

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

One Great Hour of Sharing

Dear Friends,

In his final moments with his disciples, Jesus asks Peter, “Do you love me?” “Yes,” Peter replies. Then, “Feed my lambs.” the Good Shepherd tells him. “Tend my sheep.” Three times, Jesus passionately repeats his instruction, pressing his followers: If you love me, take care of the people I love. Live your love for me by actively tending these for whom I have sacrificed everything. (John 21:15-19)

Soon, you’ll have an opportunity to offer your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, empowering our American Baptist ministries of disaster relief and refugee aid, meeting basic needs in Christ’s name throughout the world, and sharing resources that allow people to improve their own lives and communities. Soon, each of us will decide how to respond to Jesus’ questions, “Do you love me?”

The members of the family of God—from those we know to distant sisters, brothers and cousins in parts of the world we may never visit—are God’s flock, the sheep of God’s pasture (Ezekiel 34:31). Yet, God’s flock is often forcefully scattered, as people are chased from their homes and livelihoods by brutal expressions of war, as communities and futures are shattered by natural disasters, as societies and countries are ground down by unrelenting hunger, disease, and poverty.

Jesus calls us to tend his sheep caught in these situations of evil and nature run amok. And with

Love and energy, the Church responds! Through One Great Hour of Sharing

- Disaster victims quickly receive shelter, food, water, and medical supplies
- Local communities develop secure sources of food and clean water
- Minds and bodies grow stronger with new schools and medical clinics
- Refugees receive housing and long-term help to construct new lives.

In these challenging times, we often wonder how much we can afford to sacrifice to help feed Jesus’ beloved sheep, when our needs remain pressing. Perhaps only our prayerful conscience can answer that. But remember the feeding of the 5,000 when Jesus asked the disciples to feed the crowd, the disciples despaired (Mark 6:34-44). The five loaves and two fish seemed insignificant compared to the massive need. Yet when each gave sacrificially from what they had, through God’s blessing, their gifts turned into a miracle of compassion for all.

Heed Jesus’ call to feed his sheep with a generous, even sacrificial, gift to One Great Hour of Sharing. Sharing your resources will change lives—including your own.

Sincerely,

Robert Washburn, Chair
Outreach Ministry Team

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, Sandra Paran.

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

Fran McEvoy has a new address: 18210 N. 104th Ave., Sun City, AZ 85373-1665

Tim and Shelley Olsen have a new address: 4103 Benjamin Ave., #1, Royal Oak, MI 48073. Tim and Shelley will be married in our church on Saturday, July 24.

Audrey Holtz's new address in New York is 1290 Parkwood Drive, Macedon, New York 14502. Telephone: (315) 538-8118

Sad news for New friends of our church, Joyce and Lew Gentry, as Joyce's mother passed away earlier this month. We extend Christian sympathy to them.

Happy June Birthdays!

- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| June 1 | Pat Washburn |
| June 6 | Scott Ritchie |
| | Jamey Sackett |
| June 12 | Roger Edgington |
| June 15 | Marilyn Howard |
| | Carol Olsen |
| June 16 | Christopher Nabors |
| June 17 | Doris Fell |
| June 18 | Sue Camaio |
| June 19 | John Lin |
| June 20 | Jack Casement |
| | Jay Sackett |
| June 21 | Evelyn Morrell |
| June 22 | Jeff Sharp |
| June 24 | Dave Klipfel |
| June 25 | Bob Schaffer |
| June 28 | Bill Olsen |
| June 29 | Vic Camaio |
| June 30 | Henry Nabors |

2010 Officers: Moderator: Dave Brault; Vice Moderator: Brian Blaesing; Financial Secretary: Glenn Craig; Treasurer: Carol Olsen; Recording Clerk: Harriet Stewart; 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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 Director of Music & OrganistJack E. Ellis, M.M.

Friendship House Walk-A-thon Is A Success!

