



The GOOD NEWS Letter

First Baptist Church, Eau Claire, WI 54703

November, 2009

Looking Forward...



Pastor Mark L. Vincent

One of the first tasks we are completing is the development of a worship schedule that will carry us through the next nine months. I am especially excited about what we will do during the Advent season.

Before Advent, however, I want to spend some time on what it means to follow Jesus. This theme will be what we explore throughout November.

Another item we are working on is a way to simplify and integrate how we keep the church calendar. Nancy Gould has begun making use of the Google calendar system which means we soon hope to post the church calendar on our congregation's website.

Most importantly, we will begin the pastoral search process anew this January. Two expectations I will have before we appoint any committee will be:

1. That the trustees working with the church council and congregation, will determine a pastoral salary range in advance. This helps the search committee a great deal, empowering them to make an offer as part of the pastoral call.
2. That the search committee will work closely with the Regional office, following the time-tested process they suggest.

May God lead and direct our congregation's efforts!

-mark l vincent

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
A New Life 2010 Church
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SUNDAYS: Sunday School: 9 am
Worship: 10 am

WORSHIP SCHEDULE - November

Rev. Mark L. Vincent, Interim Pastor

Nov. 1: Communion Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 1

Isaiah 8:11-18

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Mark 3:31-35 (*preaching text*)

Sermon: "The mothers & brothers of Jesus"

Nov. 8: Ordinary Time

Scripture: Psalm 117

2 Kings 4:42-44

Acts 8:26-39

Mark 6:7-13 (*preaching text*)

Sermon: "If you follow you will be sent"

Nov. 15: Ordinary Time

Scripture: Psalm 115

Malachi 1:10-14

Acts 8:14-25

Mark 6:53-7:8 (*preaching text*)

Sermon: "All types of people follow Jesus"

Nov. 22: Ordinary Time

Scripture: Psalm 23

Isaiah 56:3-8

Colossians 1:21-23

Mark 8:27-30 (*preaching text*)

Sermon: "Following Christ"

Nov. 29: Advent 1

Scripture: Psalm 27

1 Samuel 2:1-10 (*preaching text*)

Luke 1:26-38

Revelation 1:4-7

Sermon: "Prelude to the Magnificent"



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 J. Gerrish	12 J. Anderson Jr.
2 S. Pickerign	18 K. Cleasby
6 P. Anderson	19 C. LaVelle
7 P. Hilbrich	19 B. Muelling
9 J. Pierce	21 B. Niesen
11 N. O'Neill	30 J. Celander

[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

Michael Baker

Elise Barton

Debby Brill

June Carlson

Janet Chalsma (Schlieve family)

Marilyn Donnelly

Kathie Flanagan (Bonnie's sister)

Sam Ganther

Sam Gerrish

Jeff Giles

Charles Gore

Bob Phillips

Amara Weidinger

Families/Military Personnel:

Ben Ganther

Our Missionaries



Our
Special
Seniors

Alnora Best

Tony Christianson

Loretta Craney

Marge Garsow

Evelyn Reineke

Nellie Schultz

Dorothy Stewart

Our Special Ministries

CareLink

Community Table

Good Neighbor Project

Meals On Wheels

Our Campus Ministry



FIRESIDE FRIENDS

Fireside Friends will meet on **Tuesday, November 3, at Noon** for a Potluck. Please plan to join us at FBC for a time of fellowship, good food and fun!

ABWM EVENTS

The **Morning Literature Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, November 18, at 9:30 am** at the home of Lillian Bennett.

The **Friendship Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, November 10, at 1:00 pm** with Julie Gerrish hosting.

GOOD NEIGHBOR PROJECT (GNP)

Thanks for your support of the children in our neighborhood! We sponsored 67 students that attend Lakeshore and Longfellow Schools. As a result of the *Back to School* fund raiser, nearly \$4,000 was deposited last week in the GNP bank account. We have money to help where needed!

-Virginia Hilbrich

DIACONATE MEETING

The Diaconate will meet on Friday, November 13, at 10:00 at the church.



