

Baptist Bugle



June 2019

First Baptist Church of Morris ~ Pastor Steve Larson

1650 West Route 6 ~ Morris, Illinois

Phone: 815-942-0812 ~ FAX: 815-942-2763 ~ fbmorris@csky.net ~ www.fbmorris.org

Pastor's Ponderings –

“For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” Hebrews 12:3

“Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

Galatians 6:9

“But as for you, brothers, do not grow weary of doing good.” 2 Thessalonians 3:13

“Therefore, I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.”

Ephesians 3:13

“Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.” 2 Corinthians 4:16

“Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.”

2 Corinthians 4:1

There are many things that will cause us to grow weary and get tired of doing the right thing. Life can be hard and overwhelming many times. It’s exhausting and draining just trying to keep up with the things we need to get done in a day or a week. The drain of life can cause us to give up and lose heart if we’re not careful. Watching someone we care about go through a difficult time can cause us to grow weary. We see this as Paul writes to the Ephesians that he is concerned for their well-being as they watch him endure the pain of persecution and imprisonment for preaching the Gospel. Galatians 6:2 reminds us to, *“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.”*

There are a lot of people we know and love who are hurting, or they’re sick, or they just have a hard life; and it can be hard and discouraging to bear with them. We pray for them, and yet they continue to struggle. We can be tempted to want to give up, but don’t do it. Bearing with them and continuing to lift them up in prayer is the right thing to do. We grow weary if we don’t get sleep, if we don’t eat right, and in general, if we just don’t take care of ourselves. If there’s sin in our lives that goes undealt with, if we aren’t reading the Bible as we should be, if we’re not seeking the Lord in prayer as we should be, we’re going to lose heart. We will lose our vision, grow weary and lose heart if we’re not walking with the Lord all the time.

We can look at our country, our elected officials, and be very tempted to be discouraged and lose heart. But we must not give in to the temptation to become discouraged. Now more than

ever, we must be diligent and devoted to prayer. The future of our freedoms hang in the balance. To lose heart and grow weary of doing good, is to get tired of doing the right thing. Under any of these seemingly overwhelming scenarios, and many others like them, we can be tempted to grow weary and lose heart. And yet in all of these Scriptures listed for us, we are called to do just the opposite. How is that possible when life looks so daunting at every turn?

Well, I believe the answer for us lies in several of Paul's writings, one of which we have already looked at...2 Corinthians 4:1. Paul declares that it is because of God's mercy that he has the ministry that he does. It is because of God's mercy that Paul was saved, and that fact so drove Paul's life. Because of what God did for him, he could do nothing other than serve Him with all of his life, and follow Him with all of his heart. Put simply, there wasn't time to lose heart. And even if there was time, Paul would have none of it, always remembering, and being so thankful for what he had been given in receiving God's mercy and being saved from God's wrath. All because of salvation by grace through faith in Christ alone. You see, it was the love of Christ that kept him going. It was the love of Christ that compelled him. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, "*For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.*" No matter how bad the day, no matter how difficult and discouraging the situation, it wasn't worth losing heart over because it never compared to all that Paul had been given and all that he had to look forward to in Christ. The difficulties of this world can never ever compare to the glories that lie ahead, and the hope that lies within us.

So, don't grow weary and don't lose heart in doing the right thing. It wasn't that Paul never had a bad day. He had plenty of reasons if he wanted to give up and quit. In 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 he lists some of those situations...he'd been in prison, he'd been flogged, he'd faced death many times. Five times he'd received 39 lashes, three times he was beaten with rods, and once he was stoned. He was shipwrecked three times, and once spent a night and a day out in the open sea, and many other dangers and difficulties too numerous to list. But, greater than all the bad days was this truth that promised all the good yet to come, and formulated all of Paul's reasons to press on: "*God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.*" 2 Corinthians 5:21. And so that's where he set his mind. It was his constant focus and grateful heart. It was his sure and certain hope that superseded whatever hardships the world was dishing out. In Paul's mind, this world was temporary...not only temporary, but very short. It would be gone in a blip. So, for the short time that he had, he wanted to spend it all pointing people to Christ. There wasn't time to quit and give up. Plus, with all that he had been given in Christ, knowing all that Jesus had first done for him, he realized he couldn't quit. Instead he fully embraced who God had called him to be. That being; "*And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.*"...from 2 Corinthians 5:19b-20. Paul knew his position in Christ, he understood his calling in the Lord. Quitting or dropping out of the race was simply not an option.

