

Baptist Bugle

November 2020

First Baptist Church of Morris

Pastor - Steve Larson

Youth Director - Leslie Meloun

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Pastor's Ponderings -

As we approach Election Day on November 3rd, America stands at the crossroads. American's will choose between two polar opposite visions for the nation. The implications are huge in how it will affect religious freedom and religious liberty, the sanctity of human life, and the family. It will affect how churches and Christian organizations can function, and whether or not they will be allowed to operate according to Biblical teaching. Mark my words; the outcome of this election could very well set the course of the nation for generations to come, if not for the rest of America's days. Truly, America stands at the crossroads. Will our nation be a free nation in the years ahead, or will we continue to slide further down the slope towards a socialist agenda with more and more government imposed rules and control?

It really begs the question of how will you vote on November 3rd? Every vote is a decision on how our country will move forward. Our two political parties have shown that they represent radically different visions for the future of our nation. They understand the role of government differently, they don't interpret our constitution the same, and how they define morality is very different. Look at their views on Abortion and the sanctity of human life; tell me they're not polar opposites. How they want to define the family/human sexuality and gender; completely different. Consider how different the two parties view religious liberty. That difference has certainly displayed itself since March, and COVID-19. Whoever wins in November, will greatly impact our religious freedom. And we could go on and on with examples with which to compare.

So how will you vote in November? Voting is a matter of stewardship for all Americans, but especially for us as Christians. Failure to vote is a failure to exercise God given authority. May we pray and think Biblically as we exercise our right and responsibility to vote on November 3rd.

I don't know how this election is going to go, but regardless, may God give us the courage to stay firmly rooted and grounded in Him.

Pastor Steve



MAKE SURE YOU VOTE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY



Women of Prayer
Tuesdays at 2:00 pm



Men of Action

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm

Have begun studying "*Man Alive*" by Patrick Morley
Transforming your 7 primal needs into a powerful spiritual life

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, November 1
4:30 pm

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

Boards to Meet on Tuesday, Nov. 10

3:00 pm – Board of Diaconates

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Educ.

5:30 pm – Board of Trustees



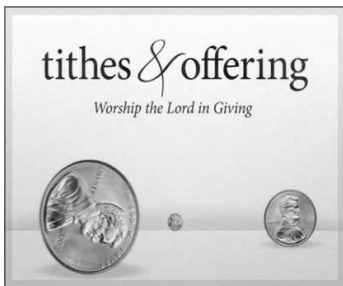
UNIFIED GIVING

<u>Month</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Needed</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Received</u>
October	\$25,720.00	\$23,275.36

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

Church Mortgage Balance as of October 23, 2020 \$21,255.46

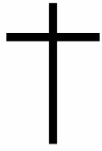
Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!



This past year \$8,689.00 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!



Before you go to bed
Saturday night, October 31
DON'T FORGET
to turn
your clocks back
1 hour !!



Children's Church

Sunday - during the church service

We have started having Children's Church again!!

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.

Sunday School Matters...

Sunday morning Children's Church, the Adult Sunday School class, Youth Group, men and women's bible studies have all resumed meeting. Our new tentative date for the resumption of Sunday School for Pre-school through High School is now January 10, 2021. We have spoken with various churches and inquired about their procedures for resumption and have found that so far it is not going very well in any of the churches that we have checked with. We, along with every other church, have had a problem with securing teachers. Some churches instituted Zoom learning, but it was not very effective. We, along with the approval of the Board of Christian Education, have decided to push the date into January. We pray by that time we will have our teachers and students ready to resume.

We are short 3 out of 4 teachers. Our church is not an exception. If you have a desire to minister to children by leading a class, please contact us. Our classes are Pre-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, Junior High and High School. Our Junior High teacher is available in January. If you have a heart for leading a child to Christ, we would love to have you on board. We have a wonderful, easy to use curriculum.

We are grateful for the dedicated parents who bring their children to worship. Especially in times such as these, we need to be able to offer a Sunday School program for our own children, as well as, the communities we live in.

We pray that we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, minds and bodies to bring an exciting program in January. If you feel called to help, please contact Kay (815-474-0866), Mary (815-942-6485) or the church office.

