father's Love Letter

My Child...

You may not know me,
but I know everything about you... Psalm 138:1
I know when you sit down and when you rise up... Psalm 138:2
I am familiar with all your ways... Psalm 138:3 Even the very hairs on your head are numbered... Matthew 10:29-31
For you were made in my image... Genesis 1:27 In me you live and move and have your being... Acts 17:28 For you
are my offspring... Acts 17:28 I knew you even before you were conceived... Jeremiah 1:4-5 I chose you when I
planned creation... Ephesians 1:11-12 You were not a mistake... Psalm 139:16-18 For all your days are written in my book
... Psalm 139:16-18 I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live... Acts 17:28 You are fearfully
and wonderfully made... Psalm 139:14 I knit you together in your mother's womb... Psalm 139:13 And brought you
forth on the day you were born... Psalm 71:5 I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me... John 8:41-44
I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love... 1 John 4:16 And it is my desire to lavish
my love on you... 1 John 3:1 Simply because you are my child and I am your Father... 1 John 3:1 I offer you more
than your earthly father ever could... Matthew 7:11 For I am the perfect Father... Matthew 5:48 Every good gift that you
receive comes from my hand... James 1:17 For I am your provider and I meet all your needs... Matthew 6:31-33
My plan for your future has always been filled with hope... Jeremiah 29:11 Because I love you with an everlasting
love... Jeremiah 31:3 My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore... Psalm 139:17-18 And I rejoice
over you with singing... Zephaniah 3:17 I will never stop doing good to you... Jeremiah 32:40 For you are my treasured
possession... Exodus 19:5 I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul... Jeremiah 32:41 And I want to
show you great and marvelous things... Jeremiah 33:3 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me
... Deuteronomy 4:29 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart... Psalm 37:4 For it is I who gave you
those desires... Philippians 2:13 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine... Ephesians 3:20 For I am
your greatest encourager... 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles
... 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you... Psalm 34:18 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have
carried you close to my heart... Isaiah 42:11 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes... Revelation 21:3-4
And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth... Revelation 21:4 I am your Father and I love you
even as I love my son, Jesus... John 17:26 For in Jesus my love for you is revealed... John 17:26 He is the exact
representation of my being... Hebrews 1:3 And He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you
... Romans 8:31 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins... 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 Jesus died so that you and I
could be reconciled... 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you... 1 John 4:10
I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love... Romans 8:32 If you receive the gift of my son Jesus,
you receive me... 1 John 2:28 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again... Romans 8:38-39 Come home and
I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen... Luke 15:7 I have always been Father and will always be
Father... Ephesians 3:14-15 My question is... Will you be my child?... John 1:12-13 I am waiting for you... Luke 15:11-32

...Love, Your Dad
Almighty God

OPENING PRAYER LEADERS	CANDLE LIGHTERS
September 12—Justin Derry	September 12—Tara Geltmacher
September 19—Gerald Jones	September 19—Tyler Geltmacher
September 26—David Harman	September 26—The Wheeler Family
October 3—Dustin Lambert	October 3—Tim Green

In order to bring you the monthly income & expenses accurately the newsletter will be mailed by the 7th of every month.

Month	Income*	Expenses
January	\$16,421.02	\$16,098.49
February	\$20,265.93	\$16,611.35
March	\$21,917.26	\$17,292.50
April	\$12,562.54	\$15,956.75
May	\$25,480.80	\$16,478.84
June	\$12,450.97	\$16,729.74
July	\$12,820.07	\$14,349.19
August	\$18,015.91	\$14,641.03

General Income & Expense Summary

*** Includes Tithes, Offerings, Gifts, & Interest**

Where is God?

