

# First Baptist Church of Macomb

## Bridge Builders Newsletter

Issue 431

September 2011

### Building Update

Senior Pastor  
Wally Holt

Associate Pastor  
Claudia McCain

Director of Youth  
Ministries  
Mike Foulk

Office Manager & Editor  
Leann Walters

This past month the building team reflected on the successful installation of the culvert and access drive onto the new property, and has been considering the next steps. It is expected that the property will be annexed into the City very soon (only some formalities are left), and there is consideration where the church building will hook into the city water and sewage. Also under consideration are finding a general contractor who can assist us by managing the on-site construction process, choosing a company that will do the initial dirt work on the property, installing a storage shed on the property before general construction begins, and choosing a company to install the steel frames of the building.

We are still on track with the grants we have, and are pursuing other grants. Working with local companies, we have been able to dramatically reduce the cost of our geothermal heating and cooling system while at the same time keeping within the parameters of the geothermal grant we have qualified for.

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This month of September, the Building Team will be meeting with the architect to discuss these items as well as deciding how to proceed into the construction process. We are still on target for breaking ground this year. And what an exciting year this is!

Thank you God for bringing our church family together at such a time as this. As we work together to build your church to meet the needs of the congregation, community and world, bring forth our talents, time, and resources so that we may be used by you as your servants for the good of your kingdom. And as the many days of celebration come, may we lift up our praise and our joy and have a grand celebration in worship of you - for surely you have provided for all our needs. Amen.



## Senior Pastor's Article

### I Can't Explain, but Prayer Can Break a Chain

The Bible says in Acts 12:5-7 (NLT) <sup>5</sup> But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him. <sup>6</sup> The night before Peter was to be placed on trial, he was asleep, fastened with two chains between two soldiers. Others stood guard at the prison gate. <sup>7</sup> Suddenly, there was a bright light in the cell, and an angel of the Lord stood before Peter. The angel struck him on the side to awaken him and said, "Quick! Get up!" And the chains fell off his wrists.

Because of his great love for God, Peter was unfairly thrown into jail and chained between two soldiers. So the church prayed for his release. Then, right in the middle of their prayer meeting, Peter knocked on the front door. The servant girl was so happy to hear his voice that she left him outside the closed door. When she told everyone that God had answered their prayers, they all told her she was crazy. You see, nobody can explain the power of prayer. Sometimes God answers quickly. Sometimes, he seems to take forever. Other times he says no, so we think he didn't answer at all. But God wants us to know that our prayers always make a difference. Don't try to explain. Just pray and watch God break chains.

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

Pastor Wally

### Opening Prayer Leaders

September 11  
*Gerald Jones*  
September 18  
*Brittany Jones*  
September 25  
*Justin Derry*  
October 2  
*Bob Babcock*

### Candle Lighters

September 11  
*Zach Lankford*  
September 18  
*Tyler Green*  
September 25  
*Tim Green*  
October 2  
*Tyler Geltmacher*

## Missions Corner by Meryl Cook

An email was received August 5 from Alan Brown. He writes that several months ago one of the leaders of the small Eritrean church in Athens asked him if he could find Bibles in that language. They were expensive and often took a year to order. A few days later Alan met a friend who told him he would be receiving a "load" of Bibles in various languages and asked if he could use any.

There were over 200 Greek NT, 1200 Woluf (Senegal), 200 Eritrean, 500 Farsi (Persian) NT, 2000 Arabic/English NT, and 250 Arabic/French and English Bibles for children and adults. God does answer prayer!

Amber is back in the US where she will attend Mars Hill College in North Carolina. Alan's parents live close. Sierra and Nadia will attend the school in Senegal.

Alan says that financially things are getting harder. Because of the weaker dollar, increased taxes, and inflated prices they are running out of money half way through the month. They are praying for increased support of \$1000 a month, and thank all who help in any way.

11 from Macomb attended Areas II and III Senior Day at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp, Thursday, August 18. Greg Strange,

Christian musician and comedian from Nashville, TN sang original words to familiar tunes accompanying himself on the guitar. Russell Zehr, a 23 year old Music Ministry intern at FBC, El Paso, IL is an accomplished saxophonist and played on three different instruments, the alto, tenor, and soprano saxophones. About 70 attended and enjoyed lunch together.

