

Baptist Bugle



August 2019

First Baptist Church of Morris - Pastor Steve Larson

1650 West Route 6 - Morris, Illinois

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Pastor's Ponderings –

“Grace to you and peace from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel, from the first day until now. And I am sure of this that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the Glory and praise of God.”

This is how Paul begins his letter to the Philippians. Chapter 1 verses 2-7a, 9-11. I couldn't help it think of this passage as I think about our church and all that God is doing in our midst. As I write this, I am still in awe of our week of Vacation Bible School last week. It was a powerful time because God was in it. He truly moved in the hearts of the kids that came. I am so thankful for everyone's help throughout the week, so many willing people.

It has been very fun to watch our Youth Group this summer and all the service projects they have worked on, and completed. The kids have shown up and worked hard all summer long.

I am excited, and anticipate as A W A N A gets going again here in August. I am praying for all the staff and helpers as they prepare. For the kids as they return, and their parents as they bring them each week.

Neighborhood Festival is this coming weekend. So much goes in to planning this annual event. So many eager volunteers come together to make sure this day goes so well.

We have had people tirelessly working and volunteering all summer long to keep our grounds looking as neat as a pin.

Our Men's and Women's Bible Studies are being met with such interest, that people are coming, and growing in the Lord, and hungering for more.

As we enter into August, we recognize how quickly the fall schedule will be beginning. I am in prayer for our Sunday School teachers as they prepare to begin another year of Sunday School. I look forward to our Adult Sunday School class as we will begin our study of the book of Isaiah.

I look forward to, I anticipate, and I pray for those who will lead another year of Good News Club and all the little ones who will come and hear the Gospel. Many perhaps for the very first time.

I know you could read this and it could look like, “Pastor, you are Really bragging on our church!” No, that’s not it at all. All though I am so very thankful for every one of you. Your willingness to do so much is very humbling to me. But no, the truth is it’s not about us. It’s not about our church. It’s about serving others, loving each other, and loving the Lord.

Paul says it like this. “So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:1-5

Nope, it’s not about us at all. It’s not about our church. It’s all about God and what He is doing. It’s all about His equipping and our following. It’s all about His leading and our willingness to walk with Him. It’s about letting God be God and us keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus. “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Thank you for your fellowship, and thank you for your partnership in the ministry of First Baptist Church. To God be the Glory.

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!



Women's Afternoon Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
Studying "Who is the Holy Spirit?"
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
Studying "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, August 4
5:00 pm

Come gather together for prayer and praise!
We will be meeting in the
old Adult Sunday School Room

Our Deepest Sympathy—

To the family of James Wooldridge.
James passed away on
Saturday, July 20.
James is Carla O'Brien's father.
Our thoughts and prayers
are with Carla and John
and their families.



Boards to Meet on Tuesday, Aug. 13

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education

5:30 pm – Board of Trustees

6:30 pm – Board of Diaconates

Fellowship Breakfast Hour

June 2 – August 11

9:15-10:30am



A Continental Breakfast will be served each Sunday
Church will provide cereal, jelly, milk and juice

“**E**xamine me,
O Lord,
and try me;
test my mind and my heart
for

Thy loving kindness
is before my eyes,
and I have walked
in
THY TRUTH.”

Psalms 26:2-3

you are

BEAUTIFUL
PSALM 139:14

CHOSEN
1 Peter 2:9

MADE FOR A PURPOSE
EPHESIANS 2:10

A PRECIOUS CHILD OF GOD
JOHN 1:12

LOVED FOREVER
JEREMIAH 31:3



Thank you, THANK you, THANK YOU!!

I just want to say a huge thank you to all who have so generously donated cans for our sweet Sophia's therapy. We have decided to discontinue this, due to declining cost vs. work involved in preparing them for processing. These five years have really assisted in offsetting costs for her therapy!

We truly appreciate your support 

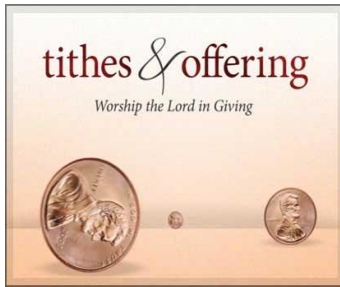
Judy Kuntz

UNIFIED GIVING

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Monthly Amt. Needed</u> | <u>Monthly Amt. Received</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| July | \$25,720.00 | \$31,572.14 |

Church Mortgage Balance as of July 28, 2019 \$145,193.17

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!



This past year \$6,215.00 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.

Notes received.....

Dear First Baptist Church,
Thank you for the college care box. I really appreciate it!
From, Gretchen Goebel



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.