When tragedy strikes, whether personal, national, or global, people wonder how God could allow such things to happen. What can he be thinking? Can we trust a God that allows bad things to happen to be in charge of our universe? It is important to understand that God resides in a different realm. He occupies another aspect. The New Century Bible says it this way. **“My thoughts are not like your thoughts. Your ways are not like my ways. Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.”** Look closely at the word *like*. God’s thoughts are not our thoughts, nor are they even like ours. We aren’t even in the same neighborhood. We’re thinking, preserve the body; He’s thinking, save the soul. We dream of a promotion. He raises the dead. We avoid pain and seek peace. God uses pain to bring peace. “We say “I am going to live before I die, He instructs us to die so that we can live. We love what rusts. He loves what endures. We rejoice at our successes. He rejoices at our confessions. What controls you doesn’t control Him. What troubles you doesn’t trouble Him. We know that He is in control of the universe, and so we can rest secure. But He is not so far above us that He is not touched by our tears. Though we may not be able to see His purpose or His plan, the Lord of heaven is on His throne and in firm control of the universe and our lives. So we should entrust Him with our future. That means that we should entrust Him with our every aspect of our lives. Are you entrusting Jesus with your life?

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

Pastor Wally



Help Doug Jones & His Family

Doug has an aggressive form of lymphoma which was thought to have been successfully treated at the Mayo Clinic. However, the cancer is back and Doug is waging a courageous fight to beat this beast. To stay up-to-date, go to the Caring Bridge website at www.caringbridge.org/visit/dougjones1.

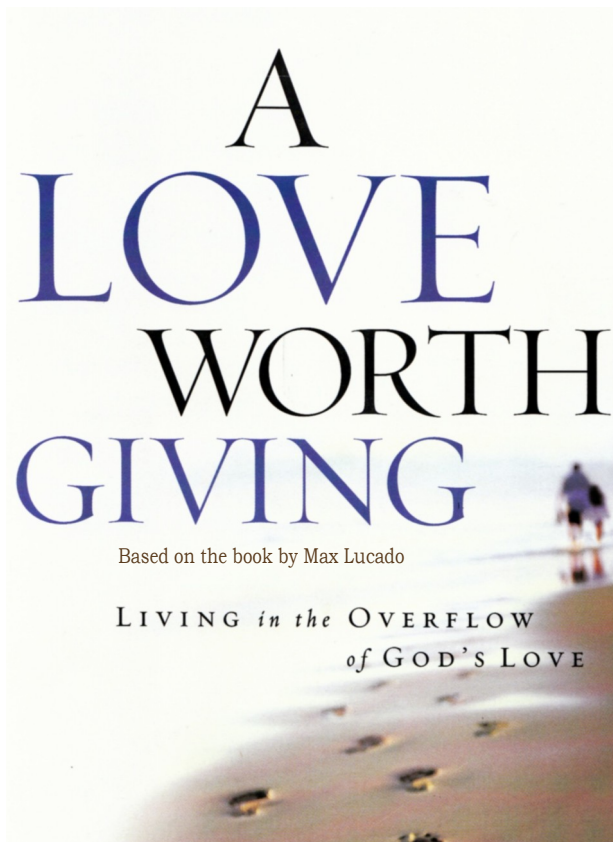
Expenses continue to grow. If you would like to help financially, you can donate in one of the following ways:

- 1) Make checks payable to First Baptist Church (put Doug Jones in the memo line) and put it in the offering plate during *A Time to Give* portion of worship or turn it into the church office.
- 2) Make checks payable to:
Doug Jones Benefit
Marine Bank
PO Box 190
Carthage, IL 62321
- 3) Drop off your donation at any Marine Bank in Carthage, Hamilton, or Augusta.

Please continue your prayers for Doug and his family.



A LOVE WORTH GIVING



Loving people can be difficult to say the least. The vow-breakers, truth benders. The money-grubbers and backstabbers we meet and work with, are even sometimes a part of our family. How do we love those who are hard to love? Conventional wisdom says that a lack of love implies a lack of effort, so we dig deeper, strain more. We're going to love that person even if it kills us! And it may do just that! Could it be we are missing a step? Could it be that the first step of love is not toward them, but toward Jesus? After all, you can't give what you don't have. Are you low on love? Are you down to your last dose of forgiveness? Are you scraping the bottom of the barrel of patience? You may be trying to give what you've never received. Come-hear how to find love deep enough to give away through Christ.