Members of several churches gathered at Friendship House in Hamtramck on Saturday, May 22. Although a light drizzle accompanied the walkers on much of the route our spirits were not dampened as we walked to raise funds for this important community resource. Midway through our tour we were treated to a viewing of a local artists mural at the Hamtramck Community Center. The artist was on hand to explain his vision, and the resulting representation of Hamtramck's history. It was noted that Hamtramck township was originally larger than Detroit. Hamtramck as we learned has a deep and varied history and many of its people have gone on to do great things. Some of us stopped at Polonia for lunch towards the end of the walk. It was a nice leisurely way to see a proud city and enjoy each others company. After all was said and done Friendship House walkers raised over \$5,000. This will be met by a matching donation from First Baptist Royal Oak monies which increases the total to \$10,000! Serdecznie dziekujemy (Thank you very much in Polish)



A Look at the Financials

As of April 30, 2010

Pledged Income Actual	\$58,200
Pledged Income Budget	<u>\$58,213</u>
Pledged Variance	(\$ 13)

YTD Total Income	\$90,389
YTD Total Expenses	<u>\$99,567</u>
Variance	(\$ 9,178)

Our spending is exceeding our income.



Youth Events

Friday, June 4, 2010

The Greening of Detroit Project has been postponed.

A **Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for June 13.

Please plan to attend this important meeting after services on that day. We will have vote on a specific item. Details are available in the Welcome Center.

Note:

The office will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of the memorial Day holiday.

Learning Community Opportunities

Learning Community For Adults: **Judy Phillips** is leading the parlor class using "Hop, Skip, and Jump through the Bible".

The Christian Forum Bible study, led by **Phyllis Bourgois** leads us as we study the book of Obadiah. We invite you to join us.

Reaching Our Missionaries ... One Gift At A Time

Each year American Baptist Churches are sent lists of items needed by our missionaries...items that are helpful in their ministries...but that would put them over budget to purchase.

One list is items needed for Overland Missions. This year Friendship House was our focus mission. We were asked to send 2 baby sleepers, 2 receiving blankets, 1 pkg. disposable diapers and 1 book of first class postage stamps. Because of your love, we were able to increase that gift and send 8 sleepers, 7 receiving blankets, 3 large pkg. diapers, as well as the stamps. Thanks be to God.

On our Overseas list were \$150 for the Purchase Plan for India, and 30 roller bandages and three bundles of 4 x 4 fabric squares for Congo. For each pound of roller bandages and patches, we send \$.60 for postage to get them to the receiving country.

Because of your love, we had plenty of sheets and were able to make and send 55 roller bandages along with the other items on the list. Thanks be to God.

We always have the option to prepare and send "Gifts of the Heart." These are kits that are sent to disaster survivors...Baby Kits, School Kits and Health Kits. This year our Sr. Highs packaged and mailed 20 health kits. Then during our Maundy Thursday service, participants from FBCB and Second Baptist Church Detroit brought items and packaged more health kits.

Here is the fun part or the "God" part. It was anticipated that we would make another 20 kits, but in the end we made 92 kits AND just like feeding the 5000 with 5 loaves and 2 fishes, we had enough left over to send a bag full of miscellaneous items to Covenant Ministries in Ferndale and a bag of tooth brushes and one of soaps to Cameron Community Center, our ABW Ministries Region Project for 2009-2010.

Because of your love and the sharing of what you have been given, we were able to send all of the above, along with the postage of \$2 per health kit needed to get the kits to the receiving country.

Youth Mission Efforts Realized

FBCB Youth collected supplies for birthday kits and stuffed animals for donation to Friendship House....We collected birthday kit supplies for 25 parties, and we have dozens of stuffed animals. Special thanks to the large donations from Leona Frost, Hazel Boltwood, Doris Fell and The Trask family. Many thanks to everyone who made these important mission donations a reality for so many families in need.

Joyful News!

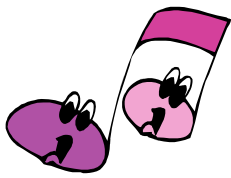
We are pleased to announce the baptisms of Calin McKelvey and Jeremy Davis which occurred on Sunday, May 23rd. Calin and Jeremy will become new members of our church, and will be married here on August 6th. Congratulations to you both!