Prayerfully yours,

Mary Motter
Kay Hemmersbach





Behold, Behold



Behold, behold
I stand at the door and knock, knock, knock
Behold, behold
I stand at the door and knock, knock, knock
If anyone hears My voice,
If anyone hears My voice,
I will open, open, open the door
and will come in!

“Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.”

- Charles R. Swindoll

***“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:33***

When I was a young mother, there was always too much to do and too little time in which to do it. Between working, cleaning the house, running errands, cooking, doing the laundry, taking the children to their activities, and shopping, as well as being a wife and mother, I was always busy. I just didn't have much time for Jesus. I felt like a gerbil running inside a wheel, constantly running but never going anywhere. I was overwhelmed and frustrated. On Sundays, I was either too tired or too busy to go to church.

But as much as I loved my family, friends, and hectic life, I knew there was something missing. One night, feeling tired and empty, I reached out to Jesus. I knew that He needed to be a priority. It was time to make changes in my life. *Dear Jesus, I will put you first. Please give me peace. I can't do this without you,* I prayed. The next morning, I began the day with a prayer. I listened to worship music on the radio. I realized that Jesus wouldn't mind if I was washing dishes, cleaning the house, or driving while I prayed. He just wanted me to talk to Him. I began reading my Bible and devotionals more. We quit skipping church. My schedule was still busy. I had a lot of responsibilities, but Jesus was by my side.

Busyness can get in the way of spending time with Jesus. He longs for a relationship with us. He wants to lead us, guide us, and flood our lives with His grace and mercy. That only happens when we are in His presence, soaking up His love. - KATIE MINTER JONES

Faith Step: *Spend time in Jesus's presence today. Make Him your priority.*

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, November 1

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

Sunday, November 15

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, Nov. 8
5:30pm
Shoebox Packing Event
Youth Group &
their family
w/Committee
Meet at church

Sunday, Nov. 22
6 – 8pm
"Dinner & a Movie"
Movie choices -
Wonder
or
Inside Out

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 have met our need for gallon milk jugs for the luminaries. Thank You to everyone that donated!! 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

Sunday Morning Children's Church during service

Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building

The Church will continue to be sanitized regularly

NO Nursery is available at this time

NOTE OF THANKS.....

Bill and I would like to take this opportunity to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone that worked on the grounds of the church this year. It was always beautiful, even when we had to suspend church services for a while. It was inviting, showing it was loved. We would go out there for Bill to check on something and I always saw the beauty that surrounded the church and the love that was put in. Flowers, everything was being watered and groomed so lovingly. That took people who care and love JESUS! It was never closed, love surrounded the church and it showed. All of you that kept up the groundskeeping have represented the love we have for our LORD! We both say THANK YOU!

Love and Blessings to all of you. Your work was enjoyed by many.

Judy Needham

DEEPEST SYMPATHY.....

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Bob Arnsdorff. Bob passed away on Monday, October 19. Please hold in prayer his wife, Norma, children; Claudette, Carol and Nancy, and their families.



Embrace the joy that Jesus has given you!

November Birthdays

2 Ryan West, Axton Valdivia
3 Joshua Downey, Duane McComas
4 Colin Zierman, Gary Brian, Jerry Brian
6 Dominyk Zavala, Esther Ritke
7 Mason Chapman, Austin Conrod, Diane Wakeman
9 Ray Burnside
10 Jenna Emmons, Kevin Groll
15 Zach Ellis
17 Judy Kuntz
24 Stan Motter
25 Virginia Edmundson
29 Ed Krug
30 Palin Goebel, Taylor Marx



HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

November Anniversaries

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

NOVEMBER



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.

