



“SoJourn in this land, and I will be with you, and bless you!” (Gen. 26:3)

A Word from Wes

In recent days as I have been conversation with colleagues, I have been exploring with more intentionality the topic of Spirituality. In the bookstores and in the “e-community” this is a subject of real interest. And, with the economic downturn, both spirituality and ethics are matters of that deserve our attention.

A couple of the books I have read, one of which is in our church library, are “The Practicing Congregation” by Diana Butler Bass and “The Spirit of the Disciplines” by Dallas Willard. These authors and their work underscore the importance of practicing our faith as Christians and within the life of the church.

Just as an orchestra or a choir rehearse for the presentation of music or as athletes train and practice for contests or games (there are many other examples of preparation), so it is in the living of our faith that we are called to prepare for the challenges and opportunities that are ours in the expression of ministry and mission.

The other day in the church office, a dad was handling a business matter for the church. There was a calculation of arithmetic needed.

He challenged his daughter to figure out a percentage in her head. He was teaching her to practice her math skills. In like manner it is good challenge one another to the practice of our spiritual lives in matters such as prayer, study, worship, compassion, solitude, silence, fasting, and stewardship.

One of my most recent forms of practicing my prayer life is to take one of the phrases of the Lord’s Prayer and using it as means of focus for prayer through out the day. The prayer can be divided in seven phrases starting on Sunday with “Our Father who art in Heaven, on Tuesday with “hallowed by thy name”, and working with each phrase consecutively to Saturday. Just a suggestion....

Having a solid set of practices of spiritual discipline in our personal lives and as a congregation is essential to setting a pace for the tasks that we are called by God to do and to discovering the who we have been called to be.

Think about it.

Wes

SENDING PRAYERS TO OUR FAMILY OF **FAITH**

Please remain in prayer for these people who are or have recently been under doctor's care: Patty Babian, Ray Sharp, Collin Trask, Kelly Kestel, Vicki Schettling.

Please also keep in your prayers our homebound friends: Alice Adams, Enid Holliday, Norma Moore, Ray Sharp, Evelyn Morrell, Phil Lett, Frances Bramblett, Patty Babian, Margaret Edgington.

George Edgington passed away earlier this month. We keep the family in our prayers.

George Weaver continue to recuperate at Woodward Hills after a brief stay in the hospital.

We keep Patty and Wes Babian in our prayers as Patty continues to struggle with illness.

Blessings to Tyler Black who came forward for church membership this month.

Congratulations to Jude Nixon who has accepted a new position as College President in the Boston area.

Kikuko McCandlish had successful surgery this month.



Happy July Birthdays!

July 2 Greg Sharp
Susan Cavender

July 9 Tesia Kaczmarek
Christian Kaczmarek

July 11 Lois Middleditch
Doreen Feldpausch

July 20 Margaret DeMerchant
July 21 Jodi Bly

July 23 Dillon Horn
David McEwen

July 26 Ron Michael
July 27 Ed Willingham
July 28 Barry Stewart

July 29 Hiro Horikawa
Fran McEvoy
Patty Darin

2009 Officers: Moderator: Joan Trusty Moore; Vice Moderator: Dave Brault; Financial Secretary: Glenn Craig; Treasurer: Carol Olsen; Recording Clerk: Harriet Stewart; Membership Clerk: Kathy Charbeneau
2009 Ministry Team Chairs: Jerri Poet (Deacons); Jodi Bly (Educational); Larry Phillips (Human Resources); Carol McWilliam (Physical Resources); Myra Trask (Stewardship); Robert Washburn (Outreach)

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FBCB Readers Meet Again

The FBCB Downtown Readers group will meet on Friday, July 3 at 12:30PM. All are welcome!



A Look at the Financials

As of May 31, 2009

Pledged Income Actual	\$81,134
Pledged Income Budget	\$76,379
Pledged variance	\$ 4,755

Please continue to keep current with your pledges.



Spring Salad Potluck Success!

The Ladies of FBC got together for the Annual Spring Salad Potluck luncheon.

They received a financial report on ABW Ministries and an update on the state of our missions. The group had lots of conversation too, catching up on what's been happening in each others' lives.

What a wonderful time spent together! and lots of conversation!

Nominations Committee Begins Work

The 2010 Nominations Committee has been recruited and are planning their first meeting.

