

Baptist Bugle

February 2021

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 -

So what does it mean to be a steward of the grace of God? Paul calls himself a servant of the Gospel. He talks about the administration of God's grace. These are references made in Ephesians 3. Paul was a steward of the grace of God. A caretaker, an overseer. And he knew his calling was to make all people see what the stewardship of this grace was all about.

I know it sounds kind of wordy, or confusing. And maybe you're just too tired to think about it. I get it, we're all exhausted. I'll cut right to the chase, because it is very important. To be a steward of the grace of God, is to accurately handle the Word of God. To be a servant of the Gospel, as Paul talks about, is to live your life in such a way that you correctly handle, correctly teach, and correctly live out the Word of truth. Every day. Listen; to be a recipient of God's amazing grace, and to be a steward of that same grace, are two different things. To be sure; you cannot be a steward of the grace of God until you have first been a recipient of it. But we are called to be a servant of the Gospel, just as much as we are to be saved by grace through faith in Christ alone. This is the "administration of God's grace," that Paul is referring to.

Far too many Christians are content to be saved by God's grace and leave it at that. To be a steward of that grace is too great of a commitment. It means I have to live out, every day, what I say I believe on Sunday mornings. "I don't know if I want to go that far." It means correctly living out the Word of truth all week long. In public. And at home when nobody can see me. "I don't know if I want to make that kind of a commitment." "Can't I just be saved by God's grace and leave it at that?" Well, it's not what we're called to that's for sure.

Listen. We live in a day. We live in a day that may very well be the final days of the last days. How we live out our lives in these last days is so crucial. The call upon Christians, and the call upon the church is to be very involved in the wonderful

administration of God's grace. What if there was one more great revival, one more great awakening to come before the end. One more great and mighty move of the Spirit of God that would sweep across this land, and perhaps across the world before the return of Christ. How could you not want to be involved in that? Playing whatever part God had for you to play in what could be the last great awakening. Too many people pouring their energy into things that won't last for eternity. Worrying about who wears a mask and who doesn't. Being so frustrated at President Biden and how many executive orders he's signed in his first 10 days in office. Sure, I get it, it is frustrating and troublesome. But we've got bigger fish to fry, spiritually speaking.

Let's give up our fears and our preoccupations. Let's stop being content to be saved by grace. And hunger to be a part of the administration of God's grace, having given our all to be a servant of the Gospel, not just a recipient. The time is short, may we hear and heed the call. "Saddle up your horses! We've got a trail to blaze!"

Pastor Steve

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY

Women of Prayer
Tuesdays at 2:00 pm

Men in Action
Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm
Will be starting "*Twisting the Truth*", a study by Andy Stanley
Learning to Discern in a Culture of Deception
All men are invited to join us!
Please contact Stan Motter

Women's Afternoon Bible Study
Wednesdays at 1:00 pm – Beginning February 3
Will be studying the "Book of Mark; *Becoming a Servant*"
All women are invited to come
Please contact Helen Brehm at 815-942-6625

Women's Evening Bible Study
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm – Beginning February 3
Will be starting the *Jennifer Rothschild's study, "Take Courage"*
a study on the book of Haggai
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, February 7

4:30 pm

(Subject to cancellation)

Boards to Meet on Tuesday, Feb. 9

3:00 pm -Board of Diaconates

4:15 pm -Board of Christian Education

5:30 pm -Board of Trustees

In Genesis, Jesus is the Seed of the Woman. In Exodus, He is the Passover Lamb. In Leviticus, He is the atoning Sacrifice. In Numbers, the Smitten Rock. In Deuteronomy, the Prophet. In Joshua, the Captain of the Lord's hosts. In Judges, the Deliverer. In Ruth, the Heavenly Kinsman. In Esther, the Advocate. In Job, my Redeemer. In Psalms, my Strength. In Proverbs, my Pattern. In Ecclesiastes, my Goal. In the Song of Solomon, my Satisfier. In the prophets, the Coming Prince of Peace. In the Gospels, He is the Christ Who came to seek and to save. In Acts, He is Christ risen. In the epistles, He is Christ exalted. In Revelation, He is Christ returning and reigning.