A Lakeside Holiday Craft Show will be held October 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp. All proceeds to benefit LSBC. Highlights include craft demonstrations and 25

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## Missions Corner by Meryl Cook

plus vendors. Lunch and snacks available.

Duane and Marcia Binkley have ministered as IM Missionaries in Thailand for more than 20 years. It was with heavy hearts they learned of the mass persecutions of the Karen and Chin people in their home country of Burma (Myanmar). The suffering was so widespread that many fled as refugees to camps in Thailand. Burma and Thailand share a common border.

Through the US Resettlement Program our country began in 2006 to welcome the Karen from the Thai refugee camps. The Chin were also continuing to emigrate from settlements in Malaysia. It is estimated that 60,000 Karen and Chin have resettled across the US with more to come. Even though the estimated ethnic minorities have escaped the persecution in their home countries they face many hurdles here.

In 2007 the Binkleys were called to serve in the US in a new but related ministry — assisting the newcomers adjust to US culture. Generally they are the bridge between the former refugees and the US churches. It has been an overwhelming responsibility as many as 50 or 60 may come to the same location.

The Binkleys serve by explaining refugee resettlement and providing resource material. In the past 3 years it has become clear that God is using the refugees to energize our churches at the same time

churches are helping the refugees. This influx of people has a strong impact within American Baptist congregations. Of more than 150 congregations of Karen and Chin around the US approximately 90 are related to American Baptist Churches in some way.

It is a credit to the Karen and Chin people that they can make the needed adjustment, and it is a credit to the receiving churches they are giving themselves to make the refugees from Burma feel accepted. It is also inspiring to note that these refugees are not asking much from churches. Mostly what they want is a place to hold worship services. It is a real example to us in America that in the midst of needing so much they have been making worship a priority.

*“As we began a journey in Christ with the Burmese in 1813 through our missionaries Adoniran and Ann Judson, so Marcia and I believe that God has something in Mind for us to do together in the future. It will be exciting to see where He leads.”* Today up to 30% of Karen and 90% of Chin worldwide identify themselves as Christians. This is due, in great measure, to American Baptist Missionaries who served Southeast Asia in the 19th and 20th centuries as well as those who continue to serve Christ in that way.

Duane and Marcia grew up in the Cleveland, OH area. They met at Camp Koinonia, an American Baptist Camp in Northern Ohio. Duane was a counselor on a canoe trip that

included Marcia as a camper. The call to ministry has involved water as well. He explains *“I grew up with an interest in all things outdoors and earned a degree in soil and water conservation. Soon I realized that mission work could be a way to combine my interest in conservation with the calling to Christian service that I was feeling.”*

Marcia graduated from Malone College with a major in psychology and sociology. She and Duane were married in 1979. As lifeline American Baptists the Binkleys applied to become International Ministries Missionaries. In God's timing, a new irrigation and water project was beginning among the Karen people in Thailand and in November 1982 the Binkleys were commissioned to enter that work.

36 items have been requested for Witchita Community Church in Anadarko, Oklahoma for part of our ABWM White Cross Quota with an approximate cost of \$263. The Church and Community Center was lost in a tornado. Carolyn Tomlinson is White Cross Chairman and will accept any help from the church.

### **Bible Book for September:**

Amos

### **Birthdays:**

#### **September 7**

Carole Sydnor, IM Nepal

#### **September 24**

Kim Kunshner, IM El Salvador  
(our special)

#### **September 28**

Myllinda Baits, IM Costa Rica

## General Income & Expense Summary

Month	Income*	Expenses
January	\$13,707.38	\$16,690.06
February	\$17,235.90	\$16,077.06
March	\$13,362.72	\$16,412.94
April	\$13,081.73	\$15,649.54
May	\$17,527.49	\$15,890.26
June	\$16,352.32	\$18,031.64
July	\$15,278.89	\$15,866.00
August	\$17,112.45	\$16,385.60

- Includes Tithes, Offerings, Gifts, & Interest

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### **September Birthdays & Anniversaries**

