

Baptist Bugle



November 2018

First Baptist Church of Morris ~ Pastor Steve Larson

1650 West Route 6 ~ Morris, Illinois

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Pastor's Ponderings –

Have you ever gone to Aldi for groceries, and as you walk over to get a shopping cart, someone gives you theirs because they're all finished? So you quickly reach out to hand them a quarter and they say, "Oh, don't worry about it." Or maybe you've been out for a wonderful evening with your 'better half'...a nice dinner or maybe a movie...but when you come out to the car to leave, you put the keys in the ignition and...nothing. Dead battery...so much for the wonderful evening. You look at each other and say, "Now what?" Just about that time, someone comes along seeing your dilemma, and says, "Can I help...I've got jumper cables." They pull up alongside your car, give your car a jump and you're good to go. (Just check that battery when you get home). You say, "Thank you so much", and try to give him a few bucks for keeping your wonderful evening intact, but he says, "Oh no, that's fine...don't worry about it." You insist, but he says again, "No really...don't worry about it."

That's a really nice gesture, and hopefully we've all had a chance to be on the receiving end of such a nice act. Perhaps, even more importantly, we have all had the opportunity to convey such a kind act to someone else. There are times; however, when this is not the way we want to respond to someone, and it's not the way we should want someone to respond to us. It would not be to our benefit, nor would it be to their benefit.

What am I talking about? I'm talking about sin, I'm talking about that little three letter word that seemingly fewer and fewer people want to think about, focus on, or talk about...SIN..."Pastor, don't talk about that, it just discourages people and brings them down." The problem is, just because we choose not to talk about it, doesn't mean it goes away. In fact, not talking about it and not dealing with it just causes it to get worse in, I think, 10 out of 10 times. You get my point! And it's even worse when someone says to us, "Hey, don't worry about it." Hopefully we would never say something like that to someone else with regard to sin.

Sin is taken way too lightly in our world today. In fact, in many people, sin is not regarded at all. Even more sadly, among many Christians, sin is not taken seriously. There is, (among many Christians and in the Church today) a very real attitude of, "Hey, don't worry about it." The truth is, we need to take sin very seriously. Just because it's "today", doesn't mean sin is some sort of really old fashioned idea that doesn't apply to us anymore. Our Lord and Savior takes sin very seriously. Our Heavenly Father takes sin very seriously. The Holy Spirit takes sin very seriously. We should too!

Sin is anything (whether in thought, action or attitude) that does not express or conform to the holy character of God as expressed in His moral law. Sin is human rebellion against God and against His standard. Our sin is why Jesus went to the cross, that through His shed blood we could measure up to God's standard as we stand covered in His shed blood, now trusting in the finished work of Jesus for the forgiveness of all our sins. Praise God that He is so willing to forgive and cleanse our hearts completely.

May we take sin seriously in our lives and not let it grow. Let's not let the enemy of our souls talk us into believing that sin is no big deal. Praise God that the wonderful grace of Jesus is greater than all our sin. But that doesn't mean we should take sin lightly! The only place to take our sin is to the cross, every day, because, in all honesty, it is a very big deal!!!

Pastor Steve

Thank you!

On behalf of Kristi and myself, I want to say thank you to our congregation for all the cards and gifts and love this past month during Pastor Appreciation.

We are so thankful to our congregation for all of the love and support. We are truly blessed to be with you at First Baptist Church!

Thank you for your love. We are so thankful for your fellowship.

Pastor Steve and Kristi

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY



Women of Prayer
Tuesdays at 2:00 pm

Men of Action

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm
All men are invited to join us

Women's Afternoon Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
Study titled *"The Joy of Jesus"*
From the book of *Philippians*
All women are invited to join

Please contact Helen Brehm, 815-942-6625



Women's Evening Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Study titled *"Psalm 23: The Shepherd with Me"*
By *Jennifer Rothschild*
All women are invited to join

Please contact Colette Kirby, 815-942-9527

Congregational Prayer

*This month we will gather together on
Sunday, November 4th,
at 5 pm for prayer & praise!*

BOARDS TO MEET ON TUESDAY, November 13
5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education
5:30 pm - Board of Trustees
6:30 pm – Board of Diaconates (if necessary)

Single Moms' Group

Wednesday November 7 and 21
5:30 pm at the church

If you are a single mom or know of one who
would enjoy meeting with others,
please invite them to come!!

