

Bridge Builders Newsletter

Issue 520

2019 April

Interim Pastor
Claudia McCain

Director of
Christian Education
Gee Min Glaue

Administrative
Assistant
Leann Walters

Custodian
Lisa Barker

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Search Committee Update

For the month of March, the search committee accepted and reviewed applications from pastoral candidates. We received a few late applications from candidates now under review. We have also conducted interviews. More updates will be announced during worship service as we progress.

Please continue to pray for the search committee and our future pastor. Your prayers certainly lead the Committee. We appreciate your continued encouragement. We also appreciate your inquiries which reflect your care and prayers.

Russell Glaue
Search Committee Chair

Holy Week

Palm Sunday Worship, April 14, 9:30 a.m.

Crying Stones, Luke 19:29-40

Special presentation by the FBC Children

Maundy Thursday Worship, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Stones to Bread, Matthew 4:1-4

Pastor Claudia speaking

Easter Sunday, April 21

Guided Reflection & Prayer, 6:30 a.m.

Easter Sunrise Worship, 7:00 a.m.

The Final Stone, Matthew 27:59-60

Featuring the FBC Drama Team in *The Rock*

Easter Breakfast, 8:15 a.m.

Easter Worship, 9:30 a.m.

He Lives!, John 20:1-18

Featuring the FBC Drama Team in *The Case of the Empty Tomb*

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday

Interim Pastor's Article

Opening Prayer

Leaders

April 7

Lora Wallace

April 14

(Palm Sunday)

Rob Wallace

April 21

(Easter)

Jim Richardson

(both)

April 28

Jane Coplan

May 5

Christina Harman

May 12

Bob Babcock

May 19

Justin Derry

May 26

Judy Hurt

Candle Lighters

April 7

Abigail Wallace

April 14

(Palm Sunday)

Kyler Glaue

April 21

(Easter)

Jayden Glaue

April 28

Deena Mangalaraj

May 5

Celena Mangalaraj

May 12

Mykel Glaue

May 19

Grace Chenoweth

May 26

Abigail Wallace



God is Good! All the Time!

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Recently, while leading a worship service in Quincy, a gentleman in the congregation collapsed. We had just finished the last hymn when I looked up and saw him slumped over the pew in front of him. You know how things can move in slow motion during a crisis. I remember trying to process what I was seeing – a few men moving to assist – a woman dialing 911. Then men gently lifting the man, laying him on the floor. What was probably only seconds seemed like an eternity. I heard someone say “he is responsive” answering a question from the 911 dispatcher. I remember seeing his wife with head bowed in prayer, and another woman embracing her. I remember seeing the shocked faces of those in attendance. I watched as a doctor from the group dropped to the man’s side. A pastor friend was holding his head up off the floor to make laying a bit more comfortable. I remember rolling up my coat to stick under his head and when I did, I saw how ashen he looked. Had he not been talking, I would have thought he had died. The ambulance arrived and he was taken to Blessing Hospital.

Later that evening, a post on Facebook stated that his vitals were fine and they would keep him overnight for observation. The next morning, word came that they were keeping him for a heart catheterization scheduled for the next day. A later post stated that during the heart cath they placed two stents opening two blockages, one 90% and the other 95%. Praise God!

I was reminded of two lessons from this event. First, God’s timing is always perfect. Had the man passed out 30 minutes later, he would have been driving home and the results would have been much different. Had he not passed out at all, the blockages could have resulted in a fatal heart attack. I am always in awe of God’s timing. What seemed like a crisis at the moment was really a blessing in disguise.

The second lesson reminds me of Romans 8:28, *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.* Again, what seemed like a crisis at the time, God used for good. I saw the man a few days after his release from the hospital. I asked how he was feeling. With a big smile on his face he said, “I didn’t know how bad I really felt.”