<p><b>2</b>—Annette Carper</p> <p><b>4</b>—Jacob Lankford Lavon Smart</p> <p><b>5</b>—Lillian Lambert</p> <p><b>7</b>—Gage Wheeler</p> <p><b>12</b>—Jack Clark</p> <p><b>14</b>—Vic Milleson</p> <p><b>16</b>—Justin Derry</p> <p><b>18</b>—Matt Garlick</p> <p><b>19</b>—Tim Green Kyle Morris</p>	<p><b>20</b>—Maureen Hamilton</p> <p><b>21</b>—Lori Clark</p> <p><b>22</b>—Marilyn Smith</p> <p><b>23</b>—Erin Brown</p> <p><b>24</b>—<b>Mike &amp; Stephanie Foulk (a)</b></p> <p><b>25</b>—David Harman Angie Richardson</p> <p><b>28</b>—Jim McCain</p> <p><b>29</b>—<b>Richard &amp; Mary Hainline (a)</b></p>
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#### **Nursery Assistants**

September 11  
*Brittany Jones*

September 18  
*Angie Green*

September 25  
*Paula Black*

October 2  
*Cassie Jones*

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## Sermon Series

### Every Day Deserves a Chance

Doesn't everyday deserve a chance, a shot, a tryout, a swing at the plate...an opportunity- to be a good day? But we all know that into every day come situations that are difficult to understand. Days full of deadlines, long lines, wrinkle lines, Walmart and Kmart lines and those ever-elusive bottom lines. And let's not forget divorce days, final exam days, surgery days, tax days, and days when the cemetery dirt is still fresh. Any honest person has to ask. "What about those days?" Isn't it better to just get them over with and move on?" We want to encourage you to trust more. Stress less. Amplify gratitude. Mute complaints. In such a fashion good lives are built, one good day at a time. In this message series, we intend to help you have a good day every day. After all, doesn't every day deserve a chance to be a good one?

<b>September 4</b>	<b><i>When the Forgiven Don't Forgive</i></b>
<b>September 11</b>	<b>Special Worship ~ 10 year anniversary of 9/11</b>
<b>September 18</b>	<b><i>More Faith ~ Less Fret</i></b>
<b>September 25</b>	<b><i>Don't Be Afraid ~ Just Believe (Pastor Claudia)</i></b>

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### ***Fall Rummage Sale***

**Friday, September 23, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, September 24, 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. and S. Deer Rd.)**

If you have things to donate please bring them to the 4-H Rabbit Building

Tuesday, September 20 from 12:00—5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21 from 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 22 from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Any questions, please call the church office at 309-833-2479

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## ***Sunday, September 11***



**9:30 a.m.**—Special Worship for the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Special guest Paulette Brock, will share her experience at Ground Zero during the days that followed.

**2:00 p.m.**—Everyone is invited to the Macomb Firehouse (219 W. Jackson) to remember the 9/11 first responders, the firemen, police, EMT's and volunteers who served so bravely. That fateful day 343 firemen and 98 policemen gave their lives at the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. The program, *We Remember 9/11*, sponsored by the General Macomb Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The DAR will present a specially designed 9/11 memorial flag to be hung below the American flag at the station.

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## ***American Baptist Men's Fall Gathering***

### **September 16 & 17 at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp**

There will be opportunities to select two interest groups:  
New Commandment Men's Ministry, Disaster Relief Team Ministries, Rebuilding Work Teams, How to Organize a Prayer Breakfast

There will be opportunities to do work around the camp and also receive **Disaster Relief Training**.

Registration Costs: (Registration fees include overnight lodging at the camp, three meals and snacks. Bring a pillow, sleeping bag, linens and towels.)

Adults: \$35.00

Youth (18 & Under) \$20.00

If you are interested in attending please contact David Harman

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## ***Salem Association Annual Meeting***

### **Sunday, September 18 at Berwick Baptist Church**

Registration is at 2:30 p.m. and the program is at 3:00 p.m.

Meal will be provided for a small donation

If you are interested in attending please contact the church office by Monday, September 12

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## **American Baptist Women's Ministries Fall Rally**

**Saturday, September 24 at First Baptist Church of Chenoa, IL  
9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Lunch Included**

Featuring Bob and Jean Langdon and Kati and Taku Longkumer

2 Offerings will be taken

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### **White Cross Quota**

\$200 for Nicaragua  
60 Roller Bandages, 4" x 10 yards for the  
Congo

Request for the Wichita Community Church in  
Anadarko, OK. They lost their church &  
community center in 2009 to a tornado. The  
church is about completed.