Board of Trustees

Tuesday, November 6
5:30 pm

BUDGET MEETING





Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, November 3

11:30 – 1:30pm

We will once again be volunteering at the "Feed My Starving Children" facility in Aurora.

This is the 5th year we have gone and it is an amazing day of packing meals to feed children around the world!

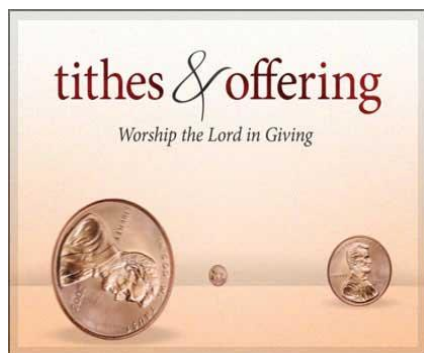
We will meet at the church at 9:45am.

UNIFIED GIVING

<u>Month</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Needed</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Received</u>
October (4 Sundays)	\$25,720.00	\$23,228.96

Church Mortgage Balance as of October 28, 2018 \$214,457.43

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!



This past year \$14,120.00 has been given to be applied to the 'principal only'! Anyone wishing to contribute toward lowering the principal should write 'apply to principal only' on their check. For accounting purposes, it would be appreciated if you would write a separate check if giving for 'principal only', rather than including it in your regular giving check. Thank you!

SOWL Food



Looking for a volunteer willing to fill the need of organizing people and food for those that require a few meals brought to them while recovering from surgery or illness. Please call the church office if you are interested.

Thank you to everyone that visited, made calls to Betty, prepared food, encouraged and supported us through the past few months.

Dave Findlay



Good News Club

Good News Club began Thursday, October 4th and will finish Thursday, April 25, 2019. Club will be held every Thursday during the time period that school is in session a full day, 2:45-4:00pm.

We are excited to see what God has planned for this new school year and appreciate the prayers of our "Family of Faith" as God brings the kids! It's our fervent hope and prayer that many will come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior and that they will be little missionaries in their homes, neighborhoods and school.

Staff for the 2018-2019 school year ~
Carol Adair, Kara Paulson, Kristi Larson, Helen Brehm and Kay Hemmersbach



JEWEL-OSCO FRESH DONATION

Jewel-Osco continues to donate fresh food each Sunday morning.
The donated fresh food is that which is dated and must be used.

We have a great need for volunteers to go to Jewel at 11am on Sunday mornings to pick up the food and bring it back to the church. If you are able to serve in this capacity once a month or so, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board near the library.
If you have any questions, please see Deb Ritke, our coordinator!



**DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS
BACK ON NOVEMBER 3RD**

**(Before you go to bed
or you will be very early for church!)**

College Care Packages



All items need to be back to the church by Sunday, November 11th.
This ministry provides a box full of goodies and a reminder of how much our students are loved and prayed for, especially during their exams!



Apple Cider Outreach

Friday, November 23

4 - 6pm

In front of Brianna Lynn's on Liberty Street

Saturday, November 24

10am - 12pm

Court House Lawn

Our church will hand out hot apple cider and small gifts, reminding people of the true meaning of Christmas during Home for the Holidays celebration in downtown Morris. Norma Arnsdorff and her family are coordinating this event and will have a volunteer sign-up sheet available soon!



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS TEA

First Baptist Church

November 24

11:00 – 4:00pm



**Our church will be hosting the tea for this year's
HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS HOUSEWALK.**

**All ticket holders are invited to a enjoy
a cup of tea or coffee and**

**a wonderful assortment of homemade cookies
in a beautifully decorated atmosphere.**

**There will be music by several different choral
and instrumental groups, including "Fortitude".**

So, be sure to stop in!