THANKSGIVING DINNER At First Baptist Church

Date: Sunday, November 15, 2009

Time: 6:00 pm

Price: \$8.00 per person

Caterer: Kathy Laehn

Reservations: Give name and payment to Julie Gerrish by November 10.

IN THE NEWS

1. 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.

2. FBC Clean-out Thank You

The church has been de-cluttered and the four months of work ended on September 29 with a party complete with our own cleaning song. There are still a couple of items that need to be removed but as you walk around you will find spaces full of possibilities. Thanks to all of you who took our "treasures" to new homes, and to those who worked over the four months: Ralph Carlson, Bill Fair, Julie Gerrish, Margo Giles, John Glenz, Eila Goins, Virginia and Paul Hilbrich, Ted Malnick, Nancy O'Neill, Shirley Pickerign, Donna and Jay Pierce, Susan Pittman, Lynn Scott, and Andy Redmond.

-Sue Glenz

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

In your newsletter, you will find an order form for these beautiful Christmas flowers. If you would like to place an order, fill out the form and return to Donna Pierce or to the office.

JOY DAY

AT SACRED HEART

Thursday, November 19, at 1:30 pm

Food, Fun and Fellowship for persons who are elderly or have disabilities and their caregivers. Entertainment: Vernie Hayes.

AN INVITATION TO JONAH

(Joining our Neighbors Advancing Hope)

Raising Our Voices Together

Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 7:00 pm
Peace Lutheran Church
501 Fillmore Ave., Eau Claire

Rousing music sets the tone as the JONAH Core Teams and Task Forces call out the achievements of this past year. This fast paced meeting will present the Open Door and JONAH Achievement awards, share the faith journeys of three members in JONAH, and the excitement of forming public relationships that build a better community.

There are many important issues shaping our communities daily: Economic Justice, Environmental Sustainability, Affordable Health Care, and Treatment Instead of Prison. Bring your interest and your questions to this meeting. Also, displays will provide information about our Issue Task Forces and how you can become involved locally.

You and your congregational voices can be powerfully joined to shape the work that JOHAH will accomplish in the coming year.

For more information, contact Jill Christopherson, 715-834-2668 or jille@firstucceauclaire.org.

Thank You!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ ~

Thank you very much for the Fellowship Time on my last Sunday with you in September. The thoughts offered by Virginia, the delicious array of food, the conversations shared, and the generous monetary gift were an incredible gift. Your thoughtfulness will long be remembered and treasured!

My prayer is for this same generous Spirit to continue to flow through your ministry and into the community and world.

In gratitude and with God's blessings ~
Lynn Scott

VIEWS FROM THE PEWS...

the pews in Cairo that is.

We (Jean, Nancy and Gabriel) are volunteering in Cairo for the fall. We arrived on September 10th and are working with the Coptic Cathedral and St. Andrew's Refugee services until Thanksgiving. At St. Andrew's we work with refugees from all over, including the Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Kenya and the Republic of Congo.

We attend church at St. Andrew's United Church of Cairo. The congregation is ecumenical and is supported by the Lutherans and Presbyterians. A couple weeks ago the sermon was on Moses (Moses in Egypt, go figure). We just had the installation of the new pastor (whose last placement was in St. Paul, MN) on October 16th followed by a potluck (just like ours with egg salad but no baked beans)!

At the Coptic Cathedral we are teaching Egyptian Christians. Christians make up 12% of the population - only Egypt and Ethiopia have any significant population of Christians in North Africa. There is a fear of violence - armed guards are at the gate of the Coptic compound. When we travel outside Cairo there is a convoy system (foreigners have to stay together with armed guards).

The first few weeks we were here was during Ramadan. Ramadan is their holy month where the people fast from dawn to dusk. It is interesting and exciting to work with such a wide variety of people and to learn about their lives.

-The Schlieve Family

PRAYER REQUEST

from The Schlieve Family

Nancy Schlieve has requested our prayers (on behalf of her family) for her nephew's (Nathan Schlieve) mother-in-law, Janet Chalsma. Janet is in hospice, in the final stages of cancer, and is declining rapidly. Nathan is the son of Nancy's sister, Amy, and Jean's grandson.