Now I know you might be tempted to think, “Well, I’m no Paul.” There was nothing special about Paul, it was Christ in Paul. And if you’re saved today, then it’s the Christ in you. It’s not about us, it’s about Christ in us. *“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.”* 2 Corinthians 5:17. Paul knew this truth about God, and it’s a good reminder for us; a good promise to stand on. *“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work in us.”* Ephesians 3:20.

- ♥ Let us not grow weary
- ♥ Let us not lose heart
- ♥ Don’t get discouraged
- ♥ Don’t give up
- ♥ Don’t quit

“Greater is He who is in you, than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4. Don’t lose sight of that truth.

Finally, from Philippians 3, *“I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”*

Blessing to each and every one of you. Press on!

Pastor Steve

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 come!

More Events coming in July! Watch for them!

Women's Afternoon Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
All women are invited to come
Please contact Helen Brehm
815-942-6625



Women's Evening Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
All women are invited to come
New Study called "Letters to the Church" by Francis Chan
Please contact Colette Kirby at 815-942-9527

Single Moms' Group

Every Other Wednesday Evening at 5:30 pm
If you are a single mom or know of one who would
enjoy meeting with others, please invite them to come with you!



Congregational Prayer

Sunday, June 2

5:00 pm

Come gather together for prayer and praise!



Boards to Meet on Tuesday, June 11

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education

5:30 pm – Board of Trustees

6:30 pm – Board of Diaconates

Adopt-A-Highway

A BIG shout out to Stan Motter, Colleen Miller, Doug & Colette McCaleb and Char Orndorff for helping with our first seasonal Adopt-A-Highway event on April 13! We picked up lots of garbage along Saratoga Road and in a short time!

Many hands make light work!



Fellowship Breakfast Hour

June 2 – August 11

9:15-10:30am

A Continental Breakfast will be served each Sunday

A sign-up sheet is available on the foyer table

Church will provide cereal, jelly, milk and juice



Senior Luncheon

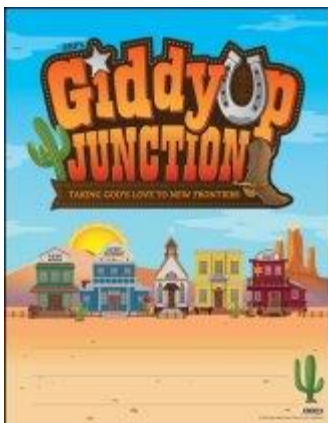
Tuesday, June 18 @ 12:00pm

Join us for lunch & fellowship!

Ever wondered what your handwriting says about you?

Bill Needham, a graphologist,
will be giving us some insight during our program

Questions? Call Colette at 815-954-9527



VBS

(Vacation Bible School)

July 22-26

5:30 – 8:00pm

Ages 4 yrs. thru 5th grade

Our theme this year is **“GiddyUp Junction”**

Any questions please call the church office at 815-942-0812

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

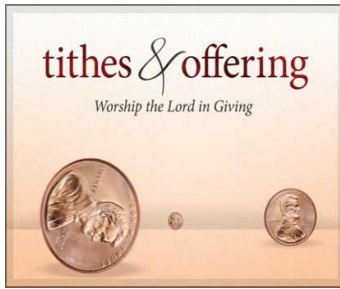
Philippians 2:4

UNIFIED GIVING

<u>Month</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Needed</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Received</u>
May	\$25,720.00	\$21,301.02

Church Mortgage Balance as of May 26, 2019 \$160,382.20

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!



