



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
515 N. LADD STREET
PONTIAC, IL 61764



Growing the Family of God

Telling the Story

Serving the Community

Nurturing Believers

Coffee with Jim



From the Pastor . . .

FINDING YOUR WAY BACK TO GOD a five-part video and small group discussion series by Dave and Jon Ferguson will begin the week of February 18 2018. Topics covered during the five week series include: *Awakening to Longing, Awakening to Regret, Awakening to Help, Awakening to Love, and Awakening to Life*. Each session begins with a twelve minute video followed by a time of discussion and reflection.

This church-wide event will take us through Lent and conclude on Palm Sunday. I want to encourage you in the strongest possible terms to participate in this small group experience. There will be a number of groups meeting at the church and in private homes. Sign up sheets will be available in the narthex. Please select the time and location that best suits your schedule.

Please consider opening your heart and home to host a small group. The requirement for hosting is a heart for people who need to find their way back to God. The only other requirement is a DVD player. Study books and DVDs will be provided. There is no cost to you whatsoever.

We have had great success with church wide campaigns. Many of you trace your history with our church to just such a church wide experience. We all need to find our way back to a healthy, spirit-filled relationship with God. This is our opportunity, personally and corporately, to renew our spirit and commitment to Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you all,

Jim

An Important Reminder...



If you have been to see a medical professional recently you no doubt were asked to sign a form indicating that you received information regarding HIPAA regulations.

What you may not realize is that HIPAA regulations prohibit hospitals and other agencies from sharing your personal information with anyone **including your pastor.**

This means if you want us to know about your hospitalization you or a family member must contact the church office directly, or you must specifically ask the hospital chaplain to contact Pastor Jim and let him know that you have been hospitalized. This is the **only** way you can be sure that we will know you have been admitted to the hospital.

Winter Weather



A reminder as we make our way into a season of unpredictable winter weather, ***if Pontiac schools are closed or close early due to inclement weather, all church activities scheduled for that day will also be cancelled and the church office will be closed.***

To the best of our ability, church cancellation notices will be posted on our church Facebook page and will be broadcast on the WEEK and WMBD television stations, and, as appropriate will be shared via our calling system. If you do not receive church-wide notices via our automated calling system, please contact the office and request to have your number added to the list.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO USE THEIR BEST JUDGMENT AND BE SAFE DURING HAZARDOUS WEATHER!

Visit Us on the Web!



For convenient access to the latest church news and schedule information, don't forget to visit us on-line at www.fbcpontiac.org. While there, you also have the opportunity to download recent services in MP3 format or browse our picture gallery and see just what we've been up to lately here at FBC! Also, don't forget to follow us on Facebook and receive all the latest church updates!



Cold and Flu Season Is Here!

As the cold and flu season descends upon us, we'd like to take the opportunity to give our church family a few important reminders:

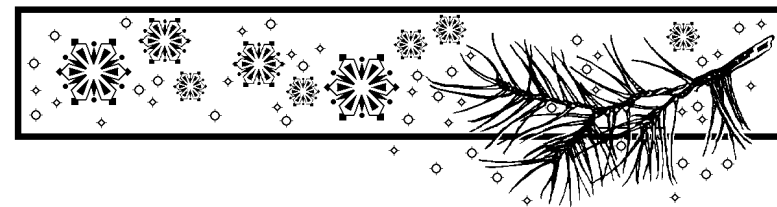
- ⇒ If you're sick (particularly if you're running a fever) we encourage you to consider staying at home. This is not only important for your own comfort and welfare but also for the comfort and welfare of other church family members.
- ⇒ Likewise, if your child is sick we encourage you to keep him or her home so that he or she may rest and recuperate.
- ⇒ Influenza is especially dangerous for the elderly, the very young, and those with chronic illnesses who may be immunocompromised. Please exercise extra caution when visiting those members of our church family who fall into these categories and consider making a phone call rather than an "in person" visit if you're feeling unwell or if you've been exposed to friends and family members who are ill.



Food Pantry Notes

The Esther and Ruth Circles are working on a project for the food pantry. They will be collecting an item (toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.) each month to share with the people who come to visit our food pantry. One item each month.

In January we will be collecting body wash. If you would like to make a donation, please bring the specified items and put it in the box in the Narthex or in the gym.



Prayer Chain

If you wish to receive prayer chain calls, please contact the church office at 815.842.4321 and request that your name and number be added to the list.



Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the February newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than Friday, Jan. 19.

