

Baptist Bugle

October 2020

First Baptist Church of Morris

Pastor - Steve Larson

Youth Director - Leslie Meloun

1650 West Route 6 - Morris, Illinois

Phone: 815-942-0812 - fbmorris1650@gmail.com - www.fbmorris.org



Pastor's Ponderings -

Elizabeth Clephane was born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1830. Growing up in Melrose, Scotland, Elizabeth was a very quiet little girl, preferring to go unnoticed and was always absorbed in books. She lost both her parents at a very early age. She had a passion for poetry. She was very frail physically, yet despite that, she was a diligent Bible student, and spent much of her time serving the poor and the sick of her community. As with so many of her poems, they were published in a Scottish Presbyterian Magazine entitled, "The Family Treasury." Elizabeth passed away at the young age of 39. A year before she died, she wrote a poem that would later become the hymn entitled, "Beneath the Cross of Jesus." Here are some of the words of that hymn....

*Upon the cross of Jesus mine eyes at times can see
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears, two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.*

*I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face,
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self, my only shame, my glory all the cross.*

In 1 Corinthians 1:18, Paul writes, "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God." Later in verses 23 and 24, he writes, "but we preach Christ crucified; a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks; Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."

As we move through these days, where do you stand? Can you say with the hymn writer, "Beneath the Cross of Jesus, I fain (gladly) would take my stand." That is, without a doubt a life changing decision. When we take our stand beneath the cross,

it affects every area of our lives. It has bearing, or it should have bearing on every decision we make. With that in mind, we are less than 40 days from what is perhaps the most important election in recent history. Are you praying about how you will be voting? This is an incredibly critical time in our Nation's history. Our Nation is at a crossroads, and prayer is our most important weapon. To be honest, the United States is crumbling, and God is our only hope. The serious problems that continue to escalate in our country, are ones that only God can solve. And I really believe our time is short. I believe America, as it was founded, is on the line in this election; if socialism and a socialist agenda wins out on November 3rd, I don't see America surviving. The only hope I see for our country is Almighty God.

It is so vitally important that we be in prayer for our Nation in these days leading up to the election. As we continue to battle the pandemic, and seek to overcome racial strife and the deep, deep political divisions in this country, we must see that God is our only hope. America desperately needs a spiritual awakening. America must turn back to the Lord. Will you commit to prayer for our Nation, asking God to give us a heart of repentance, that our country would once again seek His heart? Will you commit to voting on November 3rd? Do not be numbered among those who will not see the importance in casting their vote, but will instead stay away from the polling booth and give that responsibility to someone else. Will you vote, and vote your convictions as you take your stand beneath the cross of Jesus?

May God keep His hand on America and may America find us faithful to Almighty God, standing for Christ.

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
Are studying "*How God Makes Men*" by Patrick Morley
All men are invited to join us!
Please contact Stan Motter

Women's Afternoon Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
Have begun studying "*You Are Alive in Christ*"
A Guide to Colossians by Stonecroft
All women are invited to come
Please contact Helen Brehm at 815-942-6625



Women's Evening Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Are studying "*Better; Study of Hebrews*" by Jen Wilkin
All women are invited to come
Please contact Colette Kirby at 815-942-9527

Single Moms' Group

Every other Wednesday Evening at 6:00 pm (*new time for now*)
If you are a single mom or know of one who would
enjoy meeting with others, please invite them to come with you!
Please contact Kristi Larson





Congregational Prayer

Sunday, October 4

4:30 pm

*(We will gather in the old
Adult Sunday school rm.)*

Boards to Meet on Tuesday, October 13

3:00 pm – Board of Diaconates

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Educ.

5:30 pm – Board of Trustees



UNIFIED GIVING

Month

Monthly Amt. Needed

Monthly Amt. Received

September

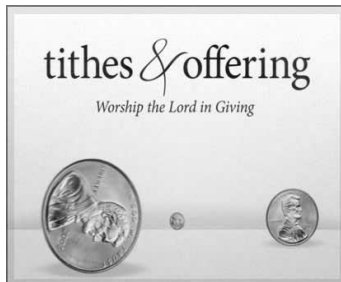
\$25,720.00

\$18,852.00

“The Monthly Amt. Received includes offertory that has been mailed in.”

