

FBC MACOMB

# Monthly Newsletter

2020 March

## *First Baptist Church Website*

Currently we are having issues with our website that we are working to resolve. We apologize for the inconvenience and hope to have the situation fixed soon. Thank you for your patience.



## *Updated Directories*



Copies of the Updated Church Directories are available in the church office. If you would like a digital copy of the directories please let Leann know and she will email you a copy.

## ***Words from Pastor Jon***

Hello,

For this month's article, I would like to acknowledge Christian speaker Rebekah Simon-Peter. Not only does she have a cool sounding Biblical last name, she also has provided some insight into how to be the church in the 6 weeks leading up to the 7 weeks of Easter. Rebekah recently wrote:

*There's a lot of institutional despair these days. "The church is dying, it's in decline, it's done for, it's over. The best days are behind us." But what if all that's just a story? And not a very good one at that? The church is only done-for if we say it is.*

*Here's what I say: This Lent, don't give up being the church. The truth is, there's nothing to worry about. Worry doesn't solve problems anyway. Trust, faith and positive action do.*

I would like to encourage us this season to consider Rebekah's advice to you view life through the lens of the power of Jesus' resurrection. She would call us to make a list this Lenten season of what our church does in our community and be proud of that. Yes, we should do more but we should embrace caring for our community. We should count the number of prayers we have prayed and be encouraged by that knowing we are not alone in our prayers. Yes, we should pray more but do not be discouraged in your effort. We should make a list of all the things your church is doing to help children/teens have a faith-based influence in their lives. Yes, we should strive to do more to reach the next generation but be thankful for the opportunities we have.

Truly, it can be discouraging to see that our culture is not always in sync with our worldview but that does not mean we give up on being the church. That might mean to be more diligent as the church.

I will be attending the Exponential conference this month. One of the key principles this organization is based upon is the fact that the "called out ones (the church)" is still God's best plan for reaching God's people. You are part of an organization that even today is the best plan for sharing God's love. Sure, we could do a much better job of fulfilling God's will as a church. Sure, I could do a much better job of equipping each of you to be the church. Sure, I could do a much better job of being a servant model example of leadership. Yet, the early Christians somehow pressed on to leave us the historical tradition of the resurrection. Just as the early followers of Jesus tried to figure out how to be the church, we must continue to do so. This Lenten season do not give up on being the church because you are part of God's best way to share God's love for all.

Thanks,  
Jon Self  
@pastorjonself



## ***March Sermons***

- March 1—Guest Speaker, Russell Glaue (Romans 5:12-20)
- March 8—Guest Speaker, Jim Richardson (Romans 4:1-17)
- March 15—Guest Speaker, Paul Gibson (ABC-GRR Executive Minister)
- March 22—Guest Speaker, Claudia McCain (John 9)
- March 29—*I Still Believe* (part 1) (John 11:1-45)

## ***Church Board Update***

The Board met on February 11 at 6:30 pm. The meeting was opened with devotion and group prayer. After the prayer the following business was conducted...

- Normal financial and church business.
- Reports were presented.
- Set up rotation for handling offering each week
- Discussed ceiling for north maintenance room and duct work
- Discussed replacing fittings for furnace pumps to stainless steel and approved the cost
- Discussed building funds



Steve Smart  
FBC Board Chairperson



Spring is on the way! I saw my first bluebirds and robins a couple of weeks ago. As the weather improves, there will be more outside work to be done. We also continue to work on the final rooms at the east end. A little drywall mudding, sanding, painting, and installing ceilings and trim will complete these rooms. Consider volunteering to help.

Money given also helps to determine what projects can be tackled. Our 2018 Vision 4 Tomorrow total campaign commitment is \$307,275.00. As of February 29, 2020, \$164,407.87 has been given toward reducing our debt. Every dollar given to the building fund goes to our monthly loan payment of \$6366.88 or to completion of Phase 1. Simply write your amount on the "Building Fund" line of the giving envelope or in the memo line of your check.

Judy Hurt  
Capital Campaign Follow-up Director

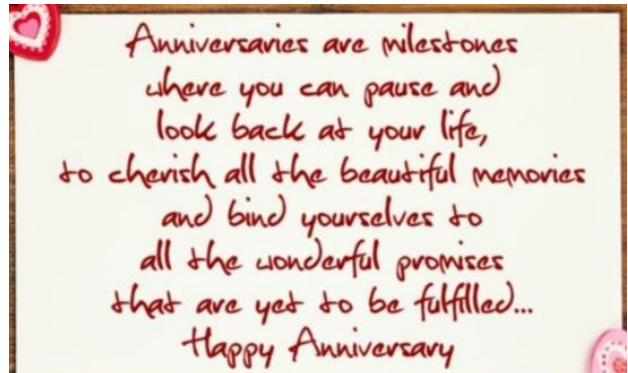
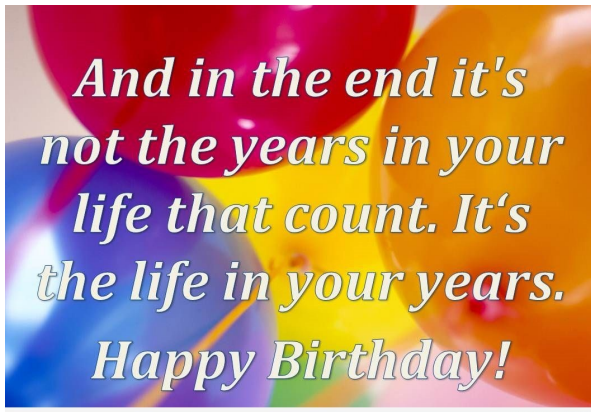
## ***Birthdays & Anniversaries***

