



The GOOD NEWS Letter

First Baptist Church, Eau Claire, WI 54703

January, 2010

Looking Forward...



Pastor Mark L. Vincent

I would offer this observation as well: those with the Roman understanding tend to think whatever they have is theirs and is not to be shared. Those with the Greek understanding tend to think that whatever another has can be made available for the good of all, but that this means the individual is absolved of significant work to be loving and charitable since the state takes care of these matters.

As 2010 gets underway, why not take up the Christian economic perspective and let it shape your understanding of giving, saving for the future and providing for your household? Why not live within the means of your time and finances so that you can make use of the ministry opportunities God places in your path?

-mark I Vincent

p.s. This background on what drives economic thinking is useful perspective. I'm thinking about using a version of this article on my blog at a later date. It's not my habit to try to promote some of these other projects, neither do I want to withhold them. If you are interested in connecting more deeply to some of the things I am doing, you can find my blog at www.marklvincent.com.

Gary Moore, widely known for his writings on faith and economics, recently pointed out that the ancient Greeks are the forerunners of modern socialism, the ancient Romans the forerunners of conservative capitalism, and Judaism is the forerunner of what he calls *Stewardism*, the idea that God owns what we manage on God's behalf.

How do you think about these matters? In the middle of all the economic debates over bailouts, stimulus packages, cap and trade, and nationalized health care, it seems church people are more Greek or Roman in their understanding instead of Jewish. But it is the Jewish notion that we work on God's behalf that carries over into Christianity. Read the opening chapters of Acts and you quickly discover the early church is not into private enterprise, nor against it. Instead, it uses what it has to care for the least of these in the name of Christ.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
A New Life 2010 Church
416 Niagara St., Eau Claire, WI 54703
Office Hours: 8-12 Mon. – Thurs.
715-832-0642

www.firstbaptistec.org
firstbaptistec@gmail.com
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SUNDAYS: Sunday School: 9 am
Worship: 10 am

WORSHIP SCHEDULE - January

Rev. Mark L. Vincent, Interim Pastor

Jan. 3: Communion Sunday
Epiphany Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 40
Isaiah 65:17-25
Revelation 5 (*preaching text*)
Luke 9:28-36

Sermon: "The new song"

Jan. 10:

Scripture: Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-38
Obadiah 1-10 (*preaching text*)
Luke 3:15-22

Sermon: "Now that you have been given
a vision"

Jan. 17:

Scripture: Psalm 96
Obadiah 11-14 (*preaching text*)
1 Corinthians 13
John 2:12-25

Sermon: "Are we Edom?"

Jan. 24:

Scripture: Psalm 19
Obadiah 15-21 (*preaching text*)
1 Corinthians 14:1-5
Luke 4:14-21

Sermon: "The Day of the Lord is near"

Jan. 31:

Scripture: Psalm 71
Jeremiah 1:4-10 (*preaching*)
1 Corinthians 14:12-20
Luke 4:21-32

Sermon: "The call of God"



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 R. Yeazel	5 E. Powell
2 J. Gerrish	19 J. Haywood
2 C. Olkives	26 R. Larson
4 B. Anderson	31 J. Carlson

[If we haven't included your birthday, please call the church office so we can get your name and date on our records.]

PRAYER LIST

M. Baker
E. Barton
D. Brill
J. Carlson
J. Chalsma (Schlieve family)
M. Donnelly
Mi. Foster
J. Giles
C. Gore
B. Phillips
L. Vincent
A. Weidinger
Families/Military Personnel:
K. & K. Flanagan
B. Ganther
Our Missionaries



Our
Special
Seniors

A. Best
T. Christianson
L. Craney
M. Garsow
E. Reineke
N. Schultz
D. Stewart

Our Special Ministries
CareLink
Community Table
Good Neighbor Project
Meals On Wheels
Our Campus Ministry



FIRESIDE FRIENDS

Fireside Friends will meet on **Tuesday, Jan. 5, at Noon at FBC** for a Potluck. Please plan to join us for a time of fellowship, good food and fun! Jean Schlieve will present a program on recent travels in Egypt.

The **Morning Literature Circle** will meet on Tuesday, January 19, at the home of Sue Glenz.

FBC's 150th BIRTHDAY

The Church Council is looking forward to our church's 150th anniversary in March of 2011. We need to plan how to celebrate and would like to invite interested people to volunteer for the Anniversary Committee. You have the opportunity to decide how to shape the celebration. If you are interested, please talk to Margo Giles, Julie Gerrish, or leave your name in the church office.

