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May 2011

Three young people step out in faith



On Mother's Day Sunday, May 8, three young people will be baptized during our morning worship service.

Danielle Burch, Brianna Walters, and Cody Stiltz come professing their faith in Christ and desiring to participate in the ordinance of holy baptism.

Each of these young people have been a part of our Wednesday Night Kid's Club for a long time. Danielle was one of the very first attendees when we began this ministry. Brianna rarely misses a Wednesday night and attends faithfully on Sunday mornings. Cody has been at First Baptist now for a number of years as well. Each of the youth have counseled with Pastor Phillips and are prepared to enter into baptism with an understanding.

Please stay after the service for a short reception of cake and punch in honor of the baptism candidates.

Saturday Breakfast with friends

Mike and Janis Hawkins continue with their Fellowship Breakfast and everyone is invited to attend anytime between 7:30 - 9:30 AM for breakfast. This month, the breakfast will be on Saturday, May 21. Their home is located at 80 Sugar Creek Hills.

No meeting, no agenda—just an opportunity for church family get together for a time of fellowship and good food.



You needn't bring anything but your appetite!

"If you have a mom, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been."
 —Robert Brault

Summer Church camp registrations are now due

Summer church camp registrations are now due into the office. If your child wants to attend church camp, a form is required to be filled out choosing which of the camps they wish to attend. If your child is a faithful member of the Wednesday night Kid's Club, or of Sunday School, or both—then the church will help to fund your child's camp fee. Scholarships are available through the Area II, but are limited.

Those children from our church signed up to attend so far include: Carter Dibler, Sophia Hawkins, Brianna Walters, Zach LeMarr, and Alex Walters. Total camp fees so far come to \$665.00. Donations year to date to the camp fund total \$656.65. The camp fund represents monies that have been contributed by our church membership that are over and above the amount the the church has budgeted to give each child a half tuition scholarship. What a joy that the people of this church see such value in summer church camp. All our students attend Lake Springfield Baptist Camp. The church membership voted at the business meeting last week to make a donation toward the LSBC Pool repair fund of \$1,000! Please pray for the camp, its directors and staff, its campers, and of course the vital ministry it provides our youth.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Sunday	2 Angie Kershaw Kathy Price	3 Exercise Class 6:30 PM	4 Supper & Kid's Club 6:00 Business mtg 7:15 Marilyn Clark	5	6	7
8 Baptism Service 10 AM 	9	10 Exercise Class 6:30 PM	11 Supper & Kid's Club 6 PM Bible Study 6:45	12	13	14 Janis Hawkins
15 Don & Helen Burris	16	17 Exercise Class 6:30 PM	18 Supper & Kid's Club 6 PM Bible Study 6:45	19 ABWM Noon	20	21 Ryan Brown Ralph & Marge Ber- riman Ben Clark
22 "Extreme Fusion" 6 PM at the First Christian Church, Girard	23	24 Exercise Class 6:30 PM	25 Supper & Kid's Club 6 PM Bible Study 6:45	26	27	28 Fellowship Breakfast at the Hawkins' home 7:30-9:30 AM Terry & Marilyn Clark
29 Catherine Sloman	30 	31 Exercise Class 6:30 PM				

Great job Alicia!

Congratulations to Alicia Hawkins on her college graduation. Alicia has completed her master's degree in Public Health from the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Alicia will be utilizing her degree working at the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health.

Alicia is the daughter of Marvin and Arlene Kirchner of Greenfield.

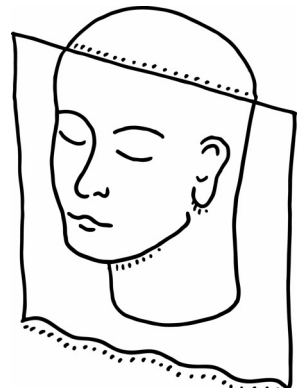


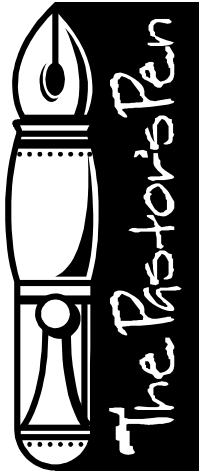
Behind the veil

Poet Joan Walsh Anglund called death "a thin curtain...less than gauze, between us. John Taylor said, While we are mourning the loss of our friend, others are rejoicing to meet him behind the veil."

Thanks to Jesus' resurrection from the grave, death holds no power over God's children. Although we still grieve lost loved ones, we are assured that they have eternal life through faith in Christ.

We can take comfort knowing that people whose earthly lives have ended are in heaven forever – and that we'll soon celebrate with them.