Sometimes we see “the good” shortly after the crisis as in this situation. Sometimes the good comes a week, a month, even years after. Sometimes the good doesn’t come during our lifetime but after. Yet how comforting it is to know that God takes our darkest nights, our deepest valleys, and uses them for good and his glory. Thanks be to God!

Claudia McCain
Interim Pastor

Sermon Series

Journey of Stones 2019 Easter Message Series

The Easter series of messages, *Journey of Stones*, centers around the rich imagery of rocks and stones found in the Scripture and the compelling metaphor of stones as representative of our sins. Our journey will involve times of prayerful and honest repentance that will call for private and corporate expression. But the messages will also lead us on a journey of celebration, grace, forgiveness and awe at the miracle of the empty tomb and the promise of life. Join us for worship this Easter season as we travel this *Journey of Stones*.

- April 7 **Upon this Rock** Matthew 16:13-20
- April 14 **Crying Stones**, Luke 19:29-40, Palm Sunday
- April 18 **Stones to Bread**, Matthew 4:1-4
Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:00 p.m.
At the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- April 21 **The Final Stone**, Matthew 27:59-60
Easter Sunrise, 7:00 am
Featuring the FBC Drama Team in *The Rock*
- April 21 **He Lives!**, John 20:1-18
Easter Worship, 9:30 am
Featuring the FBC Drama Team in *The Case of the Empty Tomb*
- April 28 Jane Coplan Speaking
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CHILDREN/YOUTH

EASTER PARTY

Sunday, April 14, 2019

10:45-11:45 AM

Ages: Preschool through 12th grade
(9th-12th graders will get to hide the eggs)
Craft, games, snacks and egg hunt!

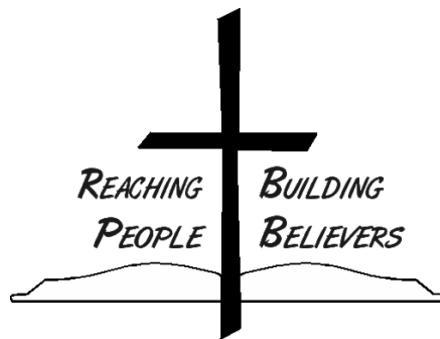
First Baptist Church Macomb, 1515 S. Candy Lane.
(309) 833-2479



General Income & Expense Summary

Month	Income*	Expenses
January	\$12,044.52	\$11,018.12
February	\$15,169.16	\$10,561.24
March	\$18,706.40	\$14,923.04

- Includes Tithes, Offerings, Gifts, & Interest



Birthdays & Anniversaries

April

- 1—Richard Hurt
- 4—Wendy Geltmacher
- Richard & Sharon Sample (a)**
- 12—Keith Rose
- 16—Betty Ingledue
- Abigail Wallace
- 20—Johnson Wu
- 26—Leann Walters
- 28—Linda Braun
- Eldon & Debbie Derry (a)**

May

- 2—Cavitt Hollis
- 7—**Steve & Lavon Smart (a)**
- 14—John Adair
- 22—**Don & Kathy Garlick (a)**
- 24—Norma Blake
- Mike Foulk
- Kathy Garlick
- 30—Mykel Glaue

Thank You

Dear FBC,

Our sincere appreciation for the continued support during the passing of our husband & father, Wayne Melvin. We were touched by your thoughts, prayers, and genuine outreach to our family.

Thank you for demonstrating Christ's love, as Dad truly thought a lot of his church. May the Lord continue to richly bless you & your families as you have blessed us!

Love,

Lou & the Wayne Melvin Family

Building Update

Drywall mudding and sanding have been completed in another room and it is now painted. The ceiling tile grids and tile have been installed in another room. If you haven't visited the east end of the building in a while, walk down and see what has been accomplished. Or better yet, come volunteer on Saturday mornings or check with Rich Sample to see what can be done through the week.