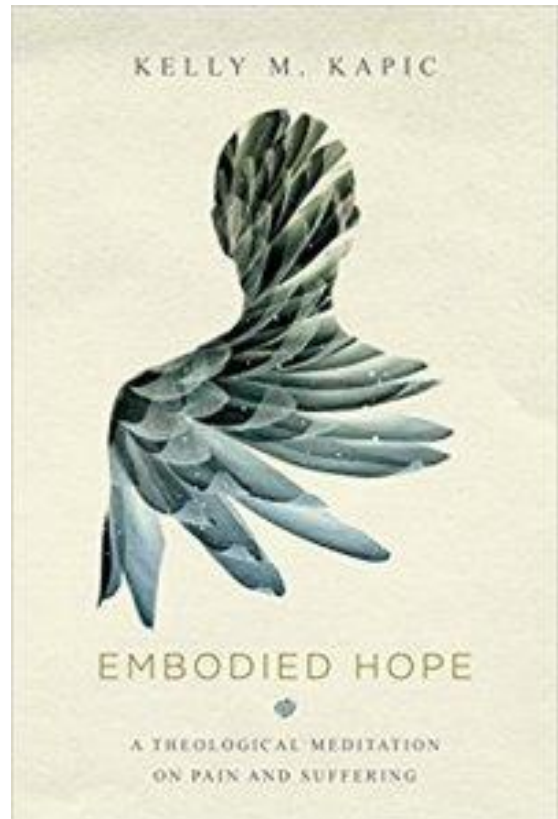
HAPPY READING!

Embodied Hope by Kelly Kapic

"This book will make no attempt to defend God...If you are looking for a book that boasts triumphantly of conquest over a great enemy, or gives a detached philosophical analysis that neatly solves an absorbing problem, this isn't it."

Too often the Christian attitude toward suffering is characterized by a detached academic appeal to God's sovereignty, as if suffering were a game or a math problem. Or maybe we expect that since God is good, everything will just work out all right somehow. But where then is honest lament? Aren't we shortchanging believers of the riches of the Christian teaching about suffering? In "Embodied Hope" Kelly Kapic invites us to consider the example of our Lord Jesus. Only because Jesus has taken on our embodied existence, suffered alongside us, died, and been raised again can we find any hope from the depths of our own dark valleys of pain. As we look to Jesus, we are invited to participate not only in His sufferings, but also in the church, which calls us out of isolation and into the encouragement and consolation of the communal life of Christ. Drawing on his own family's experience with prolonged physical pain, Kapic reshapes our understanding of suffering into the image of Jesus, and brings us to a renewed understanding of – and participation in – our embodied hope.

In *Embodied Hope*, however, theologian Kelly Kapic helps readers to encounter suffering, grieve it, and endure it in a godly way. This is a truly unique and compelling work.



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

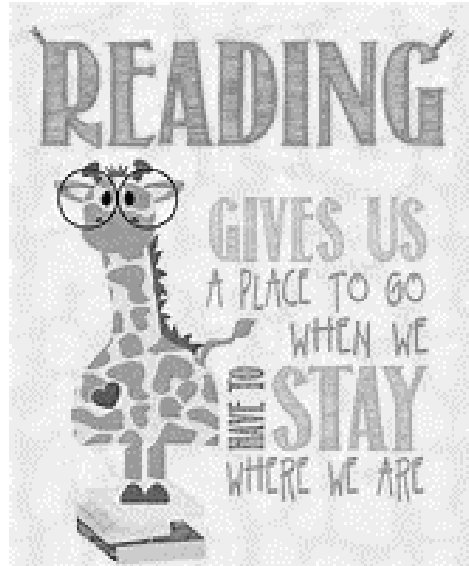
8 Books answering kids questions about God. It may answer some adult questions too!!
(Ages 5-11)

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)





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

"But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."
Mark 11:26

FAITH STEP: Search your heart and think of people whom you've not forgiven.
Start calling out their names in prayer and ask Jesus to help you forgive them.
Watch your heart fill with love for them.

Let's Paint!

"Happy Daisy Art Studio"

106 W. Washington Street, Morris

Saturday, November 21

4:00 pm



Come join us for a painting night downtown!
Cost is \$40/person if 8-14 attend and \$35/person if 15 or more attend
Supplies will be provided, bring your own beverage
Payment will be taken at the event in cash/debit card
Time is approximately 3 hrs.
This event will be closed to the public
Any questions or to register, call Leslie Meloun or the church office

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Gratitude

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

Excited	joyful	compassion	loving
Volunteering	Caring	good	esteem
Happiness	loyalty	Thoughtful	Grateful
Engaged	Respect	Kindness	Thanksgiving
Honesty	Family	Relationship	Friendship
compliment	acknowledge	Encourage	Appreciation
Thankful			