

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



Most of us are able to keep clear in our minds the origin and goal of Christian ministry. Its origin is in Christ, who gives spiritual gifts and gifted people to the church. Its goal is the building of the body of Christ in knowledge, faith and love. Less clear is the living, dynamic, God-appointed process that moves from origin to goal. Notice carefully what the following verses teach us. God gives to the church spiritual leaders whose role it is to equip saints for ministry.

The Apostle Paul echoes this truth in Ephesians 4:11-13: “The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”

God’s pattern for producing people with powerful faith and genuine love is not to have the pastor-teachers do all the work of the ministry. They are to equip the saints to do the ministry. They are you—all of you—who have set yourselves apart for God through faith in Christ. According to God’s pattern, the building of the body in faith and love is the immediate result of the ministry of the laity.

The Lord Jesus Christ intends every member of the church to do the work of the ministry. The intention of ministry is to build up each other’s faith and love. God’s design is to use human support and encouragement to sustain the faith of his children and to lighten the burdens they bear in the service of love.

The America for Christ Offering (AFC) 2018 reminds us that it is in our service to the church and the community that many experience the Christ in us. We are encouraged by this year’s theme to come alongside people and build them up. I am asking you to join me in giving generously to this year’s AFC offering and help us to reach our goal as we partner in home mission.

We will receive the America for Christ Offering at the close of worship on Sunday, May 27th.

Jim

Lake Springfield Baptist Camp

Summer schedules for LSBC have been posted!

Day Camps

K-5 grade: June 28th (\$35.00)

K-5 grade: July 28th (\$35.00)

Special needs: June 23rd (\$60.00)

Overnight Camps

Junior High: June 10-16 (\$270.00)

4-6 grade: June 17-22 (\$210.00)

1-4 grade: June 24-27th (\$140.00)

Junior High: July 8-14th (\$270.00)

Senior High: July 15-21 (\$270.00)

1-4 grade: July 22-25 (\$270.00)



If you need more information or would like to send your child to camp this summer you may register them by going to the LSBC website: lsbconline.com. Remember that the church will offset half of the fee for the campers from our church.

Summertime and the Giving is Easy!



As many of you are aware, we now offer on-line giving options through PayPal. This allows you to make a donation using an existing PayPal account or any major debit or credit card you'd like. You'll even have the opportunity to leave specific notes about your donation and will receive a receipt of your giving via e-mail.

This makes it easier than ever to tithe or make donations to special fundraising campaigns while you're away on vacation this summer! Simply visit our website: www.fbcpontiac.org and follow the donation link near the top of the page.

Please note that while there is no cost to you for on-line giving, the church is charged a nominal processing fee for this service. If you would like to offset the cost of the processing fee, simply add 3% to your donation.

Thank You



A huge thank you to my church family for making my birthday celebration so wonderful. Thank you most of all for your prayers for my healing. God was gracious and merciful, heard your prayers, and allowed me to reach this milestone.

Virginia Asper

Men's Night Out

All men in the church are invited to join in for an evening of fun, food, and laughter on Tuesday, May 8th. The group will be meeting at the church at 6:00 pm and will go together for a meal at a place to be determined.

Come and join us for a fun summertime kick-off!

Scholarship Opportunity

We are blessed to be able to offer one time scholarships to those in our church family who are attending college, graduate or technical school! If you fit this description and haven't already received a scholarship from FBC, we encourage you to apply for a scholarship by submitting a letter to the church office outlining your church activities, community involvement and future educational goals no later than June 1st.



Schedule Notes

In honor of the Memorial Day holiday, there will be no evening activities on Sunday, May 27th and the church office will be closed on Monday, May 28th.

We wish our entire church family a happy and healthy holiday weekend.



Prayer Chain Number

815.419.4454

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 June newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than Friday, May 18th.

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.



Pictures Needed!