This past year \$5,265.00 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!

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.

MIDDLE GROUP

Ages 20-50

We are looking for someone willing to take over the Middle Group, they meet once every quarter or so.
If anyone is interested, please contact the church office at 815-942-0812.





REMEMBER *there will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL during the summer months!*



Awana Club
First Baptist Church
Ages 4 yrs. to 8th grade

We are very excited to have started an Awana Club here at **First Baptist Church!**

Awana Club is held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at **6:00 – 7:15pm**

You may register by calling the church office @ 815-942-0812

Registration is required

Awana Club's mtg. this month will be on Sunday, June 2 and 16!

On June 16th it will be Awana Award Night
Since this is also Father's Day, please bring along your Dad or Grandpa!



www.clipartof.com · 213966

Youth Group

Sunday, June 9

5-7 pm

We will be playing

Putt-putt golf

In Channahon

Any questions,

contact Leslie Meloun

**Have a
Great Summer!**





June Birthdays

- 1 Sue Castanier, Cathy Planeta
 - 2 Jacob Johnson
 - 3 Ryan Battersby, Carla O'Brien
 - 7 Linda Poppleton
 - 13 June Thompson, Eric Wilkinson
 - 14 Joyce Lucas, Christi Punke
 - 15 Jay Chisler, Hope Downey, Joe Gonnam, Regina Littral, Bailey Severson
 - 16 Annette Calcote, Kara Paulson, Wyatt Sobesky
 - 18 Brian Hemmersbach
 - 20 Tobias Diaz
 - 22 Roberta Carlson, Cindy Davids, Penny Goins, Dave Johnson, Dan Wilkinson
 - 23 Owen Duvick, Rodney Ellis, Carrington Herman, Jerry Planeta
 - 25 Mara Punke
 - 26 Aiden Carlson
 - 28 Norma Arnsdorff
 - 30 Brenda Downey
-

June Anniversaries

- 3 Michael and Leslie Meloun
- 5 Mark and Sue Castanier
- 9 Ed and Jeane Robertson
- 10 Ron and Sandra Hardesty
- 14 Greg and Cheryle Larson
- 16 Paul and Donna Livingston
- 17 Rodney and Ronda Clark, Marty and Cindy Davids
- 23 Jim and Deb Gonnam, Ramon and Kelli Diaz
- 28 Mark and Jodi Johnson
- 29 Gary and Deb Bounds, Herman and Lynn Wisslead
- 30 George and Jan Kresse, Alan and Kara Hill

Happy Anniversary!





Pictorial Directory
September 11-14, 2019

Lifetouch

Lifetouch Photography will once again be taking pictures for our
First Baptist Church Pictorial Directory.

Watch for more details as September gets closer!

A Note From.....

First Baptist Church,

I wanted to thank you for always thinking of me during this time! The goodies will be very helpful during these last couple of weeks! Thank you again!

♥ Bryn Taylor

Tracy
DeGraaf

Life Happens.....

Laugh Anyway!

Christian
Comedian

Christian Comedian "Tracy DeGraaf" will spend an hour using comedy as an Outreach Event.

Tracy is a mom of 5 boys and has found a life with Jesus!

June 8, 2019

First Baptist Church of Morris

Doors open at 5:15pm/Show starts at 6:00pm

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

Online for \$16.00

At the door for \$20.00

Website is www.tracydegraaf.com or www.eventbrite.com

A sign-up sheet is available (also on church's Facebook page)

Happy Father's Day!

