



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

### ***Clean Water—You Can’t Live Without It!***

That has been my mantra for the past few months and I recited it at the Rotary Club luncheon and some of the churches I visited in anticipation for our March 24<sup>th</sup> Water Seminar. And if you made it to the Seminar, *The Story Of The Thirsty*, you now understand why. There are some 884 million people in the world without clean water, according to the World Health Organization, and each of them has a unique story to tell about their personal quest for water: of why they don’t have good water; where they have to go to find water; of how their lives are forever altered because of the lack of water; and how the promise of clean water has the power to change people, families and even entire villages.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Jim and Jodi Mohny, staffers from Living Water International, brought us many of those stories through touching videos and first hand accounts of their own field excursions in Haiti and S. America. They explained how non-governmental organizations such as LWI can provide good water and change the lives of people overnight. And, how they and others, with our help, can eventually solve the world water crises through the giving by dedicated Christians and the efforts of hundreds of volunteers. Those who attended learned so much and left that night feeling greatly blessed from being there. This event was a real eye opener for many people.

So where do we go from here? Do we organize those who attended and schedule another educational seminar on water but invite a different organization to present? Should we schedule time in the church on September 30<sup>th</sup> to hear more about Living Water Intl. from their annual dinner? Should we raise money to support more well drilling efforts? Or is there enough interest to make clean water funding a top priority in our search for a new Outreach Vision? These are things to think about as we plan our future together at First Baptist of Birmingham. Come talk to me if you have thoughts about this.

Brian Blaesing  
Vice Moderator

**SENDING PRAYERS TO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH**

Please remain in prayer for these people who are or have been under doctor's care: Patty Babian, Ray Sharp, Collin Trask, Kelly Kestel, Vicki Schettling, Sandra Paran, Barbara Diederich and Esther Houstina.

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

Congratulations to Patty Trask who is graduating from University of Southern Florida on May 5th. Well done!

Patty Babian continues her treatment at Karmanos Cancer Center. We keep her in our prayers.

Jackie Shepherd continues to recuperate after a fall. We keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

Collin Trask continues to work with doctors.

Robb Heugh was baptized on April 17. Blessings!

We keep our friends who are or who will be undergoing surgeries and medical treatments in our hearts and prayers.

We send our prayers to our friends who are travelling from sunny places.

**Happy May Birthdays!**

- May 1 Cole Schaffer
- May 3 Joan Moore  
Nancy Sharp
- May 6 John Howard
- May 7 Katie Woodford
- May 8 Marilyn Bird
- May 10 Mike McCandlish  
Danielle Swaim
- May 11 Jim Poe
- May 12 Diane Fleming
- May 14 Steve McEwen  
Vicki Schettling
- May 15 Matt Cannon  
Jeremy Nabors
- May 16 Jonathan Olsen
- May 17 Kikuko McCandlish
- May 18 Kyle O'Donohue
- May 21 Jackie Sheppard
- May 22 Kate O'Donohue  
John Schettling
- May 24 Greg Bennett
- May 25 Enid Holliday  
Emma Ritchie
- May 27 Doug Holliday
- May 28 George Weaver
- May 31 Alana Tyson

2010 Officers: Moderator: Dave Brault; Vice Moderator: Brian Blaesing; Financial Secretary: Glenn Craig  
 Treasurer: Carol Olsen; Recording Clerk: Nancy Nabors; Membership Clerk: Kathy Charbeneau  
 2010 Ministry Team Chairs: Judy Phillips (Deacons); Harriet Stewart (Educational); Sarah Clarkson (Human Resources);  
 Carol McWilliam (Physical Resources); Myra Trask (Stewardship); Robert Washburn (Outreach)

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Ministers ..... All Members of this Church  
 Pastor: ..... Rev. Dr. J. Wesley Babian  
 Office Manager/Pub..... Leslie Eldh Jaquez, M.P.A.  
 Director of Music & Organist ..... Jack E. Ellis, M.M.

**Announcements ....**

- Rev. Cathi Feldpaush is being honored by ETS at their Annual Spirit Awards Banquet on Sunday, May 1 from 5 to 8PM. Tickets are \$35 each. Call the church office for further details. Pastor Feldpausch used to be on staff at our church. She is now Pastor of First Baptist Church in Ferndale.
- Pro Literacy Detroit will provide FREE TRAINING to people who want to help adults learn to read. May 3 & 5, 5:30 to 9PM (dinner provided) and Saturday, May 7, 9AM to 4PM (breakfast and lunch provided) at Palestine Missionary Baptist Church , 15787 Wyoming, in Detroit. RSVP to Ron Burks at 313-341-7605.
- Make up Olin Mills Photography Appointment will be on May 16, 2 to 9PM
- All-Church Workday is scheduled for April 30. Refreshments will be served!
- Jim Poe will resume teaching the Christian Forum Class in May.