The team includes: Leona Frost, Marilyn Lin, Jerri Poe, Pat Washburn and Art Kaczmarek. Bill Olsen will Chair the Committee.

Thanks to all those who will participate.

Thank You Teachers!

We honored our wonderful Learning Community teachers this month. We are so fortunate to have such committed and knowledgeable people teaching the Good News!



4th Annual Friendship House Golf Outing

Saturday, September 26, 2009 at Fox Creek Golf Club, located at Seven Mile and Newburgh Road, Livonia, Michigan ~ Cost:\$85 per golfer (\$340 per foursome) Includes continental breakfast, greens fees, lunch at the turn and dinner.



July Communion Offering

We will be collecting communion gifts on July 5 for Baldwin House and Birmingham Area Senior Citizens Council (BASCC). Also please remember to bring pantry items for donation to the Covenant Ministries at FBC Ferndale.



Camp Opportunity!

Camp Lake Louise Offers : July 4th Family Camp: Family fun packed Patriotism! June 28 - July 4, 2009 ~ Adult and child over 12 = \$200 ~ Child age 6 to 12 = \$125 Child under 6 = \$25 ~ Infants = Free ~ Maximum cost per family = \$650 (Family max applies to immediate family members only, extended family and friends will be subject to regular rates.) ~ Minimum Deposit = \$100

Community Program

The Race Relations and Diversity Taskforce invites the community to its August program entitled: "This We Believe" on Thursday, August 20 at 8AM. Join us as we address the issue of: *What do we mean when we say we want an inclusive community?*



Upcoming Events & Dates:

- July Preaching Schedule: July 5: Pastor Babian; July 12: Min. Marcia Bonds; July 19: Rev. Donnis Reese; July 26: Pastor Babian
- Summer Short - Mid-week times for study, sharing and fellowship Wednesday evenings at 7pm. June 17, 24; July 22; August 5
- VBS All Day for All Ages at Kensington Metro Park, Saturday, July 25, times TBA
- Christian Baptism celebrated on Sunday, July 26 during worship
- Throughout the summer, several children, youth and adults will be attending Region Camps and Green Lake Conferences.
- Tentative Cedar Point Outing August 18 & 19
- Weekday study group re-starting following Labor Day
- Church Picnic at Springdale Park, Sunday, Sept. 13
- B'Jazz Vespers' 14th Season begins on Sunday, Sept. 20
- ABC-MI Region Annual Meeting @ Covenant Baptist Church in West Bloomfield, October 16-17. This promises to be a very interesting time using a "Café" approach to sharing and leaning. Dr. Trinette McCrae will be the Keynote for the meeting. Celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Friendship House on Friday evening, October 16 as a part of this gathering of the Region.

Please Note:



Summer office hours have begun. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 9AM to 2PM.



Join the Sunday Morning Bible Study Group!

We invite all to attend the Bible study, led by Phyllis Bourgois, that meets in Fellowship Hall following the worship (11:45 AM) service concluding by 12:30. The current study is The Epistle of James.

News from Our Friends...

Davisons Move to Wisconsin

Past FBCB Pastor Jim and Edith Davison have sold their home in Utica, NY. It sold in 16 days and they are now settling in (living, not quite, as Jim said) in Madison, WI. The Davison's now have residence in a senior's complex for independent living. In addition, their brother/sister are also in the same complex and I believe it is Ginger's family (youngest daughter) is also living in Madison. Their new address & phone information is: 6225 Mineral Point Road, A-19, Madison WI 53705, (H) 608-230-3026

Congratulations Jeremy Nabors!

Jeremy has been accepted into an exclusive Masters of Music in Choral Conducting program at Michigan State University. He begins his Masters program on June 29. The program will continue through the summer of 2009, the 2009-2010 school year and end the summer of 2010. In this 14-15 month period, he will complete all of the course work required to receive this Masters degree. In August 2010, Jeremy plans to return to Durham to resume his work at Chapel Hill High and Chapel in the Pines. Best of Luck and great to have you back in Michigan!

Safe Travels!

Congratulations to Judy and Larry Phillips on the pending marriage of their son. The Phillips' will travel to Turkey for the ceremony. Happy and Safe Travels!

Take advantage of Your Great Church Library!



Summer is great time to read! Our church library has many terrific selections just waiting for you! Stop by, grab a book and get reading!

