



# The GOOD NEWS Letter

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703

June, 2010

## Looking Forward...At Last!



Pastor Mark L. Vincent

This article is the next to last I will write because First Baptist Church expects to call its next long term pastor this month. What a privilege to anticipate a long overdue and welcome leader!

This means, that at long last, the congregation is ready to shift its energy from internal matters to a more full engagement of ministry in the community. And it will have a pastor ready to nurture that direction for the years to come.

As my tenure begins to close I'd like to dispense some perspective. Here is a list of key items that keep congregations healthy and outward focused for the long-term. Anyone who has been listening to my preaching will recognize a number of them.

- Keep your Druthers at home. Better yet, cast them out of your life. Druthers have a way of ruining many excellent opportunities.
- Bring your firstfruits to the worship of God's people. There is NO substitute for the prayerfully discerned, sacrificial and joyful giving of the first and best by God's people for God's work, and done in the context of worship of God. From it hungry people are fed, the gospel is shared, lives are spared, the homeless get sheltered and all forms of ministry gets funded. No-one living in this heavily wealthy culture can claim to be doing everything they can.

- Don't be afraid when others lead differently than you have done. More will get done from your encouragement of the new leader than enforcing old methods. It will also keep new church leaders actively engaged in leadership, rather than leaving for other places they find more welcoming.
- Get into the 1+1+1 rhythm. 1 worship service every week. 1 community interaction each week—a place to receive counsel and offer counsel—whether a small group, Sunday school class, or prayer group. 1 engagement in ministry, whether through our congregation or in the context of a community ministry. And sprinkle the rest of each week liberally with rest and time with loved ones.
- Surround the activities of First Baptist Church in prayer. Pray at the beginning and end of meetings. Pray when a decision needs to be made. Be quick to offer praise and thanksgiving to God.
- Keep the gospel of Jesus Christ at the center of the church and its mission. Jesus comes preaching even still "Repent! And believe the Good News!"
- Keep loving God with all your heart (emotions), all your soul (continuing to develop God's eternal perspective as your own perspective), all your mind (growing in knowledge and converting it to wisdom), and all your strength ("muscular Christianity"—a Christianity that does things).

I am honored to have served among you for this brief time and will always be eager to hear how God is at work among you.

-mark l vincent

## PASTOR LOYED ARNOLD'S SCHEDULE

**Saturday am, June 12** – The committee along with Church Council members and officers will meet with the candidate and his family.

**Saturday pm, June 12** – There will be a pot-luck dinner at 6:00 pm at the church to which all interested church members are invited. A time of fellowship and interaction with Rev. Arnold and family will be provided to get acquainted in an informal setting.

**Sunday am, June 13** – Arrangements are being made for the candidate to be presented to the church during worship when he will preach the sermon. Immediately after the service, a meeting will be called and a vote will be taken to extend the call.

### SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee continues to enlist your prayer support for our upcoming weekend with Pastor Arnold and family.

Please plan to participate in some or all of the above-mentioned opportunities for getting acquainted.

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### INTERIM MINISTRY EXTENDED

Knowing that a new pastor would not be able to begin by July 1, the Diaconate voted to extend the Interim Ministry with Design Group International with Mark Vincent as interim pastor through July 31, 2010

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### PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group will continue to meet through the month of June. These meetings take place on Fridays at 11:00 am. All are welcome.

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## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 June Carlson	10 Jean Schlieve
4 Joe Lorentz	24 Samuel Juett
5 Sue Glenz	25 Sue Peterson
10 Bonnie Powell	27 Dan LaVelle Sr.

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

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE - June

**Rev. Mark L. Vincent, Interim Pastor**

**June 6** Communion Sunday

**Scripture:** Psalm 146

1 Kings 17:17-24 (*preaching text*)

Galatians 2:11-19

Luke 7:11-17

**Sermon:** "Smartmouth widows and resurrected sons"

**June 13**

**Sermon:** Rev. Loyed D. Arnold,  
Guest Pastor

**June 20**

**Scripture:** Psalm 42

Isaiah 65:1-9 (*preaching text*)

