



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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**June 2010**

**Kids club and Wednesday Bible Study begins summer schedule**



School is on summer break so that signals a summer schedule of Wednesday night kid's club as well! For the month of June, supper and kid's

club will be held on June 9 and on June 23.

We'll also be planning another pizza party sometime soon as well. Many thanks to Bill Pherigo for providing the pizza for last month's and a for being such a good sport in the unfamiliar game of "Capture the Flag!"

Our Wednesday night summer schedule will apply throughout July and August as we will continue to meet every other week.

Pastor Jerry will be holding Bible Study on the nights that Kid's club meets, so adults—plan to attend those! Bible study begins after the 6:00 meal around 6:45 and continues until 7:45.

**Youth to attend summer church camp**

Several of our youth were award camp scholarships for Lake Springfield Baptist Camp. This month pray for first time camper Carter Dibler. Alex Walters, Zach LeMarr, and Jason Turner will all be attending church camp in July, and Brianna Walters will be attending in August.

Pray for the experience that is church camp.



**Food Pantry still in need**

Our local food pantry is still in need during the summer months—maybe even more so since the kids are home during the day.

Don't forget every third Sunday is Food Pantry Sunday. There are blue shopping bags available for you to fill and bring in once a month. The youth group will take care of transporting the items to the food pantry, all you need to do is drop it in the container near the door of Pitman Hall.

Remember, hunger doesn't take a summer vacation.



**What is a father?**

Being of the male species does not make a man a father, for a Dad is a special blend of her; disciplinarian; a friend; someone to look up to; someone to model ... Someone with a touch of the 'mother' in him; someone who is big enough to say, "The fault was mine"...someone who lives the kind of life that makes you want to say, "I, too, shall follow Him!"

*The world is round, and the place which may seem like the end may also be the beginning.*  
—Ivy Baker Priest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Alexander Kershaw	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Communion Sunday</b> Rick Gerson	<b>7</b> Tom Dibler	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Supper and Kid's Club 6 PM</b> <b>Bible Study 6:45 PM</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Norma Hotarek	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Cole & Sue Langley	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Steve & Debbie Kershaw	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>Father's Day And Food Pantry Sunday</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Ray Klocke Rochelle Lundstrom	<b>23</b> <b>Supper and Kid's Club 6 PM</b> <b>Bible Study 6:45 PM</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Rich Weerts	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Jim Wright Mark Wright			

### ***"Prize" table in need of restocking***

### ***Another Miracle Sunday?***

What will it take to bring the right person to First Baptist Church as our pastor? The answer is—the same thing it took to reach our goal back in June of 2008 on Miracle Sunday! Each and every person made a conscious effort to lift this church up in prayer—constant prayer for the vision of that goal.

We can do it again— now we need to lift up the members of the Pastoral Search Committee pray daily for Libby Klocke, Debbie Liles, Sharon Crawford, Pam Hawkins, and Don Burris. Pray too for John Grishom as he helps them in their journey.

They have much to do before they reach the stage of an actual interview process. But they need to know now that every member of First Baptist Church is behind them in their efforts.

We need only do what Christ calls us to do. "Pray without ceasing"

One of the highlights of Wednesday Night Kids Club is the "Prize Table". About once a quarter, the children are allowed to "buy" a toy or gift off the prize table with the points that they have earned from not only attending on Wednesday, but other ways too! They may earn points by being good helpers, or sharing, or bringing their Bible or a guest—any number of things. Consequently, when their behavior is not up to standards, they may LOSE their points as well.

You can help keep our prize table supplied by keeping your eyes peeled for "toy bargains." Pick something up and donate that item to the Kids Club as a prize. It's a great way to help!





## IS IT O.K. TO BE A "MISSIONAL CHURCH?"

Lately we have been hearing a new term, "missional," used as a descriptive term for a healthy church. It's not always clear what that means, but it's a good bet that it has something to do with "missions." We are reminded that Christ commissioned us to make disciples, baptize them and teach them...that's missions! We know also that Christ commanded us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." And "love your neighbor as yourself." (Mt. 22:37, 39) Being missional means all of that and more.