Church Mortgage Balance as of September 25, 2020 \$28,639.32

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!



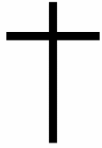
This past year \$8339.00 has been given to be applied to the ‘principal only’! Anyone wishing to contribute toward lowering the principal should write ‘apply to principal only’ on their check. For accounting purposes, it would be appreciated if you would write a separate check if giving for ‘principal only’, rather than including it in your regular giving check. Thank You!

You can seldom argue a person into the kingdom of God.
That’s because the real reason for disbelief in God usually has nothing to do with logic. [It] has to do with their emotions and their will. In other words, people don’t believe in God because they don’t want to believe – and they don’t want to believe because they want to run their own lives.

We must do our best to answer – with gentleness and respect any questions we’re asked, even if we think it isn’t sincere or is only meant to put us on the spot. But the most important thing we can do is to show by our life and love that Jesus is real.

“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

Colossians 4:6



Children's Church

Begins Sunday, October 4
10:15 am

We are starting back to Children's Church!!

Kiddos will meet during the Sunday Service
in the old Adult Sunday School classroom

Masks will be required and there will be masks available if needed

Any questions please call the church office.



God's Top Ten

1. Put God First
2. Worship Him Only
3. No Bad Words
4. Work 6, Rest 1
5. Obey Your Parents
6. Harm No One
7. Don't Cheat
8. If It's Not Yours, Don't Take It
9. Tell the Truth
10. Don't Be Jealous of Other People's Stuff





What a Mighty God We Serve



What a mighty God we serve
What a mighty God we serve
Angels bow before Him
Heaven and earth adore Him
What a mighty God we serve!



Drive-thru
Pork Chop Dinner
Saturday, October 24
11 am – 1 pm
First Baptist Church
Youth Fundraiser

Drive-thru Pork Chop Dinner Youth Fundraiser Saturday, October 24 11 am – 1 pm

This event is sponsored by the Men of Action and Youth Group of First Baptist Church of Morris. This event will be a drive-thru pork chop meal. **Online/Pre-orders are strongly encouraged.** We will have limited amount sold at the door. This dinner will be catered by ***5 B's Catering.***

Pork Chop Dinner \$13
Includes – 2 center-cut pork chops (grilled)
Roll and butter
Applesauce
Baked beans
Cole slaw

Any questions, please contact the church office at 815-942-0812.

OUR YOUTH OUTREACH



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...

Not meeting together right now

Sunday, October 4

Awana Leaders
will deliver a bag to each
child's home between
3:30 – 4:00 pm

Sunday, October 18

Awana Leaders
will deliver a bag to each
child's home between
3:30-4:00 pm

Inside Bag –
Lesson
Craft
Snack

Questions –
call Cheryl Johnson or Kristi Larson



Youth Group
Ages 5th – 12th Grade

Sunday, October 11

6-8pm

"Game Night"

Saturday, October 24

11am-1pm

Drive-Thru Pork Chop Dinner

Fund Raiser

at the church

together with

Men of Action

Sunday, October 25

TBD

"Carve a Pumpkin"

§ hot dogs

at the church

together with

Men of Action

Questions -
Call Leslie Meloun

God is fighting
your battles,
arranging things in
your favor, and
making a way even
when you don't see
a way!



WHAT: Live Nativity - "Oh! Come Let Us Adore Him!"

WHEN: December 11 & 12

TIME: 5:00 - 8:00pm

Plans are that we will go forward with this outreach.

We will be making costumes, a stable needs to be built, signs need to be made; and some will be purchased, publicity, food etc. The animals (including camels!), which are the majority of the cost, are already reserved and a deposit has been made.

Considering what the nation and our world is being faced with for the last few months, we feel that this will bring a hopeful message to the residents and visitors of our community at Christmas. We would like for you to remember this as you are led to make a donation for this outreach. If you donate, please designate it as "Live Nativity."

This will be a church wide endeavor and we are looking forward to working together as we bring God's message to a weary world!

******We still need -clean 1-gallon milk jugs (250-300 total), you may drop them off at the church. Please contact Stan Motter with any questions.***





MOVING FORWARD...