Please Take Notice

The church held a Congregational Meeting this month. Materials are available from the church office.

Among the points of discussion were two projects that the church is going forward with.

They are:

- Creating a south side additional playground for Gateway School in the courtyard on Willets Street.
- Opening our sanctuary for non-member weddings

Global Gift Shop *Is* Open

Yes!!!! Consider this a commercial break from your So-Jo! Global Gift Shop remains open after church on Sundays. Please remember to visit when you come to church. Coffee, tea, soup mixes, gifts, chocolate and more, save gas, save time, save a life, save the planet! You may now return to your regularly scheduled reading. Thank you very much!



Tentative
Cedar
Point
Outing
August
18 & 19

**Lovin' Lael!
The Joyful Noise Encounter**

Lael Baptist Camp Fundraiser

August 1, 2009
1PM to 9PM

Chilson Hills Church
Howell, Michigan

If you or someone you know has been touched by the ministry of Camp Lael, then you're going to want to be at this event! To help the camp make needed repairs and upgrades, to help towards a reserve fund, to strengthen the camp into the future, this exciting day is being held.

A fun day for the entire family!

Games, face painting, petting zoo, pony rides. Lots of food, and a power point presentation about the camp, and memory sharing time about your days at Camp Lael.

A praise band will play, vocal groups, Christian Rock, Soloists, Bell choirs will perform. Join in the fun and help support Camp Lael!

**Congratulations
Graduates!**

Jamey Sackett, Alexa Murphy,
Cole Schaffer and Collin
Trask. Well Done!



Ecumenical Work Week

Persons interested in a short term mission project this summer should get information about the Ecumenical Work Week Project to be held August 2-8 in Louisiana. Sponsored by ABC Na-

tional Ministries, the week long project will bring together people of faith for worship and volunteer work helping victims of hurricane Katrina rebuild their homes and churches. For more information contact Victoria Goff at 800-ABC-3USA ext. 2449. (ref: E-Link)

Check the church Welcome Center for important information about the local organizations we support such as M.O.S.E.S., The Race Relations and Diversity Taskforce and The Judson Center.

There are lots of wonderful volunteer opportunities for the summer!



**GLORIA MISSION CHOIR
BENEFIT CONCERT**

JUNE 28, 5 P.M.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF
ROYAL OAK
309 N. Main Street, Royal Oak**

**14 Korean women will present a
program of hymns and gospel songs**

**Accompanied by Min Chung and
Featuring Eun Park, Violinist with
Detroit Symphony Orchestra**

**A free-will offering will be taken
To benefit Friendship House**

ABC-USA News

This week, the Biennial meeting of the American Baptist Churches, USA, is being held in Pasadena, California. The General Board is meeting first, followed by the Biennial gathering. Rev. Roy Medley asks us to join us in prayer for this meeting:

Thank you Will Olsen
for cleaning out our Window Wells!



**Daily
Prayers
For
This
Month**

Each morning when you get up, take a brief moment to say the prayer written below. See if, by the end of the week, having made this time for God's word, somehow, your life has changed for the better, your outlook has become brighter, your spirit, stronger. These prayers are taken from the "Seasons of the Spirit" lectionary materials.

June 28, 2009

For the sake of others and for the sake of ourselves: we come to you, O God. We seek words that convey grace. We seek touch that brings healing. We seek power that does good. We seek you. Hear us. Touch us. Heal us. Send us. In Jesus Christ. Amen.

July 5, 2009

Gracious God, make us eager to hear your call to serve in grace and hope. Be with us as we journey with the message of your powerful and saving love for all your children. Amen.

July 12, 2009

Open our hearts, O God, so that we might perceive your presence and respond in joy. Make us bold to praise you in solitude and in community—singing, dancing and playing to tell of your glory. Amen.

July 19, 2009

Be with us as we journey through life, O God. Help us find our true home in your eternal presence and unchanging love, and strengthen us to create spaces where we may serve the needs of others—finding life and hope, now and always. Amen.

Upcoming Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 AM

June 28, 2009

“Healing Powers” ~ Mark 5:21-43

July 5, 2009

“Sent With Power” ~ Mark 6:1-13

July 12, 2009

“God-inspired Joy” ~ II Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

July 19, 2009

“Wherever We Are” ~ II Samuel 7:1-14a

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