Bill Wagoner was extended the Right Hand of Christian Fellowship in April.

Among other new members to be acknowledged on Sunday, June 6 are Katie Gentry and Donald Diehl. Both Katie and Donald come to us through a membership transfer letter from First Baptist Church, Royal Oak.

Be sure to welcome these new folks warmly as new members of FBCB!

Please join us on Sunday, June 6, as we extend the Right Hand of Christian Fellowship to these new members!



Choir News

The chancel choir will rehearse and sing on Sunday mornings through June. No more Wednesday evening practices are scheduled until earlier September.

Fundraising for Friendship House

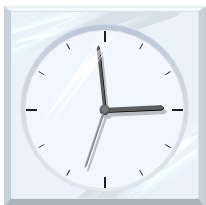
FBCB church member Keely Tyson is working with Friendship House helping to fundraise for them by selling donated items on eBay. She needs donations such as collectibles, jewelry/costume or fine, stamps, coins, limited editions. Also she is looking for volunteers to help her organize items once a week, time will be flexible. Please see Keely if you can help her help Friendship House!



Congratulations, Graduates!

On Sunday, June 6th, we will celebrate our graduates. They include: Katie Camaio (High School), Emma Ritchie (Syracuse), Tim Olsen (Lawrence Tech), Lyndsay

Babian (Graduate Degree from University of Michigan), Sylvia McCandlish (Northwestern University), Jonathan Olsen (Wayne State University Medical School), and Shelley Hainer (Michigan State University). Also, past FBCB intern, Marcia Bonds will graduate from ETS with her Masters of Divinity Degree on Saturday, June 5 at 10AM. Anyone interested in attending the ceremony should speak to Pastor Babian.



Summer Office Hours

Summer office hours will begin on June 14. New hours are Monday through Thursday, 9AM to 2PM.



FBCB Continues to Lend Support to Local Community Groups

- FBCB opens its door to the community in number of ways. On a regular basis we provide meeting space to five 12-step groups (Monday, Wednesdays and Saturdays.)
- September through May the Detroit Edison Glee Club practices in our Choir Room each Monday evening.
- The Michigan Orchid Society continues its long-term relationship with FBCB, meeting the third Sunday of the month, 1:30 to 5PM, several months per year.
- We have, in year's past, provided a meeting space for a "Battle of the Bands" in our Fellowship Hall, an event sponsored by the Birmingham/Bloomfield Family Coalition, a non-profit group organized to offer healthy, alcohol-free entertainment opportunities to local teenagers.
- The M.O.S.E.S. organization and another local nonprofit group have used classrooms on a sporadic basis for strategic planning and meeting space.

These groups pay a fee to the church to help cover building costs.

- The Accidental Baker, a bakery business of one woman, continues to use our wonderful kitchen to further her entrepreneurial business. All funds received from the Accidental Baker go directly to support mission, as per our Future Mission Team directive in 2009.

Long Range Planning: Why Do That Again?

Long range planning is a deliberative process, or concerted and directed effort, by a group of people in a congregation, company, or organization to discover who they are, what they are doing together, and where they should go in the future. Perhaps you have been involved in such a planning group at work, in school, in a club, or even here at church. Such groups typically struggle to view themselves objectively and often debate at length about their collective goals and their future mission. Usually, we can't see beyond the next budget year.

Another name for this process is "Visioning". That implies trying to identify and agree upon a new vision for the company or church. It is more than just how we should spend our money next year, it is finding consensus on a new product line, a direction, or even a new calling. This can be a painful undertaking, as it always includes setting new goals, new objectives, new activities, sometimes a new name or motto. It can also lead to new management, leadership or organizational structure. With so much potential for change, it is easy to see why visioning may not be met with open arms by those involved.

