

First Baptist Church of Macomb

Bridge Builders Newsletter

Issue 426

April 2011

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BUILDING UPDATE

This past month the Building Team has been working to raise funds, apply for grants, and plan the construction phase of the FBC building project.

FBC received a \$50,000 grant from AIEC toward the geothermal system. At this time, we have received donations from churches in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Continue to spread the word through email, facebook, letters etc. that we want to reach 200,000 people to donate \$10 to our building project. For those who would like to contribute, give them the church address and have them put "Building Fund" in the memo of their check.

Our attorney is working on getting the property annexed into the city. The building team has met with an engineer to help advise us on how to initially proceed with the construction phase of our building project. Since we have an expectation to break ground this year, the building team has decided to not farm the land as we will need the portion we will not build on for storage of supplies and other construction needs.

The building team continues to work with the Architect and FBC Leadership to have a final building design that is cost effective and meets all of FBC's current and future needs.

SPREAD THE WORD

Let your email buddies and facebook friends know we are excited about building a new worship center. Send a message letting them know about our project and how they can help. You could say something like:

"I'm excited! We just learned that a church from Maine has donated money to the building of our new worship center! We are trying to reach 200,000 people who are willing to donate \$10 each to the project. Of course, we would accept more! To see our project, go to www.fbcmacomb.com."

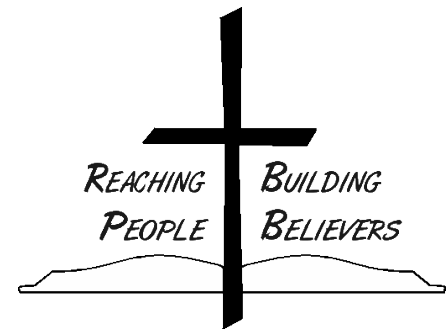


Senior Pastor's Article

As we continue to travel through the Lenten Season. I want us to remember that everything we believe revolves around Jesus and his resurrection. For many, Easter has become little more than a comforting symbol of immortality of the soul; it is infinitely more important than that for us. Jesus is God's son and our assurance of eternal life. In view of this, we need to give careful consideration to the promises of the resurrection. Easter is the signal of supreme victory for the human race over sin, doubt, and defeat in our daily lives. Since the Easter event is the very heart of our faith, we need to return regularly to its roots. We need to reacquaint ourselves with the main person of the Easter Story. We need to know why the story was written. We need to review once again how the story ends. Come

follow Jesus Christ to Cross and then to the empty tomb. We look forward celebrating the Easter Season with all of you.

Pastor Wally



Opening Prayer Leaders

April 10

Brittany Jones

April 17

Bob Babcock

April 24

7:00 a.m.: *Richard Hurt*

9:30 a.m.: *Judy Hurt*

May 1

Justin Derry

Candle Lighters

April 10

The Wheeler Family

April 17

Zach Lankford

April 24

7:00 a.m.: *Tyler Green*

9:30 a.m.: *Tim Green*

May 1

Tyler Geltmacher

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

11—Pat Allison

16—Pastor Wally Holt

Betty Ingledue

Abigail Wallace

25—Meryl Cook

26—Leann Walters

28—Margaret Harn

Eldon & Debbie Derry (a)

May

5—Wilbert & Mary Hoff (a)

7—Steve & Lavon Smart (a)

Missions Corner by Meryl Cook

Word has been received that all American Baptist International Missionaries in Japan are safe following the earthquake and tsunami that struck March 11.

Roberta Stephens had been near the center of the earthquake. She assisted other churches and preaching places in the northeast region of Japan's main island of Honshu. Now she works in a volunteer center which receives and orients volunteers to Japan Baptist Union churches, institutes, and camps. She also works to enable Japanese volunteers to go to the United States and Puerto Rico. Only about 2% of the Japanese are Christian. Most are Shinto or Buddhists.

John & Tomoko Armagost have spent many years in Kobe, Japan with a successful local church ministry. Kobe is west of Tokyo. More recently they have narrowed their ministry primarily to youth and children's ministries. They are consultants to many Japan Baptist Union Churches as they seek to reach and discipline young people in the Kansai Area. They help the churches make Christ known to youth and children immersed in very materialistic culture. Tomoko assists the Japan Baptist Union with Women's ministries as well.

They have three children, Ami, Alison, and Andrew.

They Turleys, David and Leslie, have been serving in Okinawa since 2007, but have been working in

Japan since 1990. David's focus on training future church ministry leaders while Leslie's is on education. She is Administrator of the Okinawa Christian School International, OCSI. This school was founded in 1957 and built on the truth of Proverbs 22:6 "Train children in the way they should go, and when old, they will not depart from it". Presently many of the 360 OCSI students are "Third Culture Kids". They have spent a significant period of time in one or more cultures other than their own. Children have come from Korea, the Philippines, Germany, Bulgaria, and India. Often they have been raised in an English environment and their parents choose OCSI because classes are solely in English.