12 "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

Colossians 3:12



RALLY DAY!

Sunday, August 18

Teacher Appreciation
Picnic at the church

Fall Sunday School begins August 25!



“Children are not a distraction from more important work. They ARE the most important work.”

- C.S. Lewis



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 mtgs. this month...

Awana will meet on **August 4th and 18th!**

August 18 – Bring a Friend Nite!



Youth Group


Saturday, Aug. 10
Drive-in Movie Nite

Sunday, Aug. 11
5-7:00 pm
Swimming

Sunday Aug. 25
6:00pm
Youth Group

Any questions, contact
Leslie Meloun



You must first teach
a child he is loved, 
only then is he
ready to learn
everything
else.

August Birthdays

- 1 Kyle Schwalm
- 3 Melanie Zierman
- 4 Abigail Cunningham, Greg Larson, Bob West
- 5 Alexander Mote
- 6 Herman Wisslead
- 7 Kortney Gretencord, Kaden Linn
- 8 Mark Hemmersbach
- 9 Sullivan Suksdorf, Amanda Hitchcock, Landy Walker
- 11 Robert Clark, Rodney Clark, Bev Swiggett, Bobby Diaz
- 12 Tyler Severson
- 13 Nathan Johnson, Lisa Vaksdal
- 14 Debi Schultz
- 15 Ryan Hill
- 16 Dan Beal, Beverly Swiggett
- 18 Rebecca Ellis, Bob Marx
- 22 Marlene Burnside, Ron Hardesty
- 23 Jon Lanning
- 24 Larry Snyder, Olivia Schultz, Ed Robertson
- 25 Gabi Matuszewski
- 29 Greg Bricker, Judy Needham
- 30 Nancy Hiney



August Anniversaries

- 3 Alan and Shirley Love
- 4 Jeff and Amanda Carlson
- 6 Pastor Steve and Kristi Larson
- 10 Ken and Anja Carlson
- 11 Joe and Kay Hemmersbach
- 13 Chris and Kristen Day
- 16 Jim and Kathy Walcott
- 28 Brian and Diane Gagliardo
- 31 Chad and Tiffany Larsen



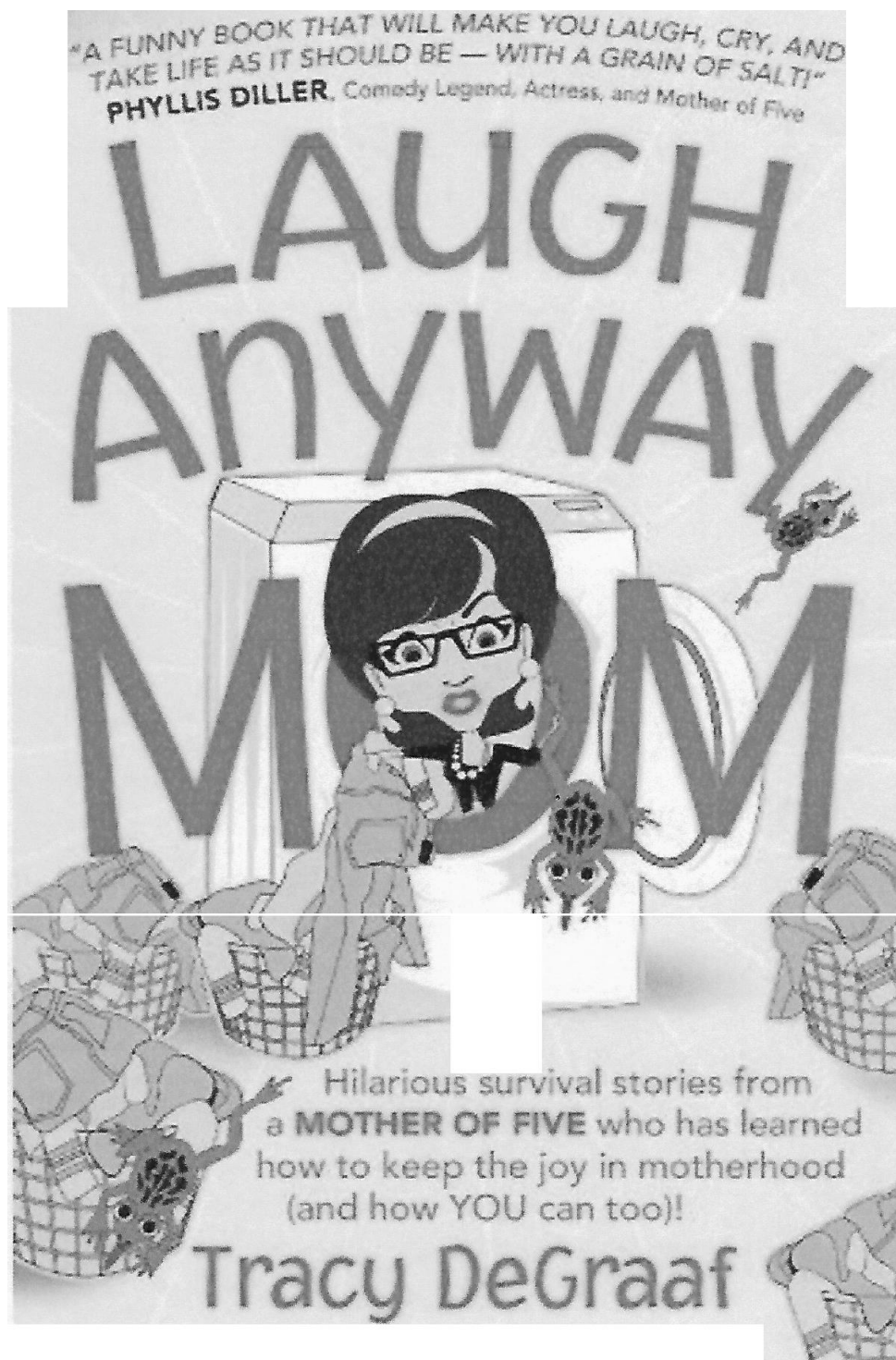
CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY!