1 pkg Christmas Wrapping Paper  
1 pkg Beads  
1 Embroidery Pattern  
1 pkg Needles  
1 pkg Fine-Tip Marking Pen  
1 Bottle of Glue 8 oz  
1 Glue Stick  
1 Paste  
1 1" Masking Tape  
1 Container of Powder Paint  
1 Scissors for Children (Fiskers)  
1 pkg Thumb Tacks  
1 pkg Boys Socks  
1 Boys Sweatshirt  
1 Boys Sweatpants  
1 Men's Shirt (Either Dress or Casual)  
1 pkg Women's Underwear  
1 Receiving Blanket (Infants/Toddlers)  
1 Basketball (Regulation Size)  
1 Soccer Ball (Regulation Size)  
1 Nerf Ball  
1 Block Set  
1 Toothpaste  
1 Deodorant  
1 Washcloth  
1 Towel  
1 2x2 Box of Bandages  
1 pkg Men's Handkerchiefs

1 pkg Women's Handkerchiefs  
1 Headscarf  
1 Necktie  
1 pkg Pantyhose  
1 pkg Adult Diapers  
1 Pair Baby Booties  
1 Childs or Infants Dress  
1 Child or Infants Nightgown

These items total \$263

In order to meet our White Cross Quota and  
because of the high cost of postage, we are  
collecting cash/check again this year. Our goal is  
to collect \$463.00 which includes \$200 for  
Nicaragua and \$236 for Wichita Community  
Church in Anadarko, Oklahoma, who lost their  
church and community center in 2009 to a  
tornado. Please make checks payable to First  
Baptist Church ABWM and put White Cross in the  
memo line and give to Carolyn Tomlinson or turn  
into the church office by October 16. We also  
need 60 roller bandages, 4 inches by 10 yards for  
the Congo.



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## **Sunday School Classes beginning September 11**

### **Adults**

*Bible-in-Life* (The Gleaners) (Mary McKamy, Leader)

*Fearless* (Friendly Class) (Judy Hurt, Leader)

*The Gospel of John* (Young Adults) (Russell Glaue & Dustin Lambert, Leaders)

*Tough Questions* (Pastor Claudia, Leader)

### **Children & Youth**

Ages 3-K, (Lora Wallace, Leader)

Grades 1-3 (Angie Green, Leader)

Grades 4-6 (Rob Wallace, Leader)

Grades 7-12 (Mike & Stephanie Foulk, Leaders)

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## **Small Group Studies Beginning Wednesday, September 14**

**3:00 – 4:15 p.m.**

*Breaking the Worry Habit* (Mary McKamy, Leader)

**6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

*The Me I Want to Be* (Pastor Wally, Leader)

*When Life's Not Working* (Annetta Holt, Leader)

*The Gospel of Mark* (Pastor Claudia, Leader)

## First Baptist Church

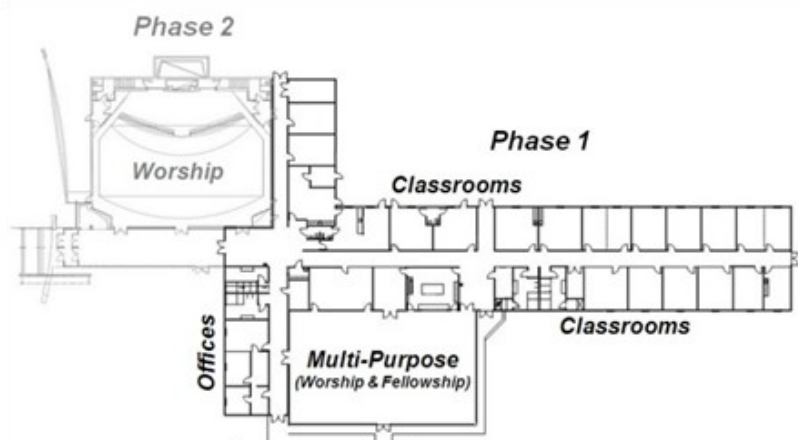
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## Our New Worship Center

1515 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 starting September 11 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](http://www.fbcmacomb.com)**

**Podcasts of the weekly message and *Up With the Son* can be heard or  
downloaded from [podcasts.fbcmacomb.com](http://podcasts.fbcmacomb.com)**