“Down By the Riverside”

That may seem like a strange title for a book about Baptist beliefs and history, but such is the case! The book, authored by Everett C. Goodwin, is subtitled, “a brief history of Baptist Faith.” Beginning this Wednesday evening, May 11, we will introduce this book and topic for our Wednesday evening bible study. It will be our guide as we look at what Baptists believe and we’ll look at these beliefs in their historical context. Copies of the book will be available, hopefully by this week. Having the book will be helpful for those involved, but not a necessity as we begin the study. Since we will be meeting only twice a month through the Summer it will take a while to complete the study.

This study is designed to help us understand our Baptist heritage study is designed to help us understand our Baptist heritage. The author in the preface to his book says, “*I have attempted to draw connections and provide interpretation so that readers might gain a sense of what it means to be Baptist.*”

As we look at the range of concerns, distinctive's and issues in Baptist history and life, we begin with the primacy of God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Belief in the Trinity undergirds all others in the life of Baptists and Baptist churches.

Some of the other issues and principles to be examined are: (1) Believer’s Baptism, (2) Soul freedom and competence, (3) Personal regeneration (Choosing to believe in Christ by Faith), (4) The Lord-ship of Jesus Christ, (5) Mission interest and efforts, (6) Religious freedom, (7) Separation of Church and state, (8) The authority of Scripture, (9) The Lord’s Supper and Baptism as symbols, (10) Confessions of Faith vs Creeds, (11) Original sin and (12) The work of the Holy Spirit.

When Adoniram and Ann Judson found themselves in Burma as Baptist missionaries, they were about as surprised as anyone. When they set sail for that part of the world, they were Congregationalists. En route, he and Ann became Baptists, because his reading of the New Testament convinced him that baptism to be correct must be done by immersion. Upon arrival they were baptized and declared themselves Baptists. In a letter Ann wrote back to America she said, “*We are confirmed Baptists, not because we wanted to be, but because truth compelled us to be.*”

This study will provide an opportunity for present members to have a fresh look at what makes Baptists Baptist. It can also be helpful to someone considering becoming a Christian and/or someone considering becoming a Baptist. You are all welcome.

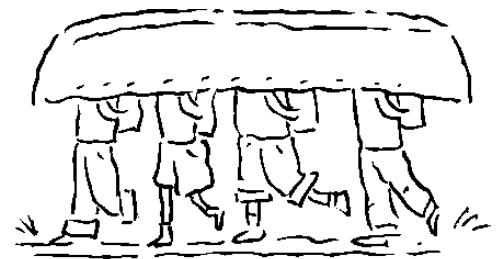
Amaryllis

Early one spring, I planted a couple of dozen amaryllis bulbs. With great anticipation, I watched for blooms. But weeks turned into months before the first sign of life appeared. By the end of summer, the bed of pink flowers I’d envisioned was nothing more than a scattering of green leaves. So I pulled them all up to make room for other plants. I wasn’t about to waste another growing season.

Imagine my surprise the following spring, when a single delicate amaryllis blossom appeared. My delight quickly turned to dismay — for I realized I’d given up too soon. Had I the least bit of patience or a little faith, I might have had a glorious garden.

Then I wondered: Are there other things or people I give up on too soon? What might a little patience and faith do for a difficult relationship or troublesome circumstances?

—Kari Myers (adapted from Homiletics)



CANOE TRIP

Calling all Middle School/High School youth! It’s time to start thinking about this summer’s float trip. It will be held on July 25-27 the same weekend that VBS begins. Talk to Mike Hawkins about getting signed up early and the costs involved and if you are eligible for ABY funds to help cover that cost.

“Extreme Fusion” youth event planned

A grass roots effort is underway to provide a quarterly Youth event with food, games, a live Christian band, and plenty of fun.

The first of such events is scheduled to be held on Sunday, May 22 at the First Baptist Church in Girard. This will be a time of fellowship for High School aged youth to gather in a Christian setting and just hang out together while enjoying music, and good food, fun and games. If you would like to know more about the effort, or would like to volunteer or contribute to its success, please see Mike Hawkins.



Summer Kid’s Club schedule begins soon

It seems impossible to be talking about the school year being over—but it in fact almost is!

With the end of school comes a more abbreviated version of Wednesday Night Kid’s Club when we begin meeting every other Wednesday evening. Adult Bible Study will follow the same summer schedule for Wednesday evenings.

June is when we will begin with NO Wednesday Night activities planned for June 8, or June 22. July dates with no Wednesday activities include July 6, and July 20, and August 3rd, 17th, and 31st will also be nights that will be skipped. The regular schedule will resume in September. Take time to mark your calendar now!



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157 W. Jackson St.
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