We have now begun a Saturday Night Service at Church
One Service at 5:00 pm

We will be meeting inside the building

Please bring your mask and Bible (masks are required for this service)

Practice social distancing with chairs (if not family)

There will be NO singing, Videos only

Offering plate will be available

Adult Sunday school at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings

Sunday Morning Service begins at 10:15 am

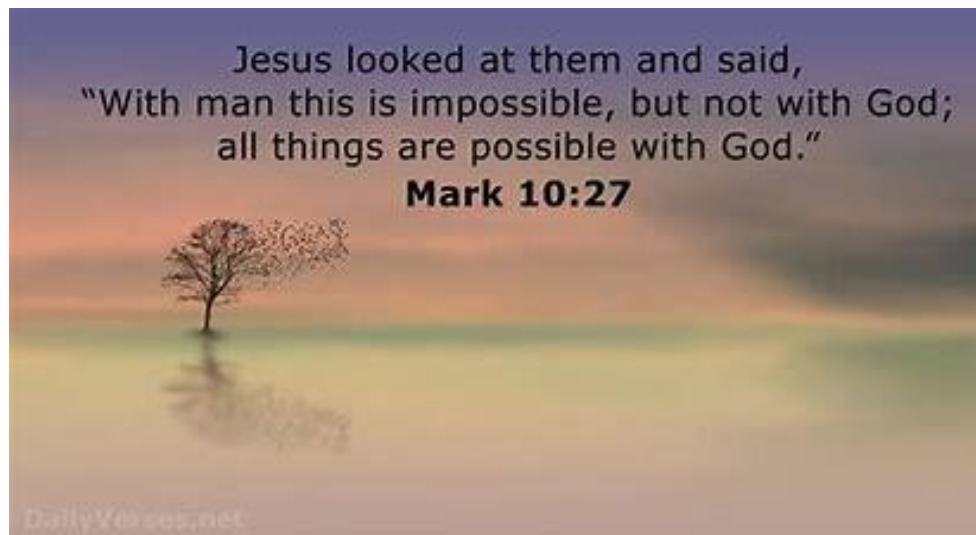
Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building

The Church will continue to be sanitized regularly

NO Nursery is available at this time

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. **Be still, and know that I am God;** I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

Psalm 46:1-3, 10



Let your light so shine
Matthew 5:16

October Birthdays

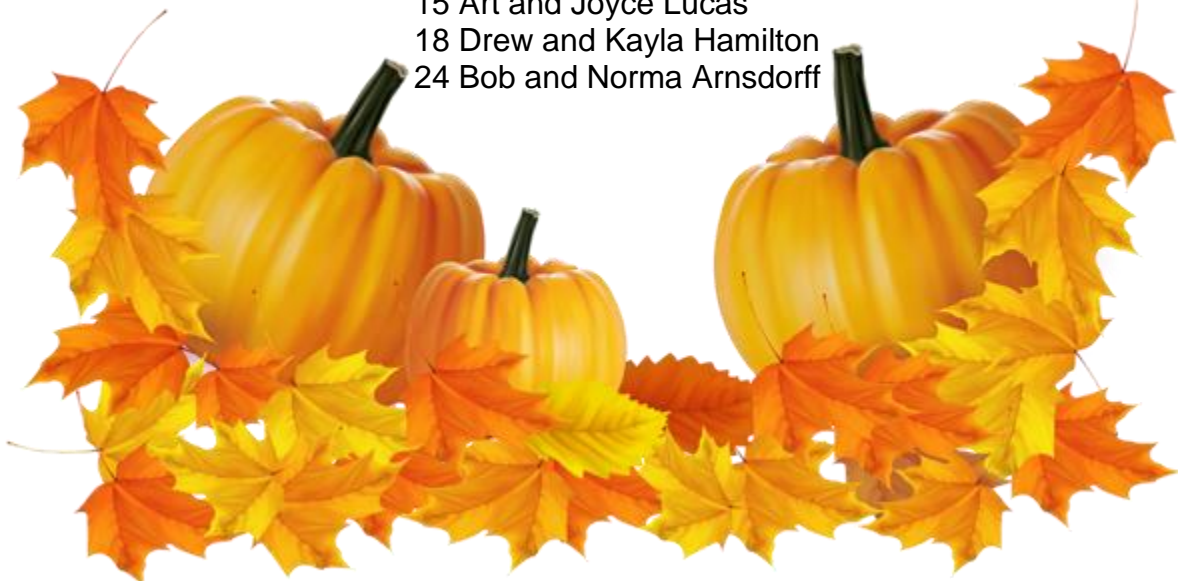
- 1 Lauren Emmons, Haley West
- 3 Kim Marx
- 4 Jim Adair
- 5 Tracey Steffes
- 6 Claudette Swiggett, Chris Phillips
- 8 Debbie Ritke
- 10 Peyton Chapman
- 11 Bob Udstuen, Ashlyn Punke, Dorothy Fannin
- 12 Rylie Linn
- 15 Gayle Conrod, Joan Olson
- 17 Grace Alford, Rita Briley
- 18 Amanda Carlson
- 20 Jeff Carlson
- 21 Tim Applegate, Nancy Krug
- 23 Deb Gonnam, Shirley Myre, Kaylee Cromer
- 24 Greg Kuntz
- 26 Shirley Love
- 30 Diane Alford, Jackson Shannon, Pat Hunter, Nikki Shannon