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

**Sermon:** "This is what the Lord says"

**June 27**

**Scripture:** Psalm 16

1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21

Galatians 5:1,13-25

Luke 9:51-62

**Sermon:** "Following Jesus"

Pastor Mark's office days in June:  
7,8,9,10,11,21,22,23,24,25

**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](http://www.firstbaptistec.org)  
[firstbaptistec@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistec@gmail.com)  
[firstbaptistepastor@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistepastor@gmail.com)  
**SUNDAYS:**      Sunday School: 9 am  
                             Worship: 10 am

**PRAYER LIST**

Elise Barton  
 Debby Brill  
 June Carlson  
 Marilyn Donnelly  
 Jeff Giles  
 Charles Gore  
 Becky Muelling – Room 226 at Syverson  
 Ed indicated she is continuing her therapy  
 Lorie Vincent  
**Families/Military Personnel:**  
 Kelley Flanagan  
 Ben Ganther  
 Our Missionaries



**ONE GREAT HOUR  
 OF SHARING OFFERING**

The ABC World Relief Committee uses OUR GIFTS to support, enable and encourage emergency relief, refugee work, disaster rehabilitation, and development assistance. During the month of June we will promote giving generously to this offering to help meet the needs of people who are hurting in our country and around the world. The June communion offering is designated for this purpose, but gifts can be given throughout the month. Please make it known that you want it to go to ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



**Our  
 Special  
 Seniors**

**Alnora Best  
 Loretta Craney  
 Marge Garsow  
 Evelyn Reineke  
 Nellie Schultz  
 Dorothy Stewart**

**ABWM MEETINGS**

The **Morning Literature Circle** will meet on Wednesday, June 16, at 9:30 am at FBC.

The **Friendship Circle** will meet on Tuesday, June 8, at 12:00 Noon, for a potluck at Jean and Nancy Schlieve's, 2115 Sherman Creek Rd., EC. Drinks and dessert will be furnished. Everyone should bring a dish to pass.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

The Adult Bible Study group is continuing to meet at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall to discuss "Growing Through Life's Challenges." All of those who would like to take part in these studies and discussions are invited to join the group.

**Our Special Ministries**

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

**WORK DAY AT CAMP TAMARACK**

Saturday, May 15, was WORK DAY at Camp Tamarack! John and Sue Glenz, Caleb Glenz, and Bart and Tony Carlson spent Friday night at the camp so that they would be there to work all day Saturday. The boys split and loaded firewood, spread dirt to level ground over some water pipes, hauled crushed granite for the steps leading to the beach, cleaned a cabin, and raked leaves. OUR THANKS to them and about 40 others who volunteered to get the place ready for campers!

## **FBC GIFT TO BOLTON REFUGE HOUSE**

Peggy Hudson represented First Baptist Church at the Bolton Refuge House opening ceremonies on Saturday, May 22, 2010. In presenting a check for \$10,000, her remarks are as follows:

"It gives me such pleasure to be here today to present this gift of \$10,000 to the Bolton Refuge House capital campaign – a gift given by the members of First Baptist Church in memory of Ruth Baker, a long-time member.

Ruth Baker was an educator in the Eau Claire area. For many years at UW-Eau Claire, she devoted herself to the education of future teachers of young children.

We at First Baptist Church have been entrusted with a bequest from Ruth – the monies to be used wisely. We feel that this gift is fitting and that she would be pleased to support the Bolton Refuge House in its caring for and protecting women and children who may be in peril.

It is our hope and prayer that this gift and others given today will enable Bolton Refuge House to continue its vital, necessary services to those who are in need in our community – now and in the future as they have in the past."

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## **LOAD-A-TRUCK SUNDAY for FEED MY PEOPLE FOOD BANK**

A few food items and the May communion offering of \$112 were given to the Food Bank. Those who attended the Open House at their new facility were impressed with the expansion and what that means to their meeting the needs of the hungry in our region, not just Eau Claire. THANKS for your gifts!

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## **JULY 4<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION**

The ecumenical 4<sup>th</sup> of July Service will be held in Owen Park at 10:30 am. Our church will be cooperating with this event. At this time there will be a mass choir from all the churches. Information regarding a picnic lunch will be forthcoming.