Two copies of *"Laugh Anyway Mom"* by Tracy DeGraaf were recently donated to the church library.

Tracy performed her comedy routine here at First Baptist Church in June and gave us lots of laughs!!

Tracy is a mother of 5 boys and her book is filled with laugh-out-loud stories that are sure to resonate with every mom! This book will make you laugh and cry as Tracy reminds you how to keep your sense of humor and to reconnect with the true joys of motherhood. You'll find the books in the "Check Out What's New" section, located on the top shelf next to the book return basket.

HAPPY READING!





Pictorial Directory
September 11-14, 2019



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

Watch for more details as September gets closer!

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, August 25

1-3pm



Richard and Annette Allen

*Everyone is invited to an Open House
for Richard and Annette, hosted by their
family. Richard and Annette are moving
and would love to visit with you before
they leave! Hope you can come!!*

Shirley Love will not be available for a while to take pictures at our church events. She has asked that anyone attending these events take a few pictures and send them to her cell phone 815-514-3477.

We will be putting them in the new pictorial directory activity pages, as well as on the bulletin boards after Shirley scrapbooks them. She has asked that you send her the pictures by Aug 10th from Neighborhood Fest, if possible.

If you have any questions,
Shirley.



Card Shower



**Alan & Shirley Love
40th Wedding Anniversary
August 3, 2019**


Alan & Shirley's family have asked our church family to help them celebrate their parents' 40th wedding anniversary by sending them a card to -
Alan & Shirley Love
113 Hickory Lane
Morris, IL 60450
or put a card in the box on the foyer table!



Adopt-A-Highway

**I would like to give a huge shout out to Pastor Steve,
Stan Motter, Colette Kirby, and Char Orndorff
for helping with our second Adopt-A-Highway event!**

Judy Kuntz



NEIBORHOOD FEST
Saturday, August 3
11am – 4pm

This is our 5th Annual Neighborhood Fest!
Activities for All Ages!
We will need volunteers in several different areas –

Food
Face Painting
Gaga Ball
Crafts for Children
Junior Water Fights
Inflatable Water Slide
Activities from **T.E.A.C.H. Outdoors**
Reptiles from **Coal Black Exotics**
Wood-Working Craft for Children
Grundy County Sheriff's K-9 Unit



If you are willing to help with this outreach, please fill out a
volunteer form available at the church.
Any questions, please contact Colleen Miller at 815-354-4516



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

| CAMP | START DATE & TIME | END DATE & TIME | COST |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Twilight Camp (grades 6-12) | August 2 nd @ 7 pm | August 4 th @ 1 pm | \$75 |

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We invite you to join us in celebrating 60 years on Saturday, August 10th at 9:30am. We will have a coffee hour and lunch, live music, organized hikes, games, swimming and a campfire with s'mores! Come learn about the history of our camp and celebrate the potential it has to be in the future!

To RSVP for the celebration you can message us on Facebook, e-mail us at blackhawkbaptistcamp@gmail.com, or call Bobbie Rose at (847)727-3282.

*Love in Christ,
Your Blackhawk Baptist Camp Family*

HELP the CAMP – amazonsmile

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