You may submit your items by phone (815.842.4321), fax (815.844.6943), e-mail (Rhonda@fbcpontiac.org), or by leaving them in the black box outside the church office door.



Thank You

We would like to thank our entire church family for the many cards, warm wishes and the generous Christmas gift you shared with us during this Christmas season. We are deeply touched by your thoughtfulness. We love you all very much and feel blessed to be a part of this loving church family.

Jim and Janet Wolfe

A special thank you to all my friends who prayed for me. I'm doing very well. A stroke is a scary thing and I'm so very blessed to have such a supportive church family.

Evelyn Vietti

You Are the Branches



Name: Ed Rich
Favorite smell: Fresh cut hay and lilac bushes
Favorite flower: Roses
Did you have a special pet when you were young? A Shetland pony named Penny.
Do you like roller coasters? NO!
Favorite ice cream: Butter pecan; home made chocolate
Pet peeve about yourself? I ask too many questions!

Favorite type of food? American
Favorite holiday? Easter
Favorite music? Gospel
What are you listening to now? News on tv



Prayer Chain Number
815.419.4454

You Are the Branches



Name: Karen Gilmoure
What is your favorite Color? Red
The food item you most dislike? Anchovies
Favorite meal? Shrimp and Baked potato
Do you prefer sweet or salty? Salty
Your most embarrassing moment? Memorizing a piano recital solo, handing sheet music to the judge and I couldn't remember how to play it.
Are you a morning person or a night owl? Morning
Where were you born? Morris, IL

How many states have you lived in? 2
Have you traveled abroad? Yes
Did you have a nickname growing up? Yes. Mona (from Verona)
What is one thing you would want people to know about you? I was one of many photographers for the Indianapolis 500 race from 1992 - 1999.
Do you collect anything and what is it? Coffee mugs with car logos or sports logos
If you could go anywhere in the world for vacation, where would you visit? Scotland
What was your favorite class in school, and why? Creative Writing because I like to express my thoughts on paper.
Who is your favorite singer? Karen Carpenter

Office Notes



In honor of the New Year's holiday, there will be no evening activities on Sunday, December 31st and our church office will be closed on Monday, January 1st. We will re-open for regular business hours on Tuesday, January 2nd.
We wish our entire church family a happy and healthy holiday weekend!



January



- 1 Rosa Wing
- 2 Chayla Mitchey
- 3 Evelyn Durham
- 4 Gerald Shepherd
- 6 Alivia Waschle
- 8 Kenny and Tara Crawford
- 8 Lynette Senter
- 9 Rich Halford
- 13 Darrell Shoop
- 13 Jennifer Borders
- 14 Gwen Battice
- 15 Jardin James
- 15 Barbara Tholen
- 17 James and Joanne Perkins
- 20 Jim Hodges
- 20 Janet Wolfe
- 21 Jeana Boase
- 21 Steve Carroll
- 23 Sharon Colclasure
- 23 Ron Watson
- 24 Brad Harder
- 24 Kelly Ingram
- 24 Steve McBride
- 25 Steven C. McBride
- 25 Austin Pohanka
- 25 Charles Watson
- 25 Rebecca Bohm
- 27 Edward Bonnivier
- 28 Kathy Zehr
- 29 Christopher Tull



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2	3 9:00 am ROMEO Club 10:00 am Ruth Circle 10:30 am Grief Group 1:00 pm Esther Circle	4 6:30 pm Book of John Study 6:30 pm Believe Sm. Group	5	6 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
7 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Jr. ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:30 pm Sr. ABY 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	8 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith	9 5:45 pm Sm. Group Book Study	10 9:00 am ROMEO Club	11 6:00 pm Diaconate Council 6:30 pm Book of John Study 6:30 pm Believe Sm. Group 7:00 pm Covered with Prayers 7:30 pm Board of Ministries	12	13 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
14 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Jr. ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:30 pm Sr. ABY 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	15	16 5:45 pm Sm. Group Book Study	17 9:00 am ROMEO Club	18 6:30 pm Book of John Study 6:30 pm Believe Sm. Group	19 Newsletter Deadline	20 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
21 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Jr. ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:30 pm Sr. ABY 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	22 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith	23 5:45 pm Sm. Group Book Study	24 9:00 am ROMEO Club	25 6:30 pm Book of John Study 6:30 pm Believe Sm. Group	26	27 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
28 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Jr. ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:30 pm Sr. ABY 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	29	30 5:45 pm Sm. Group Book Study	31 9:00 am ROMEO Club			