One of the challenges OCSI faces is that some parents want their children to be surrounded by Christian values but do not seek for them to have a personal relationship with Christ. This situation is met by staff to provide the support system to help the students deal with this.

A country of only 10% Christian population has grown to 50% in just a few years in Okinawa.

Okinawa is a group of 161 islands with 44 inhabited that span about 620 miles from east to west and 250 miles from north to south in the Pacific Ocean. It has a separate history from the rest of Japan. In the 15th century Okinawa was an independent kingdom. In 1609 it became under the power of China. However, in 1879 the islands were integrated in Japan and the region's name was changed to

Okinawa.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. Three federal agencies acted together on November 17, 2010 to shut down the manufacturing, marketing, and shipment of caffeinated alcoholic beverages, properly dubbed "blackout in a can" & linked to numerous injuries and fatalities. Several college students, many of whom are underage, have been hospitalized after consuming alcohol energy drinks. Analysts have raised concerns that caffeine in the drinks masks a person's feeling of intoxication, leading to risky behavior.

Action has been taken in 25 states toward banning or limiting the availability of alcohol energy drinks. 10 states have banned or placed a moratorium on sales.

Illinois legislatures are considering two bills, Senate Bill 50 and House Bill 1320 that ban the production, manufacture, distribution, or sale of alcohol liquor that combines alcohol with caffeine.

Birthdays

April 8—Susan Hagerty, IM Cuba, Our Special

April 11—Dr. Stephen James, IM Haiti, Our Special

April 29—Joyce Reed, IM Mexico

Bible Book for April

Zechariah

General Income & Expense Summary

Month	Income*	Expenses
January	\$13,707.38	\$16,565.06
February	\$17,235.90	\$16,077.06
March	\$16,362.72	\$16,414.93

* Includes Tithes, Offerings, Gifts, & Interest

Area III ABW Ministries Spring Rally

April 16, 2011

First Baptist Church Peoria

411 W. Lake

Peoria, IL 61614

www.fbcpeoria.org

Connections: God, Others, Ourselves

8:15—9:00 a.m.: Registration & Fellowship

9:00 a.m.: Rally Begins

Connections Speaker: Kay Price, Prairie Tellers

Connecting Through Missions—Rainbow Acres—First Baptist Peoria Youth

Lunch will be served the Peoria American Baptist Women

Dismissal at 2:30 p.m.



Saturday, April 16, 10:00—11:30 a.m.

Pre-school through 6th grade

Bring Your Empty Easter Basket to Fill

Everyone is Welcome

Please Join Us at First Baptist Church

Nursery Assistants

April 10

Jennifer Cooper

April 17

Brittany Jones

April 24

Johnsy Mangalaraj

May 1

Paula Black

Sermon Series
God's Resurrection Promises
Lenten & Easter Message Series

God's Resurrection Promises shed light on his good and generous heart. These promises come, not wrapped in paper, but in passion, not placed around a tree, but a cross, not covered with ribbons, but sprinkled with blood. As we celebrate the Lenten season together, may we realize the promises that surround this wonderful event. We will look at how God's resurrection promises changed the course of history as well as our own personal lives. Come join as we unpack *God's Resurrection Promises*.

Apr 10 **God's Promise through the Torn Flesh** (I invite you into my presence)

Apr 17 *Palm Sunday Worship*

God's Promise in the Cross (I will love you forever)

Apr 21 7:00 p.m. *Maundy Thursday Worship*

Apr 24 *Easter Sunday Worship*

7:00 a.m. **God's Promise in the Burial Clothes** (I can turn your tragedy into triumph)

9:30 a.m. **God's Promise in the Empty Tomb** (I have won the victory)



May 1 *Children in the Arms of God*

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

At the First Baptist Church

April 24, 2011

6:30 a.m. ~ Guided Reflection & Prayer

7:00 a.m. ~ Easter Sunrise Worship

God's Promise in the Burial Clothes

Special drama, music & dance

8:15 a.m. ~ Easter Breakfast

Please indicate number attending on the back of your registration card or
call the office to make reservations by Wednesday, April 20