September 12—*Love*
(Mike Foulk Speaking)

September 19—*He Could Have Given Up*

September 26—*Unfailing Love*

THEME: Living in God's Grace

October 3—*Saving Grace*

September 2010

Page 13

9, 16, 23, 30	6:30 p.m.	FBC Praise Team Practice
	6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	Addicted (FBC Youth Ministries)
12, 19, 26	9:30 a.m.	Worship
15, 22, 29	3:00 p.m.	Small Group Study
	6:30 p.m.	Small Group Studies
19, 26	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School
10—12		CECL Team to Green Lake
12	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School Kickoff for all ages children & adult
	2:00 p.m.	Worship at Grand Prairie
14	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Boards Meet
17 & 18		GRR American Baptist Men's Gather at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp
17	9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	FBC Rummage Sale at the 4-H grounds
18	7:30 a.m.	Men's Ministry at the Old Dairy
	9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.	FBC Rummage Sale at the 4-H grounds
19	3:00 p.m.	Salem Association Annual Meeting at Roseville FBC
21	4:00 p.m.	First Baptist Seniors potluck at Spring Lake
25	7:30 a.m.	Men's Ministry
	9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.	Area III American Baptist Women's Ministry Fall Rally at Fairbury, IL
28	6:30 p.m.	Creative Arts Ministry Team Meeting
30		GRR Ministers Conference







October

10/1 & 10/2		GRR Annual Meeting
10/3	5:00 p.m.	Potluck
	6:00 p.m.	Quarterly Business Meeting in the Sanctuary
10/5	1:30 p.m.	American Baptist Women's Ministry Meeting at FBC Hostess: Barb Heaton

Smart cookies

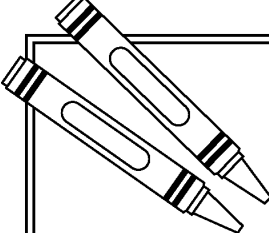
September is an exciting time, as you begin growing in wisdom with a new year of school and Sunday school. Be a "smart cookie" by making this special container for your kitchen. Change the pictures as your year goes by. Or fill the container with cookies to give as a gift.

What you need:

- 2 identical disposable plastic containers (rectangular and clear) 
- 1 lid 
- 4 photos or drawings 
- Scissors 
- Sticky bow or ribbon (optional) 
- Cookies 

What you do:

1. Cut four different pictures or drawings to fit the sides of your container. Allow the edges to slightly overlap around the four sides of one container.
2. Gently set one container inside the other. Then slide the pictures or drawings down between the two containers to cover the four sides. Press the inner container down to secure the pictures in place between the sides.
3. Fill the container with cookies, and put the lid on top of the inner container.
4. You can put a sticky bow or ribbon on the lid to make the container look like a present.



Just for KIDS

GOD'S INSTRUCTION

The Bible is a guide for how we should live. In Sunday school and at home, we learn how God loves and saves us. Solve this puzzle to find Proverbs 4:13 (NIV), which tells about the importance of God's Word.

First, write the word that means the opposite of the one given. Then write the correct letters on the number-coded lines below.

young death cold come
 1 2 3 2 6 7 8 4 1 5 9 1

sweet can't no later
 10 1 11 12 13 14 15 16 8 10 15 1 17

"H
 4 1 2 3 1 15 5 1


6 15 10 5 12 11 13 5 6 1 15 ' 3 1

15 1 5 2 8 5 6 5 9 1 ;

9 11 14 12 3 6 5 17 8 2 2 ' 7 1 12

6 5 6 10 16 1 11 12 2 6 7 8 .

"-----"



"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life." (Proverbs 4:13, NIV)

Answers: old, life, hot, go, sour, can, yes, now