**A Look at the Financials**

As of March 31, 2011

Pledged Income - Actual	\$44,675
Pledged Income - Budget	<u>\$44,259</u>
Pledged Variance	\$ 416
Income YTD - Actual	\$72,221
Expenses YTD - Actual	<u>\$77,926</u>
Income/Expense Variance	(\$ 5,705)



**Youth News...**

The youth group got together to watch a movie on Friday, April 15 in the Lounge. Fun was had by all!

The youth are having a game show today, Easter Sunday during breakfast to test their memories on Bible verses. Good luck to all! On May 21 we will again help seniors with yard work and then have ice cream afterward. If you are a senior and have yard work you need help with call the church



**Race Relations & Diversity Task Force  
Upcoming Programs**

Our own Kathy Charbeneau is being honored as a Diversity Champion by the Race Relations and Diversity taskforce this year. He will be honored at a community-wide breakfast on Thursday, April 28 at 8AM at The Community House. Cost: \$25

Seniors and Tomorrow ~ May 19, 8AM ~ As we move to having 57 million people over the age of 65 what is being done to prepare? The Task Force will ask the directors of the local senior centers to share their thoughts.

## Fresh Air: Transforming Congregations - A Series of Webinars for Pastors and Lay Leaders Coming in May

As we open our windows to let in the fresh air of springtime, we are also called to open the windows of our mind to let in the fresh air of the Spirit.

Beginning May 5, each week we will offer a different 60 minute webinar led by one or more of our Region pastors. Each pastor/presenter will share transformational ideas and principles they and their church have experienced in a particular area of ministry.

These are not so much “how to” seminars as they are invitations to think about how transformation can occur in each of the subject areas. Following each presentation, participants will be able to engage in dialogue with the presenters.

The webinars come at no cost to you and are provided by the American Baptist Churches of Michigan. You can participate from your own personal computer. You will need speakers and it is helpful to have a microphone as well. Further instructions will be provided once you have registered for a webinar by clicking on the link provided below for each webinar.

You can register for as many of the webinars as you wish, but you must register for each one separately. For more information contact Ron Cary at 1-800-636-2671. (Ref. abc-mi.org)

## Many Thanks!

Many thanks to **Ralph and Sue Charlick** who set the Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary for our beautiful worship service today. Also thanks, too, to **Jo Ellis** who has been responsible for the wonderful accoutrements in the sanctuary through the season of Lent.

## From the Library



Our congregation is involved in seeking God’s purpose for us at this time and in this place – the Visioning process. One of the interests that has come to light involves partnering with an inner-city school or neighborhood.

There are several books on our library shelves that deal with Ministries with the poor or in the inner city. One of those is *Urban disciples: a beginner’s guide to serving God in the city*, by Jenell Paris and Margo Eyring. This book was written to be used as a workshop for teams moving into urban ministry. It helps prepare team members for the differences in culture.

The chapter headings really give a feeling for the book:

- . Why am I Here?
- . Why be in Community?
- . Does God love this city?
- . What is God’s vision for this city?
- . How is God shaping people for this ministry?
- . Where is the hope, the justice for this city?
- . How do we share the gospel?

This book would be a wonderful workshop , but also a good workbook guide to move through as

### Local Author to Make Presentation at FBCB

We will host John Gallagher, author of *Reimagining Detroit* at our church on **May 12 from 7 to 9PM.**

Reimagining Detroit presents a wealth of ideas and strategies for making Detroit a smaller yet a better city. It explores issues surrounding urban agriculture, economic revitalization, governance models, and much more. It is written in an easy, accessible style, and it aims to contribute to a broad public debate about the potential for reinventing Detroit. Plan to attend and bring a friend! (Ref:



### Still Making Good Progress!

We continue to receive important donations to our Organ Project. Any amount helps to get us closer to our goal. Please prayerfully consider your gift.

*Together we can complete this project!*

### Women ..... Destined for God's Purpose: Michigan's AB Women's Conference

"Seasons Of Service" is the focus. Peggy Burk, National ABW Ministries Coordinator of Mission And Service is the Speaker June 10-12, 2011 is date. St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt is the place.

Join women from across the state for workshops and worship. See the ABW Ministries Bulletin Board, the Church website or Nancy Nabors for registration information.