The commitment total for our 2018 Vision 4 Tomorrow campaign is \$307,275.00. As of March 31, 2019, \$65,930.87 has been given toward this campaign. If you have not made a commitment but would like to be a part of this campaign, you can do so at any time. Simply contact Leann in the office for either a commitment card or tell her the total you would like to commit. All commitments are confidential.

You are also welcome to give to the campaign without making an official commitment. Simply write your amount on the "Building Fund" line of a giving envelope or in the memo line of your check.

"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share . . . "
1 Timothy 6:18

Judy Hurt

Capital Campaign Follow-up Director

Church Board Summary

The Board met on the 12th of March at 6:30 pm. After a devotional and opening prayer, the following items were discussed/completed this month.

- Normal financial and church business.
- Discussed a need for a way to prevent the children from leaving the toddler room without permission. A gate will be installed.
- A request to use rooms for supervised visits was discussed. It was agreed that up to 3 rooms could be used. Lauren Jordan will coordinate the visits through the Salvation Army. We would like the continued prayers from all of you as we conduct the business of our church.

Rich Sample

FBC Board Chairperson

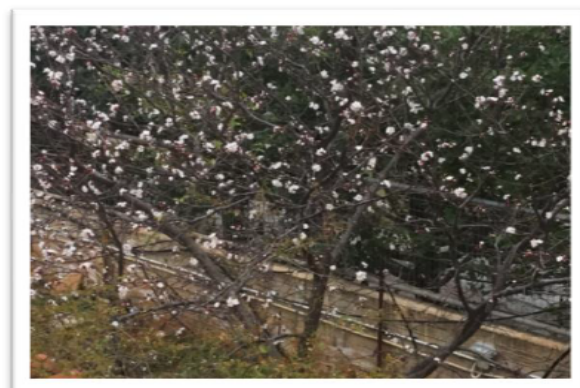
Update from Alan & Whitney Brown

March 2019

February was a cold and rainy month and kept us from being able to do some repairs around the outside of the house. However Spring has sprung, allowing us to paint the gates and rails, plus doing some weeding and planting. Without exception, every friend or worker that has come this past month has affirmed and encouraged us with comments on how peaceful, quiet and beautiful it is here. Then they almost always add, "this will be perfect for your guests!"



Handsome gardener!



Fruit trees in bloom!

We have been excited to see our calendar filling up for the Spring and Summer months with people from as far away as Papua New Guinea! We have met several of the couples by Skype and are anxious to host them in our home.

We have been using our down time not only to promote and invite people and ministries to come stay with us, but also to practice our coaching skills and debriefing on our missionary friends in Athens and elsewhere. We continue to learn and prepare, which has included taking an on-line counseling-type course. Through this course God has been helping us to see the wrong belief systems we have and how easily we can make wrong assumptions, based on false beliefs, that lead to unhealthy actions. Being transformed by the renewing of our minds with His truth is key to loving ourselves, living in healthy relationships, serving others and loving God. **Please pray** our minds will be renewed by Him even more!

Locally, in our area we have joined a small Bible study with a few believers and hope to see it grow as we discover more believers in the area. **Please pray** for this to grow as there is no evangelical church witness within a 20 mile radius of us. As we meet people here in our neighborhood, we sense God is leading us to invite our neighbors over and discuss life and their understanding of the Gospel. We are praying about what form it should take and how to get started. **Pray with us** that God will reveal to us the best way to approach this.

Thank you so much for all of your prayers for us and this ministry! It has taken some time to get it off the ground but the requests are coming in and we are looking forward to April and the fruit of waiting patiently for God's timing.