9:30 a.m. ~ Easter Worship

God's Promise in the Empty Tomb

Special drama (comedy), music & dance

April Events



April 2011						
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

- 8—9 GRR Missions Conference at Cherry Hills
- 9 7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry at FBC
9:00 a.m. Building Team Meeting at FBC
- 10 9:00 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
2:00 p.m. Worship at Grand Prairie
7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship at Blandinsville Baptist Church
Speaker: Pastor Wally
- 12 6:00 p.m. Pastoral Relations Team Meeting
6:30 p.m. Board Meetings
- 13 5:00 p.m. Taizè Prayer Service at St. Paul's church
6:30 p.m. Small Group Studies
- 14 6:30 p.m. FBC Praise Team Practice
6:30 p.m. Addicted (FBC Youth Ministry)
- 16 7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry at the Old Dairy
8:15 a.m. Area III ABW Ministries Spring Rally at FBC Peoria
10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at FBC (concludes at 11:30 a.m.)
1:00 p.m. Creative Arts Ministry Meeting
- 17 Palm Sunday
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship at Blandinsville Methodist Church
Speaker: Gina Sheridan
- 20 5:00 p.m. Taizè Prayer Service at St. Paul's church
- 21 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship at FBC
- 22 11:30 a.m. Good Friday Community Worship, *The Way of the Cross*,
in Chandler Park
- 23 6:00 p.m. First Baptist Seniors meet at FBC, leave at 6:15 to go to
LaHarpe to see the On Stage Band
- 24 Easter Sunday
6:30 a.m. Guided Reflection & Prayer
7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Worship
8:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Easter Worship
- 27 6:30 p.m. Small Group Studies
- 28 6:30 p.m. FBC Praise Team Practice
6:30 p.m. Addicted (FBC Youth Ministry)
- 30 7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry at FBC

Maundy Thursday Worship

At the First Baptist Church
Thursday, April 21, 7:00 p.m.

“Were You There?”
“When You Prayed Beneath the Trees”
Chancel Choir, First Christian Church

Meditation
“A Most Memorable Night”
Rev. Terry Foland, First Christian Church

“The Lord’s Table”
A congregational response to the Crucifixion
Drama Team, First Baptist Church



GOOD FRIDAY *The Way of the Cross*

Community Good Friday Worship
Friday, April 22, Chandler Park, 11:30 a.m. (Rain or Shine)
Each congregation will host a 5 minute station or devotion as:

Jesus Is Condemned to Death
Jesus Takes Up His Cross
The Cross Is Laid on Simon of Cyrene
Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem
Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments
Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross
Jesus Dies on the Cross
Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb

Participating Churches include:

First Baptist, First Christian, First Presbyterian, Salvation Army, Shepherd’s Gate, St. George’s TEC,
St. Paul’s, Trinity Lutheran, University Baptist & Wesley United Methodist

About *The Way of the Cross*

During this special community worship service, we will travel (walk) from station to station reliving Christ’s journey from the time of His arrest to His body being placed in the tomb. Our journey will begin here at First Baptist at 11:15 a.m. as we, along with the congregation from First Christian, assemble to carry the cross to Chandler Park. Our journey will continue as we walk throughout the park, even to the courthouse steps, to follow *The Way of the Cross*.

First Baptist Church

136 W. Carroll
Macomb, IL 61455

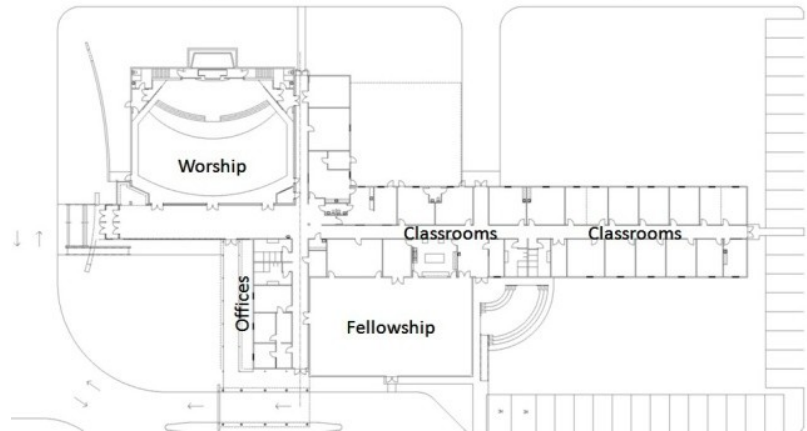
Phone: 309-833-2479
E-mail: fbcsecretary@macomb.com

www.fbcmacomb.com



Our New Worship Center

1515 South Candy Lane, Macomb, IL



Our Mission

Reaching People—Building Believers

Our 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

Please Join Us!

Worship—Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

***Up With the Son*—Weekday mornings at 6:20 a.m. on K100—100.1**

Find us on the web at www.fbcmacomb.com

**Podcasts of the weekly message and *Up With the Son* can be heard or
downloaded from podcasts.fbcmacomb.com**