



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

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The Family Tree

First Baptist Church of Pontiac
—Growing the Family of God

Pastor: James O. Wolfe III

It's that time of year again when we are given the marvelous opportunity to share in the abundance of needs of our sisters and brothers by contributing to One Great Hour of sharing. By the grace of God, all of us have the power to give, and the gifts we give make the world more the way God intended it to be—a place where everyone has what they need. Together, we can achieve a fair balance on this planet we all share, giving right back to God what God has so richly bestowed upon us.

The Apostle Paul modeled this ecumenical offering in his Second Letter to the Corinthians, making an appeal to the early Christian communities to respond to those in Jerusalem who had just experienced a devastating famine. Thus, Paul's ecumenical, church-wide offering was not only practical in leveraging funds so they could make the most impact, together, but it was also one of the first visible expressions of the early Church's unity in Christ. This offering, or ministry, was a way for Paul to model the unity of all believers and to provide a pragmatic mechanism for demonstrating their care and concern for one another—even if they did not know each other personally. Just as we do through One Great Hour of Sharing.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in your own congregation or community, and at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet but who are in desperate need of our compassion and generosity. God provides the gifts and resources so that we can give back. It's not the size of the gift that matters; it's that we give of what we have. We're simply giving back to God what is already God's—and everyone has a gift to bring!

“for if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your needs, in order that there may be a fair balance” (2 Corinthians 8:12 - 15). The Message translates it this way, “Nothing left over to the one with the most; nothing lacking to the one with the least.”

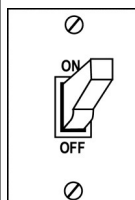
From the Pastor... (cont.)

As the Church in the world, through One Great Hour of Sharing, we have the opportunity to act in one accord as the body of Christ, to ensure that all of God's children have what they need. This is the offering that Paul was promoting, and this is still our ministry, all these centuries later. Together we will achieve a fair balance, bringing about a world the way God intended it to be.

We will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing offering at the close of worship on Sunday, July 16th.

Jim

Reminder...



If you are among the last people to leave following a church event, please take a moment to ensure that lights and the window air conditioners are switched off and that the doors are securely locked before leaving the building.

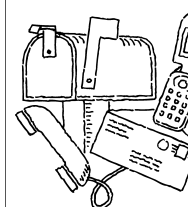
Let's work together to be good stewards of our resources!

Visit Us On The Web!



For convenient access to the latest church news, schedule and contact information, don't forget to visit us on-line at: **www.fbcpontiac.org**. Our website is updated almost daily in an effort to provide you with the most current information available. While there, you also have the opportunity to download recent sermons in MP3 format or browse our picture gallery and see just what we've been up to lately! Also, don't forget to "like" us on Facebook!

Office Notes



Have you moved? Changed your phone number? Please call (842.4321) or e-mail (Rhonda@fbcpontiac.org) the church office with your new contact information to ensure that you continue to receive all church communications in a timely manner.

Newsletter Deadline



All articles for inclusion in the August edition of the church newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than Friday, July 17.

You may submit your articles by phone (842.4321), fax (844.6943), by e-mail (Rhonda@fbcpontiac.org) or by leaving them in the black box outside the church office door.

Financial Information

Gen. Fund Begin Bal.	(2,299.14)
Gen. Fund Receipts	22,361.35
Gen. Fund Interest/adj.	0.00
Gen. Fund Expense	(17,320.61)
Gen. Fund End. Bal.	2,741.60
Avg. Weekly Offering	4,472.27
Avg. Weekly Need	5,150.37

Nursery Care Available

Nursery care is available during worship services for infants and toddlers through age 3.

The nursery is located across the hall from the sanctuary.



Children's Church

July 5: Julie Amdor

July 12: Michelle Bohm

July 19: Michelle Bohm

July 26: Bob and Shirley Carroll

A Special Thank You

Have you noticed? Our church kitchen is undergoing a bit of a summer makeover with new paint on the kitchen cabinets and we will soon see some new flooring installed! We are very excited and very grateful to everyone who has worked so hard and donated so much of their time, talents and resources to make this “home improvement” a success!



A special word of thanks:

I would like to extend a big thank you to all of those who donated time and the funds for sprucing up our family kitchen! Like all family kitchens, it's a gathering place for many as we come together to worship, to celebrate and to share time together.

Diana Rich

Our Daily Bread



As most of you are no doubt aware we have not yet received the latest version of the daily devotional booklet “Our Daily Bread”. We have been working to rectify this situation and hope to have copies available soon.

In the meantime, if you have access to the internet you may read the daily devotionals at: odb.org. You may also sign up at odb.org to receive home delivery of Our Daily Bread. We hope this might provide an option for a more efficient delivery of the Daily Bread series as we attempt to reestablish the availability of these devotionals in our church.

Board of Ministries

The Board of Ministries met on Thursday, June 11 at 7:15 pm.

Sunday School: Average offering was \$39.00 with an average attendance of 74 in the month of May.

Fellowship: The food pantry served 114 families in May representing a total of 359 individuals.

A total of 505 families representing 1,547 individuals have been served so far this year.

A funeral dinner for the Ladonna Schwartz family was hosted

with about 40 people in attendance.

The kitchen cabinets have been painted and new flooring will be installed in July. These improvements are being funded by individuals.

★ Ed and Julia Bonnivier have asked to become members of our church family through baptism.

★ The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on July 26th and the World Mission offering will be received on November 22.

★ We will receive a special offering for the Building Fund on September 27th.

★ Gordie Frobish reports that he has 22 people signed up to help with projects. There is a need for handicapped ramps and could be an Outreach Ministry for the area.

He has agreed to raise the food pantry freezers off the floor as required by the County Health Department.





Schedule Notes



In honor of the Independence Day holiday, there will be no evening activities on Sunday, July 5th and our church office will be closed on Friday, July 3.

We wish our entire church family a safe and happy holiday weekend!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 am ROMEO Club 9:00 am Ruth Circle 1:00 pm Esther Circle	2	3 Church Office Closed	4 Independence Day 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC 
5 Communion Sunday 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	6 	7	8 9:00 am ROMEO Club	9	10	11 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
12 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	13 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith	14	15 9:00 am ROMEO Club	16	17 Newsletter Deadline	18 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
19 Food Pantry Sun. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	20	21	22 9:00 am ROMEO Club 	23	24	25 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
26 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	27	28	29 9:00 am ROMEO Club	30	31 	

- 2-Connie Grider
- 3-Steve and Lisa McBride
- 5-Dorley and Brenda Dodd
- 6-Sue Schell
- 6-Shana Sidfrids
- 7-Janet Halford
- 7-Jackson Crawford
- 7-Tristan Kindred
- 10-Lisa McBride
- 10-Mark and Amy Levin
- 12-Mel Beck
- 14-Kyla Sidfrids
- 14-Georgia Paul
- 14-Scott and Cindy Knight
- 15-Louise Gray
- 15-Owen Wolfe
- 16-Thomas Oakes
- 16-Shian Poshard
- 16-Ron and Gayle McBeath
- 17-Bernie and Jane Kahn
- 19-Jim and Marian Dixon
- 19-Jennifer Frobish
- 20-Caden Ferguson
- 21-April Graves
- 21 Daryl Hildenbrand
- 21-Tiffany Patterson
- 24-Eileen Hughes
- 25-Dale Jones
- 26-Racey Miller
- 26-Janice Staley
- 26-Bill and Phylis Bowman
- 27-Dale Newsome
- 29-Janice Letsos
- 31-Sharon Matteson
- 31-Joyce Cole
- 31-Clyde Francis
- 31-Kate Hoover