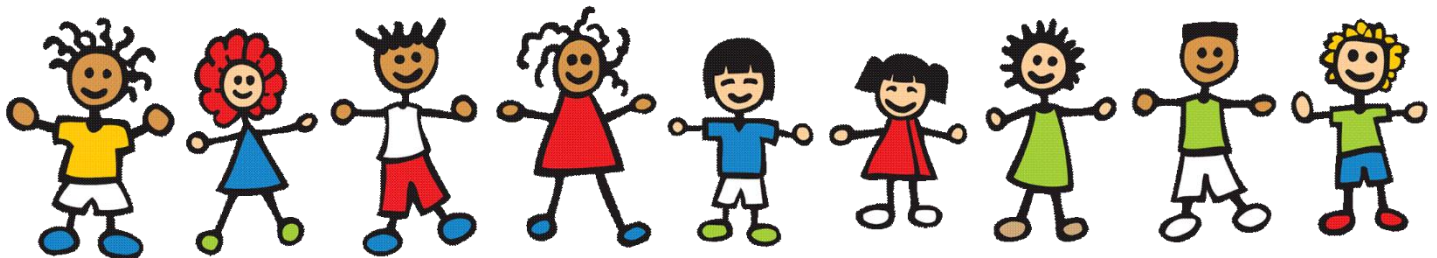
Join Us For Sunday School

Sunday mornings
9:30 am – 10:30 am

Nursery – 3 years and under
Preschool – 2nd Grade, Teacher Lisa Vaksdal
3rd – 5th Grade, Teacher Kayla Hamilton
6th – 8th Grade, Teacher Diane Gagliardo
9th – 12th Grade, Teacher Mary Motter
Adults – Teachers, Jeff and Claudette Swiggett

Christmas Program *Sunday, December 16, 2018*

Details coming soon!!



Great Rivers Region American Baptist Churches

AREA 1 YOUTH LOCK-IN

Lifetime Fitness Center
900 E. Higgins Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173

November 16-17

Grade 6 –Age 21

Doors open at 9:00pm on Friday

Event Ends at 5:30am on Saturday

Cost \$25

Send the registration to Area 1 Youth at 190 W. 4th St., Coal City, IL 60416

Please make checks payable to: Area 1 Youth

You can get the paperwork needed to be filled out from Colleen Miller or
In the church office.

**SWIMMING, ROCK CLIMBING, VIDEO GAMES
PIZZA AND SNACKS
INFLATABLES AND HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS**



“Operation Christmas Child” Shoeboxes October 28 – November 18

We, as a church family, are once again participating in filling shoeboxes for Samaritan’s Purse/“Operation Christmas Child”. Denise Ellis is our coordinator and has ordered plenty of shoeboxes, which are now available at the church. You may take as many as you would like to fill. There will be instruction brochures and labels available. Deadline for returning your filled boxes will be Sunday, November 18th. If you would rather donate money toward filling a box, please give your donation to Denise Ellis and she will purchase and pack a shoebox for you! Last year we delivered 181 shoeboxes to the distribution center!



Our Deepest Sympathies to Jim and Brenda Downey and family in the loss of Brenda's brother, Gary Bradley. May God comfort you in your time of sorrow.

Our Deepest Sympathies to the family of Arnie Castanier. May God comfort his family in their time of sorrow.

Our Deepest Sympathies to the family of Kay Thompson. May God comfort her family in their time of sorrow.



Christmas Brunch
Saturday, December 1
9:00am

*All Women of the Church
are invited to a Christmas Brunch at
Julie Applegate's Home
2024 Taller Rd., Morris.*

*There will be a \$10-\$15 Gift Exchange
This is a wonderful time for fellowship!
Please Come!!*



Basket of Courage

...is designed for

Anyone who would like to send a basket of encouragement to someone they know that needs some encouragement. At this time, we only make baskets for women and children.

We can be reached at
basketofcourage@gmail.com
or you can send a private message
through Basket of Courage Facebook.



November Birthdays

- 1 Matthew Findlay
- 2 Ryan West, Axton Valdivia
- 3 Joshua Downey
- 4 Colin Zierman
- 5 Grahm Wilkinson
- 7 Mason Chapman, Austin Conrod, Diane Wakeman
- 8 McKenna Malone
- 9 Ray Burnside
- 10 Jenna Emmons
- 11 Beth Carlson
- 12 Linda Cunningham
- 14 Joe Doyle
- 15 Zach Ellis, Marty Davids, Blake Delockery, Christina Hemmersbach
- 16 Charlotte Mayden, Laurel Wehr
- 17 Judy Kuntz, Dan Swiggett
- 19 Mary Camp
- 21 Lyla Wilkinson
- 22 Verna Purdue, Mariah Diaz
- 24 Stan Motter, Jeran Suksdorf
- 25 Virginia Edmundson
- 26 Jodi Johnson
- 29 Ed Krug
- 30 Amy Beal, Palin Goebel, Taylor Marx



November Anniversaries

- 4 Bucky and Chris Phillips
- 7 Stan and Mary Motter
- 23 Dan and Laurie Wilkinson
- 30 Mike and Kim Bricker



*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1*



Have you ever had someone you love do something that embarrassed or hurt you? Probably. But did you stop loving that person? No! You might have been disappointed, but you kept on loving them.