**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY**

October Anniversaries

- 2 Todd and Debi Schultz
- 9 Leroy and Kay Durbin
- 12 Bob and Cindy West, Patrick and Monica Zavala
- 15 Art and Joyce Lucas
- 18 Drew and Kayla Hamilton
- 24 Bob and Norma Arnsdorff



CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY!

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!

"God's Hostage" by Andrew Brunson

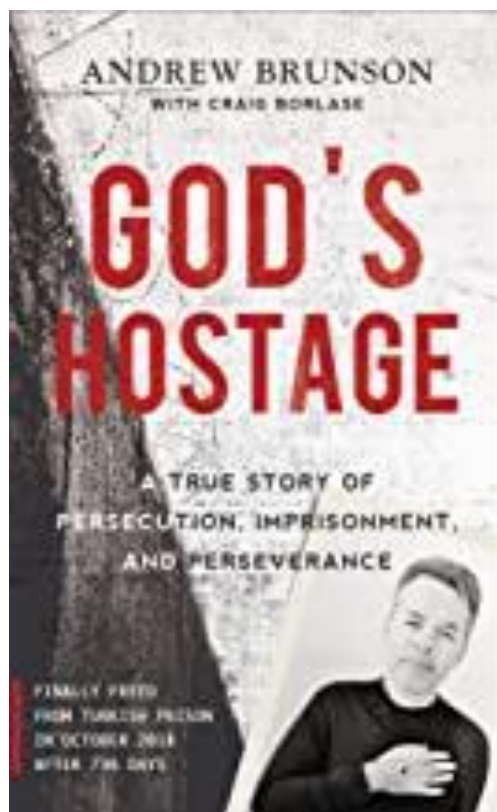
In 1993, Andrew Brunson was asked to travel to Turkey, the largest unevangelized country in the world, to serve as a missionary. Though hesitant because of the daunting and dangerous task that lay ahead, Andrew and his wife, Norine, believed this was God's plan for them.

What followed was a string of threats and attacks, but also successes in starting new churches in a place where many people had never met a Christian. As their work with refugees from Syria, including Kurds, gained attention and suspicion, Andrew and Norine acknowledged the threat but accepted the risk, determining to stay unless God told them to leave.

In 2016, they were arrested. Though the State eventually released Norine, who remained in Turkey, Andrew was imprisoned. Accused of being a spy and being among the plotters of the attempted coup, he became a political pawn whose story soon became known around the world.

God's Hostage is the incredible true story of his imprisonment, his brokenness, and his eventual freedom. Anyone with a heart for missions, especially to the Muslim world, will love this tension-laden and faith-laced book.

A true story of persecution,
imprisonment & perseverance



ALSO NEW IN THE KID'S LIBRARY SECTION.....

VBS

Go on Five exciting adventures with a real life dinosaur researcher!! He also shares his passion for the Gospel and creation! (All ages)

ABC'S OF GOD'S PLAN (3DVD's)

Beginning with creation all the way through God's plan of salvation and His finished work in our world!!