PASTOR MARK'S JANUARY SCHEDULE
Mark's days in the office during Jan. are:
4, 11, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29

JOY DAY

FBC will be helping to serve Joy Day on **Thursday, January 7 at Sacred Heart Hospital**. We are to provide 20 dozen bars, cookies, sweetbreads, and/or sandwiches, 4 containers of already made juice, and an angel food cake. If you can provide any of the "goodies" or help serve, please call Jean Schlieve, 832-6911.

2010 RAGTIME FESTIVAL **Save the Date!**

A Benefit for The Community Table (TCT) featuring World Class Ragtime Talent, January 8-9, 2010, to be held at First Congregational UCC, 310 Broadway Street, in Eau Claire. Visit www.ecragtime.org or email info@ecragtime.org to reserve tickets.

THANK YOU TO:

Ralph Carlson for the beautiful tree in the Fellowship Room.

The following people who gathered for soup and to decorate the church for Christmas: Meghan and Andy Redmond, Jay Pierce, Nancy O'Neill, Becky and Ed Muelling, Virginia and Paul Hilbrich, Sue and John Glenz.

Those who provided poinsettias and wreaths for the season.

Those of you who baked and provided goodies for the Cheer Boxes.

Donna Pierce and the Fellowship Committee and Bonnie Powell and the Christian Education Board for the lovely Christmas Tea on December 13 with its beautiful array of delicious Christmas cookies.

COMMON GROUND **CAMPUS MINISTRY**

At our church on January 10 there will be a meeting of the Common Ground – name change from The Ministry – executive committee and other interested people. At noon there will be a Pot Luck luncheon followed by reports of the three Task Forces – Budget, Marketing, and By-Laws – and future movement for this ministry. Consider yourself invited if you feel that you could be helpful in the area of campus ministry!

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of First Baptist Church will be held in the Fellowship Hall on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, AT 11:15 AM**. All members of the congregation are invited to participate in this gathering. Reports from the various committees and boards will be presented; Officers will be elected for coming terms; the Budget for the year will be adopted; and other necessary items will be cared for.

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY CHOICES

Sunday, Jan. 3 at 9 am

Beginning **Sunday, January 3, at 9:00 am**, there will be two Sunday School options available to you. Sunday School 1 will be on the Book of James led by Julie Gerrish in the Fellowship Hall. Sunday School 2 will teach the Inductive Bible Study method led by Mark L. Vincent in the Fireside Room.

Thank You!

Dear FBC,

I would like to thank all my friends from the First Baptist Church for your prayers, cards, and all who visited me. They were all so appreciated. I'm back on my feet again now.

L. Craney

Dear FBC Friends,

Many thanks for the delicious cheer box of treats. Thanks to Micki Foster for delivering the box. Blessings at Christmas. May the birth of Jesus be at the heart of your Christmas celebration.

D. Stewart

Dear FBC,

Thank you so much for the box of treats – just delicious. God Bless you and thanks again for remembering me. I'm looking forward to next summer when I can get out again. God bless you.

Your friend,

B. McCullough

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Greetings! We hope that our greetings find you celebrating and treasuring this Blessed Season! We thank you for your companionship on our Journey! Your prayers are truly a blessing for us and our family – when the Holy Spirit intercedes for our groans we know we are strengthened through prayer! It is really hard for Jeff to not have a call to ministry at this time – his main job is to “Heal” whatever form that takes! Blessings to your ministry!

Love,

J. & J. Giles

First Baptist Friends,

Thank you so much for the Cheer Box. We really appreciate you thinking of us!

Ed & Becky Muelling

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Eau Claire,

Thanks so much for your generous welcome basket donations for new Karen refugee families in St. Paul. They were given out soon after you sent them, to delighted and grateful families. Please forgive my tardiness in my sincere thanks to you!

Becky Price, Missions Committee &

Refugee Resettlement, First Baptist Church

CAMP TAMARACK

Winter Youth Retreat at Camp Tamarack

January 29-31

Entitled “CoNectd 24/7”

This Retreat will be thought-provoking and a time of issue-wrestling. It will help you explore your need to be connected to other people and to God. You will consider how being “Connected 24/7” to the world can cause problems in your life.

J. Carlson will be attending this retreat.

SAVE JANUARY 7...

To help undecorate and take down the Christmas trees. Choir practice will take place during this time as well.

HABITAT for HUMANITY

This organization will partner with **The Community Table** in building a children's area in their new location. The project will provide a secure, supervised area for parents to bring their children while gathering meals for their families.

For more information or to volunteer, contact 835-4977 or visit: www.thecommunitytable.org.