### **March**

- 1**—Kathy Brooks
- 17**—Moises Molina
- 18**—Zech Foulk  
Don Garlick
- 19**—Richard & Judy Hurt (a)
- 24**—Kay Adair  
John Ceder  
Jaydn Glaue

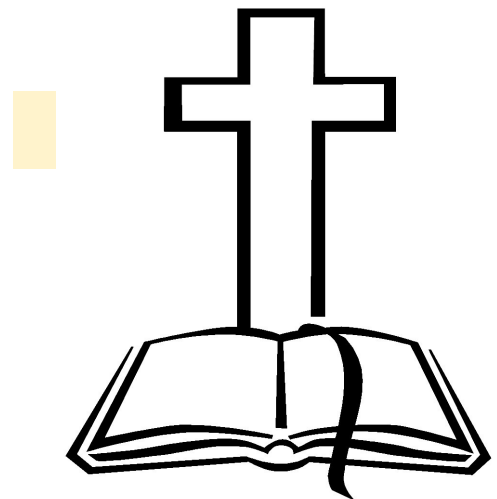
### **April**

- 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**—Eldon & Debbie Derry



## ***March Candle Lighters & Opening Prayer Leaders***

- March 1—Grace Chenoweth & Justin Derry
- March 8—Abigail Wallace & Judy Hurt
- March 15—Jaydn Glaue & Richard Hurt
- March 22—Kyler Glaue & Jane Coplan
- March 29—Celena Mangalaraj & Lora Wallace



## All Church Potluck

**Sunday, March 29, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.**

All Church Potluck. Bring a dish to share. More details will be available in the bulletin as they become available.



### Fire Hydrant

Ricky, Tony, and Leroy were out riding their bikes in downtown Chicago when a fire engine zoomed past with blaring sirens.

The three boys spotted an Alsatian dog on the front seat of the fire engine.

Ricky commented, "They use that dog to control sightseers."

"No," said Tony, "he's just for good luck."

But Leroy knew better, "No, that's not it," he said.

"The dog is there to point the firemen to the nearest fire hydrant!"

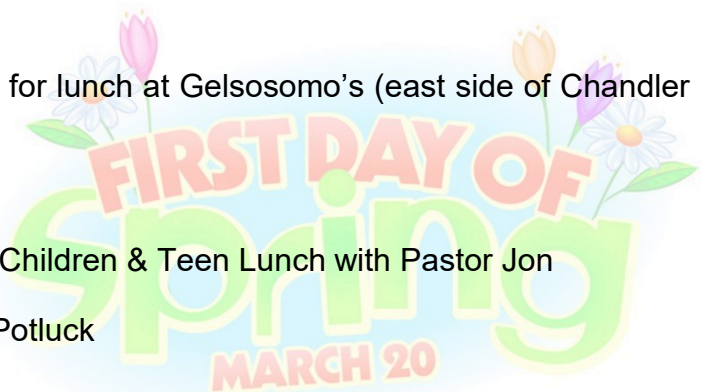


[https://www.funny-jokes.com/humor/jokes/jokes\\_witticisms.htm](https://www.funny-jokes.com/humor/jokes/jokes_witticisms.htm)



### ***Upcoming Events at a Glance***

- Join us Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. for a workday at FBC. There are lots of little tasks that can be done by everyone. See Rich Sample if you are interested or wonder how you could help.
- Join us Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast at McDonald's West. All are welcome.
- Sunday, March 8—Daylight Savings Begins—Spring forward an hour your clocks you must
- Starting Tuesday March 10—Join us Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. for Small Group Study
- Tuesday, March 17—St. Patrick's Day
- Wednesday, March 18, 11:30 a.m.—Join us for lunch at Gelsosomo's (east side of Chandler Park).
- Friday, March 20—Spring Begins
- Sunday, March 22, 11:45 a.m.—1:30 p.m.—Children & Teen Lunch with Pastor Jon
- Sunday, March 29, 12:00 p.m.—All Church Potluck





**First Baptist Church  
1515 S. Candy Lane  
Macomb, IL 61455**

**309-833-2479**

Calendar of Events: <http://fbcmacomb.com/Calendar/index.html>

Please Join Us!

Worship is Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m.—Early Bird Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study

10:45 a.m.— Children/Teen Sunday School

10:45 a.m.— Adult Sunday Morning Bible Studies

Find us on the web at [www.fbcmacomb.com](http://www.fbcmacomb.com)

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

Senior Pastor  
Jon Self

Director of Christian Education  
Gee Min Glaue

Administrative Assistant  
Leann Walters

Custodian  
Lisa Barker