June 16, 2019

- "Dad: A son's first hero, a daughter's first love." —Unknown
- "The power of a dad in a child's life is unmatched." —Justin Riclefs
- "It is a wise father that knows his own child." —William Shakespeare
- "One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters." —George Herbert
- "A girl's first true love is her father." —Marisol Santiago
- "A father's smile has been known to light up a child's entire day." —Susan Gale
- "A father doesn't tell you that he loves you. He shows you." —Dimitri the Stoneheart
- "Fathers just have a way of putting everything together." —Erika Cosby
- "Behind every great daughter is a truly amazing father." —Unknown
- "To her, the name of father was another name for love." —Fanny Fern
- "The older I get, the smarter my father seems to get." —Tim Russert
- "No music is so pleasant to my ears as that word—father." —Lydia Maria Child
- "A father carries pictures where his money used to be." —Steve Martin
- "When my father didn't have my hand, he had my back." —Linda Poindexter
- "A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow." —Unknown
- "The greatest mark of a father is how he treats his children when no one is looking." —Dan Pearce
- "Fathers, be good to your daughters. You are the awesome weight of her world." —John Mayer

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- **Proverbs 23:24:** "The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him."
 - **Psalms 32:7-8:** "You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance."
 - **Proverbs 4:11-12:** "I will guide you in the way of wisdom and I will lead you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered, and when you run, you will not stumble."

2019 camp schedules and registration forms
for Blackhawk Camp are available
The church will pay ½ of each camper's fees

If students are interested in earning scholarship money to Blackhawk Camp,
please check with Colleen Miller or Chris Phillips to find out what
opportunities to help around the church are available



BLACKHAWK BAPTIST CAMP 2019
Celebrating 60 years!
4491 W. Henry Road, Oregon, IL 61061
815-496-0732

Following is a schedule of camp dates and clean-up/work day
June 29th – 8:30am-2:00pm*

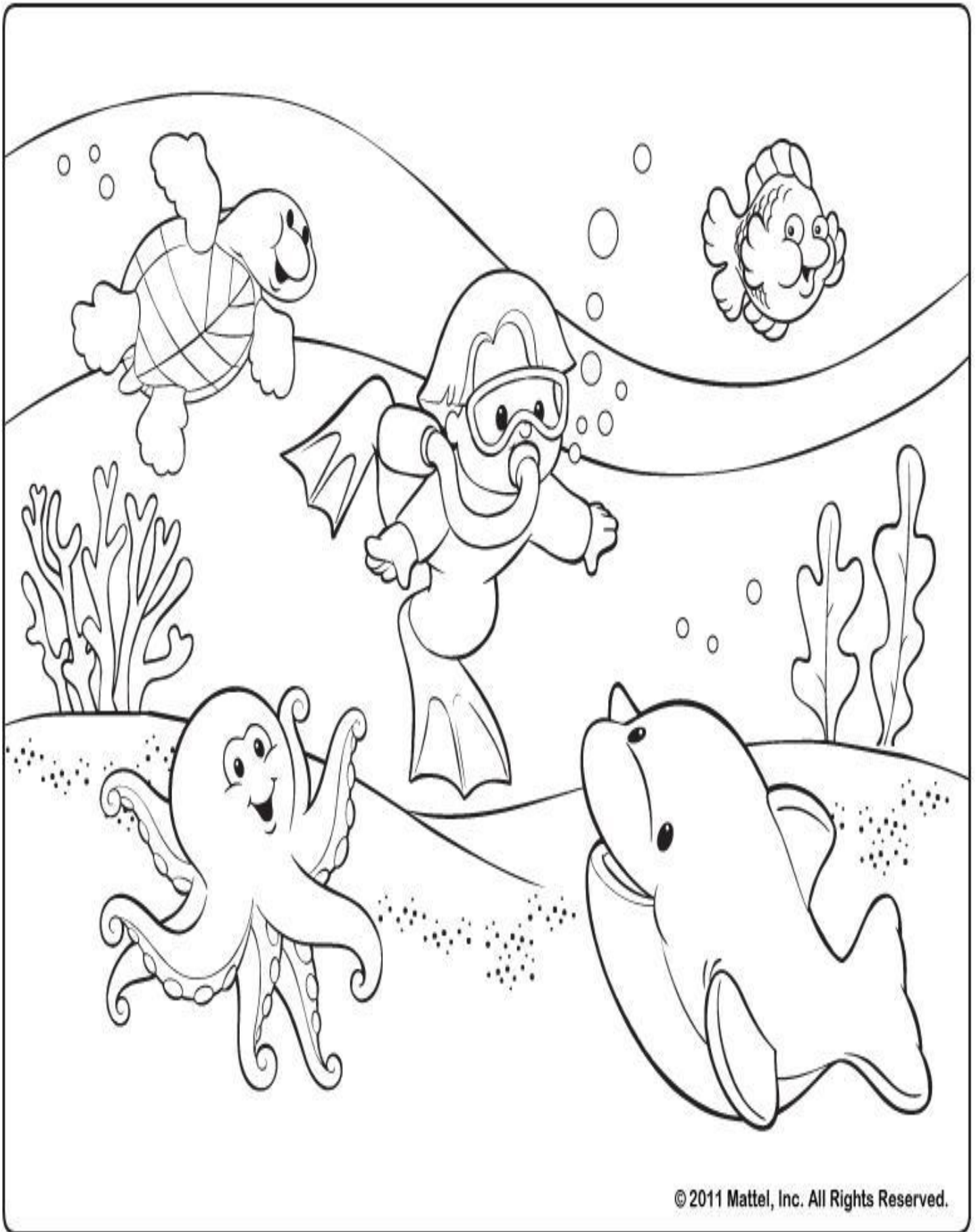
2nd clean-up - Grounds and cabins restored for camping season & final “spruce up”
*lunch will be provided