*"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,
the Beginning and the End."*

Revelation 22:13

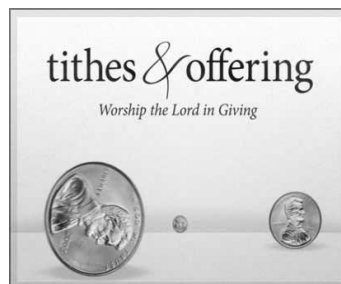
UNIFIED GIVING

<u>Month</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Needed</u>	<u>Monthly Amt. Received</u>
January	\$25,720.00	\$22,900.01

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

Church Mortgage is Paid in Full!

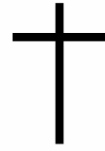
Thank you for your generous and faithful giving!!!





Children's Church

Each Sunday - during Worship Service



Pre-K thru 3rd Grade will meet from 10:30-11:00am
in the old Adult Sunday School classroom
Masks are available, if desired

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

GOOD NEWS CLUB

Grades K-5

Join us each week, either Tuesday or Thursday, now through April 29. Be with us via Zoom from 4-5pm for a fun and action-packed hour of learning about god. The clubs are designed to teach character and morals. Activities include singing, Bible lessons, scripture memory, missionary stories, and review games. Clubs are free and are taught by volunteers sponsored by *Child Evangelism Fellowship* (CEF). All leaders are trained and screened for a very safe hour. GNC is open to ALL children, regardless of faith and/or religious affiliation or belief. CEF is a non-denominational, Bible centered organization founded in 1937 that is active in all 50 states and around the world.

There is no charge for *Good News Club* Online, however, parents need to register the child(ren). Complete a registration for each child at www.cef3rivers.org. If you had registered for the Fall 2020 session, please re-enroll your child for this session. For any questions or comments, call 815-741-0366.



Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, May 8, 2021

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Live Nativity

Friday & Saturday, December 10 & 11, 2021

5-8 pm

OUR YOUTH OUTREACH



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

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

Awana Club is held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at **4:00 – 5:15pm**

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

Registration is required

Awana Club mtgs. this month...

Sunday, February 7

Meet at church

4:00 - 5:15 pm

Sunday, February 21

Meet at church

4:00 - 5:15 pm

**Questions –
call Cheryl Johnson or Kristi Larson**

WE ARE BEGINNING AWANA AGAIN!



We will be set up a little differently right now to allow for social distancing, and the children will need to wear masks while indoors.

Our activity time will be outside weather permitting,

so in order to meet during daylight hours, we're planning on beginning at 4:00 and going til 5:15.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Sunday, February 7 at 4:00 pm!



Youth Group
Ages 5th – 12th Grade

Sunday, February 14

6:00pm

Meet at Church

Sunday, February 28

6:00pm

Dinner & Movie

**Questions -
Call Leslie Meloun**

**Turn
Your
Eyes
Upon
JESUS**



**We
were made
for
WORSHIP!**



PLEASE JOIN US.....

Sunday Morning Worship Service - 8:00am

(masks are required for this service)

Offering plate will be available

Practice social distancing (if not family)

This is a sermon only service

Sunday Morning Worship Service - 10:15 am

Offering plate will be available

Sunday Morning Children's Church (preK-3 grade) during Worship Service

Sunday morning Multi-generational Bible Study - 9:00 am

w/ Jeff and Claudette Swiggett

Sunday morning Post High Bible Study - 9:00 am

w/ Rick Enlow

***We are not able to offer child care at this time**



Multi-generational Bible Study

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 am



All ages will meet in the Sanctuary. This is a new spin on Sunday school, and will be in place through May of this year. This class is taught by Jeff and Claudette Swiggett. It is family oriented, so it's a special time for families to worship together. It will be all the Sunday school classes combined, including the Sunday morning Adult class that has been meeting. Looking forward to seeing you!



Post-High Bible Study

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 am

This class is specifically for young adults that have recently graduated from High School. The class is being taught by Rick Enlow. The class offers "questions and discussions" based on Bible scripture and world events, allowing students a vocal platform. Sound interesting? Come check it out!

*What we have once enjoyed we can never lose.
All that we love deeply becomes a part of us. Helen Keller*

February Birthdays

1 David Alford
3 Jennifer Goebel
5 Doris Noll
6 Mary Warrick, Steve Rylander
7 Hannah Hitchcock
15 Nancy Foss
16 Helen Brehm, Tanya Downey, Patty Graves, Terry Wakeman
18 Jacob Meloun
19 Nancy Brian
20 Megan Valdivia
21 Jennifer Smith
22 Deb Bounds
26 Randal Ritke
28 Patrick Zavala



February Anniversaries

1 Bill and Judy Needham
6 Ralph and Donna Binion
9 Bill and Linda Burden
18 Bob and Kim Marx
24 Robert and Nancy Krug



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!