So, if it is so hard to do, and since we (as a congregation) have already done it a couple of times in the past ten years, why go through that again? Let me suggest three reasons. First, because the rewards and benefits are so great. Revising our vision and mission and setting new goals and objectives can lead to new and wonderful adventures for us as a congregation. We can update programs and facilities in ways we never dreamed, making First Baptist of Birmingham a more enlivened and exciting place to worship.

Secondly, creating a new vision energizes our people, and attracts new people who want to be part of the new activities. As God's people we should never become complacent as there is so much to do in our ministry here. And as new mission activities attract new people, those people in turn, will generate fresh ideas and create a new vision.

And third, we need to find God's will and direction for us as we grow and move forward. Have you noticed that the older you get, the faster things change? And the faster things change, the more often we need to re-evaluate our situation and see where God would have us go next? While God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, we certainly are not. Ten years ago our teenagers were toddlers, I was starting to think about retirement, no one had heard of FaceBook, Twitter, Dudoku, or 1080HDTV, and the Lions went 8 & 8. Who would have dreamed of massive home foreclosures, GM in bankruptcy, or churches going out of business? Do you know God's will for your life? Do you know God's will for this congregation? God wants us to seek out His will and find a congregational Vision and Mission worthy of our God given talents, skills and abilities.

Of course, it isn't just picking a new course off a menu of ideas. It is a process that needs the input of all of us. I pray that you will be a part of that process by adding your prayers, and your voice to the chorus of seekers over the next year. I look forward to hearing from you.

- Brian Blaesing



B'JAZZ VESPERS closes out the 14th Season of Sweet Jazz and an Interlude of Worship!

- Total nine months attendance: 1,962, average 218 per month
- Total of nine months collection: \$10,405, average \$1,156 per month
- Total of nine months payment to musicians: \$7,230, average \$803 per month
- Total of nine months payment to First Baptist: \$3,700, average \$411 per month
- Highest attendance: February 2010, Barbara Ware & Cliff Monear: 296
- Highest collection: December 2009, Paul Keller Christmas Concert: \$1,807
- Highest per head count: January 2010, Martin Luther King Jr Celebration, Guymon Ensley Quintet: \$6.21 per head

Again we celebrated a nine month season of exceptional Detroit Jazz featuring some classic favorites and some exciting new comers.

B'Jazz Vespers is brought to you by the B'Jazz Vespers Team B'Jazz Vespers Team: Worship Interlude Arranger: Wes Babian; Producer & Publicity: Robert Washburn; Sound Technicians: Scott Ritchie, Bill, Tim & Will Olsen; Lighting Technicians: Tim & Will Olsen; PR / Media Relations: Leslie Jaquez & Robert Washburn; Greeters/ Ushers: Leona Frost, David Brault, Art Kaczmarek, Harriet Stewart; Afterglow/Refreshments Coordinators: Nancy Sharp & Keely Tyson; CD Sales: Leona Frost, David Brault, Patricia Washburn

Looking forward to our 15th season starting in September!



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.

May 30, 2010

Eternal and Triune God, thank you for creating a home for us, for sending Jesus to reveal your glory, and for the gift of Spirit to guide us into truth. Help us to know you in all your ways and rejoice in your glory. Amen.

June 6, 2010

God of power and grace, open our hearts to know your care for us. Sustain us and give us generous spirits, that we may extend your compassion to others. Amen.

June 13, 2010

God of justice, forgive our tendency to the self-centered planting of seeds of deceit and strife. Make us bold to speak and act against all injustice with courage and conviction, trusting in your bountiful mercy, in Jesus' name. Amen.

June 20, 2010

Hear us when we call for help, O God. When we despair the situations of life that grieve your Spirit of love and justice, come and nourish us for the journey to which you call us Amen.

Upcoming Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 AM

May 30, 2010

“Wisdom Calls” ~ Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

June 6, 2010

“Courageous Compassion” ~ I Kings 17:8-16 (17-24)

June 13, 2010

“Choose Justice” ~ I Kings 21:1-10, (11-14), 15-21a

June 20, 2010

“In God’s Presence” ~ I Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

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