### Hospice of Michigan Meets at FBCB

Hospice of Michigan will offer a GREIF AND LOSS SUPPORT GROUP to the public here at FBCB on Wednesday April , 27, and May 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 10AM to 11AM.

No registration is required and the group is free and open to the public.

The group will meet in the church parlor.

### Easter Sunday!

We share the beginning of the day with our friends at Second Baptist Church for a special sunrise service. We will return to FBCB for a 9AM Continental Breakfast in Fellowship Hall, as well as enjoy a special KNOW YOUR BIBLE VERSES QUIZ SHOW for our children and youth. We begin clean up at 9:45 AM, the choir will begin rehearsal. 10:30 Easter Worship, the Easter Egg hunt for the kids will be held during Children's Church. Join us for a wonderful day!

## Camp Brochures Now Available

Camp brochures are now available in the Welcome Center for Camp Lael and Green Lake Conference Center.

Wonderful programs are being offered this year. Pick up a copy and check it out!

Also, again this year Woodward Endowment will be making scholarships available. Please contact the church office for more information.

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## May 1: Extending the Right Hand of Christian Membership

On May 1, we will extend the Right Hand of Christian Fellowship as the following people become members of the church:

Ruth Copley, Kevin and Missy DeSchutter and Robb Heugh. Blessings! Please join us in the celebration of this wonderful show of Christian commitment at ~~a reception following the service.~~

## Special Worship Service in May

A special worship service of "Dust & Ashes" will be presented on

## 2011 WALKATHON Including "A TASTE OF HAMTRAMCK"

Are you interested in seeing Friendship House continue to provide food to 1,500 Hamtramck residents each month, utility assistance to people in shut-off status, baby layettes to pregnant women, and free clothing and household goods?

Then you can help by signing up for the 2011 Annual Walkathon on Saturday, May 14 at 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This year's route will take walkers to the Polish Art Center, and a special preview of the not-yet-opened Hamtramck Historical Museum. After walking the city, participants can sample foods from various restaurants in a mini "Taste of Hamtramck."

We ask walkers to solicit funds from friends, relatives, co-workers and acquaintances (or make a donation themselves) and bring the checks and cash to the Walkathon. Checks should be made out to "Friendship House." Donors who wish to receive letters for tax purposes should provide their home addresses. Pledge sheets can be downloaded here on this website. Questions? Call 313-871-7443.

Pledge forms are available in the Welcome Center.

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## Happenings In June ...

- We will have our next Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 12. Please note it on your calendar.
- Beginning on June 24 the First Baptist Church of Midland Michigan will stay at our church for a week as they perform mission work in Detroit. We hosted this youth group last year with great success and look forward to supporting their good works!



Join us at our next Vespers on Sunday, May 15 from 4 to 6PM. Details are posted in the Welcome Center.



The **Worship Flower Calendar** is now posted in the lobby. Purchase Sunday flowers in honor or memory of a loved one! \$35.

### Newsletter News

We are beginning to process to provide an electronic only newsletter. If the church has access to your email you will no longer receive a paper version.

*Particular to out-of-state recipients*, please share your e-mail with the church office as soon as possible. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter please call the church at 248-644-0550.

### Daily Prayers For This Month

Each morning when you get up, take a brief moment to sat 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.

April 24, 2011

Holy God, powerful God, surprising God, we rejoice in this day that you have made—a day of wonder and celebration, and a day of joy and trust. Make us bold witnesses of Easter joy. In Christ. Amen.

May 1, 2011

O God, we like Thomas, were not in that room when Jesus first came among the disciples, breathing peace. Help us to know that the risen Christ is with us always. May we embody your grace and carry a waiting world the good news of your saving love. Amen.

May 8, 2011

Risen Christ, in Emmaus, you met the two as you walked with them. Be our companion on the way. Open the scriptures to us. Feed us with the bread of life, and give us courage to witness to your love wherever our journeys take us Amen.

May 15, 2011

Spirit of God, stir our hearts to grow in faith, and encourage our hands to work for the good of community and life together in the Body of Christ. Enrich our lives through the grace and presence of others. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

May 22, 2011

Be with us, O God, when we are challenged to account for the hope that your love has placed in our hearts. Open us to the call of your gospel of peace, and make us bold and enduring witnesses to your saving love in Christ. Amen.

## Upcoming Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 AM

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April 24, 2011

“Easter Sunday” ~ Matthew 28: 1-10

May 1, 21011

“Body Language” ~ John 20:19-31

May 8, 2011

“Breaking Bread” ~ Luke 24:13-35

May 15, 2011

“Powerful Witness” ~ Acts 2:42-47

May 22, 2011

“Enduring Witness” ~ Acts 7:55-60

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