Found: PSALM 23 *by Sally Lloyd-Jones and Jago*

From the creators of the bestselling *Jesus Storybook Bible* –with over two million copies sold –comes "Found", a board book retelling of Psalm 23 in very child-friendly language that helps little ones know they are always cared for and protected by God. And the colorful, engaging illustrations that show a shepherd with his sheep will hold your child's interest as you snuggle up and read together.

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I His little lamb.
Through words young kids can understand, and
Vibrant illustrations of a shepherd and his flock
That pair perfectly with the text, your child can
Experience the comfort and security of Psalm 23.
And the sturdy board book format makes it a story
You can read together over and over again to en-
counter God's Never Stopping, Never Giving Up,
Unbreakable, Always and Forever Love.
Ideal for children 0-4 years old.



Also in the Kid's Section.....

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)

With Deepest Sympathy

To the family of Nancy Foss. Nancy passed away Wednesday morning, January 27, 2021 at Regency Care. Our prayers go out to Nancy's family. Nancy's parents were Gordon and Laura Mae Foss.

To the family of Verneda Hall. Verneda passed away Wednesday afternoon, January 27, 2021 at The Gardens at Park Point. Our sympathy goes out to Deb (Jim) Gonnam and their family. You are in our thoughts, hearts and prayers.

words will not wipe
away your tears and hugs may not
ease your pain
but hold on to
your memories
as forever
they will remain



Books of the Bible Word Search

D E U T E R O N O M Y C C H 2 T S B R E V O R P T S J
D N H O J B O O K S O F T H E B I B L E V M N J Z V C
P S G E N E S I S P 2 T H E S S A L O N I A N S A A C
B O J 3 D C P Q H J N Z A 2 M N B S E K I 2 1 K M 1 Y
K B Z V F Q Z I A R H J J N O I T A L E V E R R O K X
R A M Z Y J L S Y K O V 1 C O R I N T H I A N S S O S
N D D O O E N C Z S J C R Z B H T B L J H Z U O V E S
O I C H M H R V H N 1 P E T E R U K S U 1 M N H L 3 K
X A 2 O A V K U K K A B A H 2 W S O U D V G F C J A K
C H N Z E 3 A W E H T T A M R P D U K E O S I O J R S
E D W X Z A S N R 2 3 I V Q M A E L D F W N H E A O P
E 2 X E R M Q L U 1 M 2 H N A O R T S O O N P M M M H
I S A I A H R P T E T J S O 2 F 1 O E R X H Y H E A I
S C T L W E Q X H I F X S N S S N X H R E E U A S N L
E D H H 3 F N E M Q X G K U A G A C F S M L A S P S I
G U A V E U N O M H N N C M S I 1 M I 1 L J W L E Y P
D H K N M R T N V I N I U G S C N A U W R O H E C H P
U E R B I H H S K W T E K H H A N O J E N E A I C T I
J A E 2 Y E V 2 D I L P S T K S R Q L M L L I K L O A
2 R R O P Z L O V Y P T C O L O S S I A N S M E E M N
S B N A H U M E R 2 C O R I N T H I A N S G E Z S I S
S N A I T A L A G A T N V A I 1 K I N G S S R E I T C
Q U H 2 L H A I R A H C E Z E A L U K E 3 Q E N A 1 W
C S O A R 2 C H R O N I C L E S G 2 J O H N J H S H B
M I C A H R Z E P H A N I A H X O G Q R J P T D T T A
D H Y J Y W P N S W E R B E H 1 E H A I H F D 3 E 1 T
I L A M E N T A T I O N S N R D 2 B D H L E N V S A Z



COFFEE CUP MINISTRY

This ministry is to help encourage each other right here at First Baptist Church.

- 1) You will need to bring a cup, of any kind, to the Church by the first Sunday of the month. Be sure to label the bottom with your name.
- 2) Inside the cup you can put your special prayer requests, special needs or anything else you wish to have prayed for during the month. The cups will go on a table in the foyer.
- 3) Each of you will choose a cup. Every morning, as you drink from that cup, you can pray for the individual. On the last Sunday of the month you will return the cup to the Church table. You may add a special note for that person if you wish.

Depending on the interest shown, we would like to continue this ministry monthly.

Any questions, you may contact Leslie Meloun.



Special Prayer Request

Special Need

Please pray for