In the current *Christian Citizen* from the American Baptist Home Mission Societies the article by Dr. Ron Carlson offers some help with the need for clarity. His working definition is as follows: "A missional church is an authentic faith community whose primary focus is serving outward, on mission with God, bringing Christ's love alive in its neighborhood and beyond."

Dr. Carlson offers "six primary characteristics" of a **Missional Church (M.C.)** Although there is a good bit of overlap, I will try to summarize these without losing their intended meaning.

**1. The M.C. recognizes that things have changed a lot in the last 50 years, and continue to change.** Now, only about 2 out of 10 people attend Sunday worship. They know that for their voice to be heard and understood in the community they must beware of "church language" lest they make the gospel less than understandable. They recognize that doing battle with social concerns and being advocates for those who are marginalized in society is truly part of their "missional DNA."

**2. The M.C. is not only supportive of "regular missions" (such things as financial support and short-term mission projects) "it tries to move into a lifestyle of direct mission engagement."** The challenge of being directly involved in ongoing mission activities and projects is very different from giving to special offerings a few times a year.

**3. The M.C. sees evangelism as being inseparable from the social mandate of Christ in Matt. 25** (giving a cup of water in Jesus' name). We know that Christ gave us the great commission in which he told us to "make disciples of all nations, baptize them and teach them about Christ and His plans." And he also taught us in **Matt. 22:39** to love our neighbors as intensely as we love ourselves. Missional includes all of this, but with a focus that includes not only the "cup of water" but also fighting the unjust systems of society that victimize too many people.

**4. The M.C., like Jesus, is willing to become vulnerable enough to accept service (a drink of water) from others.** They will recognize the gifts and abilities of the very people they wish to help, and invite them to be a part of what they are doing. Sometimes, to get the job done, a partnership with people of other beliefs and even no religious belief is important in ministering to community.

**5. The M.C. seeks the transformation of persons, churches, systems and culture.** Missional churches, with their keen focus on their own community, will sometimes serve as a catalyst for change. An effort to change systems and cultures often brings conflict and allows the church to learn about conflict management. And, having learned about it, they further learn how to use it as a positive tool for both reconciliation and transformation.

**6. The M.C. seeks ways to multiply faith communities, disciples, and spiritual impact.** Without trying to clone themselves, they look for ways to make effective use of cultural expressions of worship and of community service. This multiplication takes place when multiple teams are formed that recruit participants within the target community and, where possible, partner with people who share common concerns.

**CONCLUSION: Yes, it's o.k. to be a missional church!** In fact, it's what Christ intended the church to be. "Missional" does not change the basic N.T. expectations of the Church of Jesus Christ. It simply focuses the spotlight of clarity and urgency on the truth we've already been given. Now, all that is left to do is to "*be doers of the word, and not hearers only.*" *Jas 1:22*

*Pastor Jerry*

## Correction for Prayer Chain

In last month's newsletter, a new Prayer Chain was printed. Hopefully, you saved your copy and have it posted in a place where you can refer to it quickly.

Please take time now to make the following change: Debbie Liles has a new contact phone number. Please call her at 217-891-0815. It should also be noted that the following information was inadvertently cut off during the printing of last month's Prayer Chain. You may want to cut this out and tape it on your Prayer Chain copy.

Most importantly, copies of the prayer chain can be found on the back table of the sanctuary. If for some reason you lost or misplaced yours, feel free to take another. Additionally, if you would like to be added to the prayer chain, please see Janis Hawkins and she will make sure you are contacted.

### REMEMBER:

- ♦ When you receive the call, ask the caller to wait while you find a pencil and paper to **WRITE DOWN THE REQUEST**. Don't wait until you hang up. You can be interrupted or forget just in the time it takes to look for your prayer list!
- ♦ Pray **RIGHT AWAY**. The requests that come on the prayer chain are urgent. A brief word of prayer at the time of receiving the call will begin the prayer coverage immediately and will also help you remember to pray more extensively later.
- ♦ Call **RIGHT AWAY**. If the person you are to call is not available, leave a recorded message or make a note to call again later and then call the next person on the list.



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### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