THE ANSWERS BOOKS

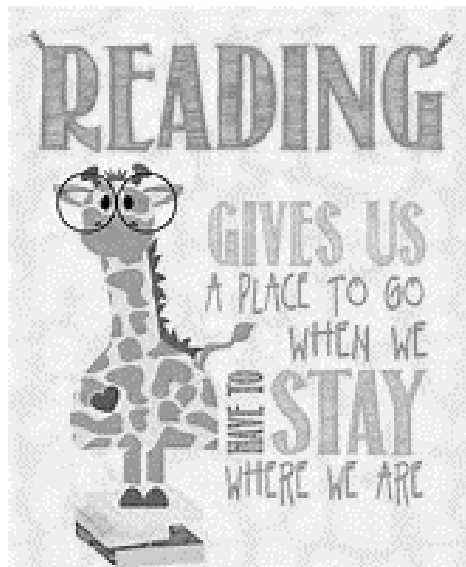
8 Books answering kids questions about God. It may answer some adult questions too!! (Ages 5-11)

I REALLY WANT ANSWERS

3 well-illustrated, scientifically accurate, fun to read books that inspire a love for the gospel and science! (Ages 4-12)

THE DOOR OF SALVATION

Only one door to be saved from the flood and one door to personal salvation! (Ages 4-10)



WORD SEARCH - Autumn

Find and circle all of the Autumn words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a secret message – an Albert Camus quotation.

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

ACORN
APPLE
BIRD MIGRATION
BLOWING LEAVES
BLUSTERY DAY
CANNING
CHESTNUTS
CHILLY
COLD
CROPS

EQUINOX
FALL
FARMING
FEAST
FROST
HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAYSTACK
HICKORY NUTS
LONGER NIGHTS

NOVEMBER
OCTOBER
ORANGE LEAVES
PIE
PUMPKIN
RAKE
RED LEAVES
SCARECROW
SCHOOL
SEASON

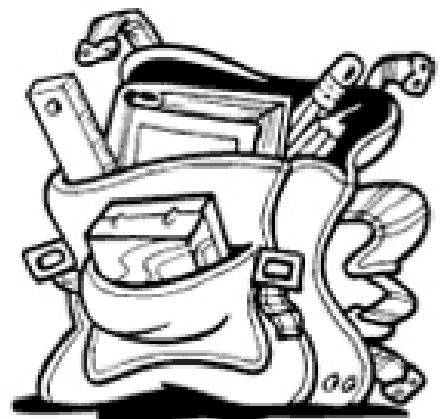
SEPTEMBER
SHORTER DAYS
SQUASH
SWEET POTATOES
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
WINDY
YELLOW LEAVES

BACK TO SCHOOL

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



STUDY	TEST
LEARN	ANSWER
TEACH	DESK
WORK	TAPE
DONE	GLUE



WORLD MISSION OFFERING

This offering will be received throughout the month of October.

By giving to the World Mission offering, we can participate in God's work around the world in partnership with International Ministries.

International Ministries is a cross-cultural mission agency with a long heritage in the American Baptist mission movement.

There are currently 125 global servants and over 900 volunteers serving to invite people to be disciples of Christ, while promoting peace, justice, education, health and wellness, and economic development.

Envelopes are available on the table in the foyer.



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

(Restrictions apply)

November 21, 2020

12:00 – 2:00 pm

We are able to volunteer again at the "Feed My Starving Children" facility in Aurora.

Right now they are only allowing 5 people in each group, our church is allowed to bring 4 groups so check with Jen or the church office for further information.

This is the 6th year we will have gone, and it is an amazing day of packing meals to feed children around the world!

Any questions, contact Jen Goebel

If anything about this day
or your current life circumstances
makes you feel too weak to have any "pull",
consider the word picture of Jesus wrapping His strength
around you to fortify this day for whatever you need.



For: Mason Chapman & Alena Hirst

When: Saturday, October 17, 2020
at the Church

Time: 11 am – 2 pm

RSVP: Teresa Chapman by Oct. 11
at 815-545-3181

Registered at: Amazon.com and
Walmart.com

Ladies & Gents are invited to this event!
If you are unable to attend, cards & gifts may be
dropped off at the Church or at Teresa's home at
222 East St., Morris