Resting and living in Him, *Whitney & Alan*

April 2019							May 2019 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p>◀ Mar 2019</p> <p>1 6:30 p.m. – CAM Mtg, Rm 11</p>	<p>2 11:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting 1:30 p.m. – American Baptist Women's Ministry at FBC, Rm 11 4:00 p.m. – Small Group Study in Room 11</p>	<p>3 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. – Crown Reunion Group Women's Emmaus Bible Study in Room 11 6:30 p.m. – Small Group Study in Room 11</p>	<p>4 8:00 a.m. – Breakfast at Sunrise Restaurant 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>5 10:30 a.m. – Fred Adair Funeral 12:00 p.m. – Fred Adair Memorial Luncheon</p>	<p>6 8:00 a.m. – Work Day at FBC</p>		
<p>7 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School 2:00 p.m. – Worship at Grand Prairie</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 6:30 p.m. – Meeting of the Church Board in Room 11</p>	<p>10 6:30 p.m. – Small Group Study in Room 11</p>	<p>11 8:00 a.m. – Breakfast at Sunrise Restaurant 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice 7:00 p.m. – FBC practicing with FCC Choir at FCC</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 8:00 a.m. – Work Day at FBC 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Area III Annual Meeting at FBC Champaign at Savoy, IL</p>	
<p>14 Palm Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School 10:45 a.m. – Children's Easter Party</p>	<p>15 Holy Week</p>	<p>16 Holy Week 11:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting</p>	<p>17 Holy Week 11:30 a.m. – Lunch at Geisosomo's 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. – Crown Reunion Group Women's Emmaus Bible Study in Room 11</p>	<p>18 Maundy Thursday 8:00 a.m. – Breakfast at Sunrise Restaurant 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice 7:00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday at FCC</p>	<p>19 Good Friday</p>	<p>20 8:00 a.m. – Work Day at FBC</p>	
<p>21 Easter 6:30 a.m. – Guided reflection & prayer 7:00 a.m. – Easter Sunrise Worship 8:15 a.m. – Easter Break-fast 9:30 a.m. – Easter Worship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 4:00 p.m. – Small Group Study in Room 11</p>	<p>24 6:30 p.m. – Small Group Study in Room 11</p>	<p>25 8:00 a.m. – Breakfast at Sunrise Restaurant 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 8:00 a.m. – Work Day at FBC</p>	
<p>28 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School class 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – Worship (Jane Coplan Speaking) 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 4:00 p.m. – Small Group Study in Room 11</p>					

First Baptist Church

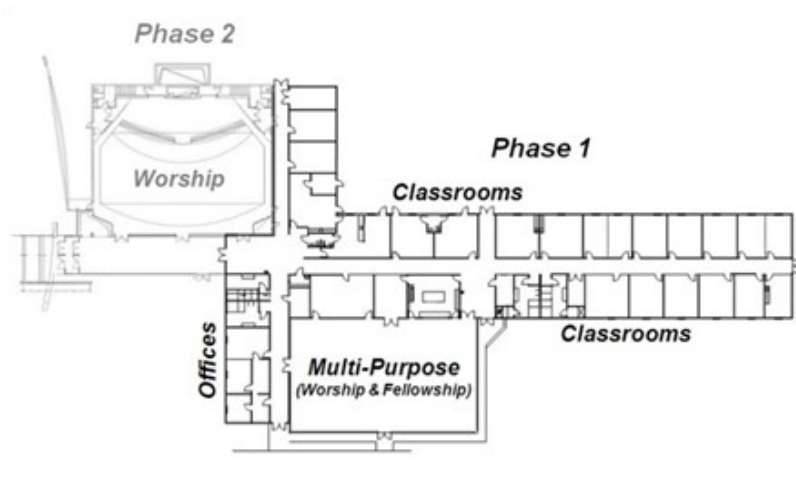
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www.fbcmacomb.com



Our New Worship Center

1515 S. Candy Lane, Macomb, IL



Our Mission

Reaching People—Building Believers

Our Vision and Purpose

*To encourage and empower changes within ourselves
to meet the needs of the congregation,
community and the world*

Philippians 4:13, James 2:26

Please Join Us!

Worship—Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School—Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

Find us on the web at www.fbcmacomb.com

Podcasts of the weekly message can be heard or
downloaded by clicking on the Podcast link on the home page.