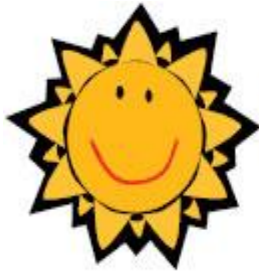
CAMP	START DATE & TIME	END DATE & TIME	COST
Jr. High Camp (grades 6-8)	July 7 th @ 4 pm	July 13 th @ 10 am	\$240
Sr. High Camp (grades 9-12)	July 14 th @ 4 pm	July 20 th @ 10 am	\$240
Arts & Drama Camp (grades 6-12)	July 21 st @ 4 pm	July 26 th @ 10 am	\$200
Slumber Party (grades K-5)	July 26 th @ 7 pm	July 27 th @ 10 am	\$25
Day Camp (grades K-5)	July 27 th @ 9:30 am	July 27 th @ 4 pm	\$25
Middler Camp (grades 2-5)	July 28 th @ 4 pm	Aug 1 st @ 7 pm	\$200
Twilight Camp (grades 6-12)	August 2 nd @ 7 pm	August 4 th @ 1 pm	\$75

Blackhawk Day Event **August 10th** **9:30 am**
Coffee hour & lunch will be provided A day of great Fellowship & fun Activities
ALL ages are invited to celebrate 60 years at Blackhawk Camp

HELP the CAMP – amazonsmile

Blackhawk Baptist Camp is now getting a percentage of purchases on Amazon Smile.
If you have an account on Amazon you can just go on smile.amazon.com and select
Blackhawk Baptist Camp as the charitable organization you wish to support
at no additional cost to you.





WELCOME SUMMER

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

AUGUST
BEACH
BIKES
CAMPING
CARNIVAL
COOKOUTS
FIREFLIES
FIREWORKS
FISHING
FLIPFLOPS

FUN
HULA HOOPS
ICE CREAM
JULY
JUMPROPE
JUNE
MOVIES
PARADES
PARTIES
PICNICS
POOL

POPSICLES
ROLLERCOASTER
SANDALS
SPLASH
SPRINKLER
SNOWCONES
SUNGLASSES
SUNSCREEN
SWIMMING
THEME PARK
VACATION