In a far greater way, God still loves us – even when we disappoint Him or do something wrong. He loves us in the good times, but He also loves us when things aren't going our way and we begin to doubt Him.

God's love for us is constant – in good times and the bad.

*"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,
for His compassions never fail."*

Lamentations 3:22



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Friday, December 7

4-9pm, North and South Doors at Walmart

We will once again be ringing bells for 'We Care'. This is such a great ministry along with a chance to give shoppers a smile! Watch for a sign-up sheet closer to this date.

Any questions, please contact the church office.

Baby Girl

**Born to Alan and Kara Hill
Big Brother is Logan**

**Grandparents are
Mark and Ann Hill**

Congratulations!



The event that Americans commonly call the "First **Thanksgiving**" was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World in October 1621. This feast lasted three days, and—as accounted by attendee Edward Winslow—it was attended by 90 Native Americans and 53 Pilgrims.



Throughout the Bible we are commanded to be thankful.
A spirit of thanksgiving is one of the most distinctive marks of a
Christian whose heart is attuned to the Lord.

We are to be thankful for the material blessings God gives us.
We need to give thanks for our spouse, our children, our relatives,
and our friends. Most of all, thank God for Christ and His love for you.

Thank God in the midst of trials and every persecution.

For the Christian, every day is Thanksgiving Day!

*"Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise;
Give thanks to Him and praise His name."*

Psalm 100:4



Thanksgiving

Wordsearch



E	S	Y	S	D	X	T	M	N	R	P	P	A	A	M
G	C	N	E	L	S	H	K	O	E	U	S	M	U	A
C	I	U	A	K	R	O	L	V	W	M	T	E	T	S
Y	E	V	A	I	R	X	L	E	O	P	U	R	U	H
Y	L	L	E	S	D	U	N	M	L	K	F	I	M	E
B	V	I	E	T	Y	N	T	B	F	I	F	C	N	D
D	Y	A	M	B	H	R	I	E	Y	N	I	A	X	P
M	F	P	R	A	R	A	R	R	A	P	N	D	C	O
N	P	S	C	G	F	A	N	E	M	I	G	Q	N	T
H	A	R	V	E	S	T	T	K	B	E	G	R	I	A
P	I	L	G	R	I	M	S	E	S	N	O	X	R	T
Z	N	K	G	J	K	V	Z	L	R	C	A	P	V	O
T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G	R	H	E
Y	Q	O	W	C	R	F	C	G	A	B	E	P	C	S
P	T	D	U	Z	T	S	L	B	X	M	U	M	J	Z



- AMERICA
- AUTUMN
- CELEBRATE
- CORN
- CRANBERRYSAUCE
- FAMILY
- GIVETHANKS
- GRAVY
- HARVEST
- INDIANS
- MASHEDPOTATOES
- MAYFLOWER
- NOVEMBER
- PILGRIMS
- PUMPKINPIE
- STUFFING
- THANKSGIVING
- TURKEY





The Middle Group
Sunday, November 4th
1~3pm

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

We will be making cards at the church on Sunday, November 4 from 1~3pm. These cards will be mailed to cancer patients needing encouragement and support during their battle with this disease. Any questions, please contact Jen Goebel or Leslie Meloun.

*Do you know someone with cancer? Odds are you do. **Joshua 1:9 Mission** was started because many cancer patients just need a ray of sunshine in their day. Our weekly card project provides weekly cards of encouragement to cancer patients. Volunteers hand-make cards and put their own personal spin on them. This is important as cancer patients face so many physical and emotional difficulties.*

The mission of this project is to let cancer patients know that they are never going through this battle alone. There are people who love them, are thinking about, and praying for them.

JOSHUA 1:9 MISSION, NFP IS A REGISTERED 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT