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## **ABWM of WI RETREAT**

"Let Everyone Who is Thirsty Come"

At Camp Tamarack

June 4-6, 2010

Registration before May 15 - \$95, \$20 deposit  
Registration after May 15 - \$100, \$25 deposit  
Housing on site or off site. Use registration form on bulletin board. For more information call Mary Schecher at 414-258-7400.

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## ***Thank You!***

**Dear Pastor Vincent and FBC,**

*Thank you so much for the awesome Bible. My baptism day was a very special day for me. Thank you for all you did!*

**Love, Matthew Yeazel**

**Mark,**

*What a blessing it was to meet you yesterday! Imagine if every student at Judson University graduated with a minor in leadership...wouldn't that be a grand idea to pursue! We are praying with you that God's will be done. Excited to hear from you next week.*

**Tory, Judson University**

**Dear First Baptist Friends,**

*Thank you very much for all the Happy Birthday greetings, cards and wishes. I sincerely appreciate your kindness and friendships. Thank you also for your prayers in the past and for remembering to pray for our daughter-in-law, Debby's recovery. May God bless all of you along with the future growth of First Baptist Church.*

*Your Friend,*

**Meredith Brill**

**First Baptist Church,**

*Thank you so much for letting us use the Fellowship Hall for a birthday party for our mom. It was a wonderful time. Thanks especially to Nancy and Bill for your help making arrangements. We appreciate your kindness so much!*

**Susan Brill, Rebecca McClintock, Linda Coffield**

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## LIBRARY NOTES

Have you checked out the library lately? We have a few books you may have overlooked.

New books include: "You Gotta Keep Dancin" by Tim Hansel. This is a very inspirational book. The book jacket includes this introduction: "Stress, disappointment, heartache, hurt – all are part of the human condition. But while pain is unavoidable, misery is optional! The freeing message of 'You Gotta Keep Dancin' is that no matter what your circumstances, with God's help, you can choose to be joyful."

Also new is the series, "Seasons of Grace" by Beverly Lewis. The three books: "The Secret", "The Telling", and "The Missing", continue her using an Amish family as the center of the story.

Did you attend a one-room school at one time? We have the book: "One Room Country Schools", which includes history and recollections from Wisconsin one-room schools. This will remind you of many of the changes in our schools.

We also have the book "No Greater Love". This is the triumph and sacrifice of American Baptist Missionaries during WWII Philippine, and the martyrdom of Hopevale. Since this included part of our own church family, you will want to read this book.

-The Library Committee

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## ABC MEN of WISCONSIN

**Saturday, July 24, 2010, 6:05 pm**

**Milwaukee Brewers - Washington Nationals**

Come Fellowship with AB Men and Catch the Brewers at Miller Park. Tailgate Cookout at First Baptist Church, West Allis at 3:30 pm. Carpool to stadium.

**Terrace Reserved Ticket plus Tailgate: \$20**

Reservations to Pete Wolf by June 24. See flyer on Bulletin Board.

## FBC SEMI ANNUAL MEETING

**June 20, 2010 at 11:00 am**

Please see the insert to see current Board of Officers as well as Nominees to be elected this year.

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## MEALS ON WHEELS

### Did You Know?

In 2009, **512** Aging & Disability Resource Center volunteers, along with **23** businesses and groups donated **17,487** hours helping older people and people with disabilities in our Department Programs. You, the Volunteers, delivered **103,427** Meals on Wheels, helped serve **22,952** Senior Dining site meals, helped distribute **832** Liquid Supplement cases and helped deliver **990** Emergency Food Packs. YOU make a BIG difference in Eau Claire County! Thank you volunteers!

-Debbi Johnson

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**August 1 – August 5, 2010**

**Sunday – Thursday**

**5:15 – 7:30 pm**

**First Baptist Church**

**Sponsored by:**

**First Baptist Church**

**First Congregational UCC**

**Lake Street United Methodist Church**

We're excited about this year's Vacation Bible School! Our neighborhood churches, First Baptist, First Congregational UCC, and Lake Street UMC invite you to:

## RENEW: A GREEN VBS

Vacation Bible School will be at FBC this summer and Bonnie Powell is looking for volunteers. They can contact her via email [sss2fbc@yahoo.com](mailto:sss2fbc@yahoo.com) or call her on her cell phone at 715-829-8523.

Registration forms are available in the office and in the Fellowship Hall.