We want to keep our website and Facebook pages current and we need your help! With smart phones and digital cameras every one of us is photojournalist ready to document our family life here at FBC! If you attend a church event snap some pictures and send them to us via e-mail at: rhonda@fbcpontiac.org and we'll choose some to share on our website and via our social networking pages. Let's work together to share the awesome things that are happening here at FBC Pontiac!

Graduate Recognition Sunday



We will be recognizing our graduates this year on Sunday, June 3rd. If you or someone you know in the church family will be graduating this year, please contact the church office no later than May 25th with the information. Also, encourage your graduates to join us that day so that we may celebrate their accomplishments together!

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!



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 May we will be collecting deodorant. 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.

Board of Ministries

The Board of Ministries met on Thursday, April 19th at 7:00 pm.

Children's Ministries: ABK has ended. Summer VBS will begin on April 21st. The floor has been completed in the Koinonia Kidz Zone.

Sunday Morning Connections: There's an average attendance of 61 with an average offering of \$31.80.

Fellowship: Soup and Sandwich supper on Maundy Thursday was attended by 58 people.

Men's night out is planned for Tuesday, May 8th.

The food pantry served 66 families representing 168 people in the month of March.

Diaconate: Ron McBeath has been actively visiting the homebound.

Facilities: New lights around the church have been installed, including LED lighting outside the pantry door at the end of February.

Ron Ingram is painting the double doors at the North end of the building.

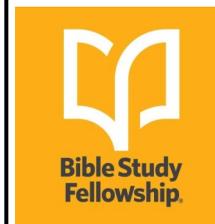
New circuits in the gym have been completed.

Senior Pastor: America for Christ offering will be received in May.

The annual outdoor service will be held on September 16th.

Discussed the security camera bid and it was agreed to get more estimates for various configurations for further review.

Bible Study Fellowship



If you've been around the church on a Thursday morning you've no doubt noticed the bustling activity of the BSF women's Bible study group! BSF is an in-depth, interdenominational Bible study that helps people know God and equips them to effectively serve the Church throughout the world.

If you've been interested in joining BSF or would just like more information, then you're invited to attend an information/registration event from 9:10 - 10:45 am on Thursday, May 3rd for the session beginning next fall (September 13, 2018). The fall session will be a study of **"People of the Promised Land I"**. Beginning with Israel's entrance into Canaan under the leadership of Joshua, People of the Promised Land I and II chart the ups and downs of the nation of Israel. People of the Promised Land I covers the united kingdom of Israel, from Joshua to Solomon.



- 2 Josh Chihak
- 2 Mark Verdun
- 5 Alex Beck
- 5 Reid Cole
- 5 John and Judy Pohanka ♥
- 5 Myles Gilliam
- 6 Joyce Wilson
- 10 Gordie and Mary Frobish ♥
- 10 Keith Battleson
- 11 Mark Highland
- 12 Michael Schiff
- 13 Joe Lind
- 16 Linda Gruen
- 17 Dan and Patty Gray ♥
- 18 Doris Williams
- 19 Payton Borders
- 21 Kenny Crawford
- 21 Ruth Ann Peck
- 22 Linda Green
- 22 Judy Shepherd
- 23 Todd and Jan Miller ♥
- 23 Lori Pemberton
- 24 Dan Gray
- 25 Amy Levin
- 26 Steve Walters
- 26 Gavin Wykes
- 27 Jan Miller
- 29 Vickie Nicol
- 30 Karen Christianson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 9:00 am ROMEO Club 9:00 am Ruth Circle 1:00 pm Esther Circle	3 Nat'l Day of Prayer 7:00 pm Covered with Prayers	4	5 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
6 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship	7	8 6:00 pm Men's Night Out	9 9:00 am ROMEO Club 10:30 am Grief Group	10 6:00 pm Diaconate Council 7:00 pm Board of Ministries	11	12 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
13 Mother's Day 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship	14 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith	15	16 9:00 am ROMEO Club	17	18 Newsletter Deadline	19 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC 9:30 am VBS
20 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship	21	22	23 9:00 am ROMEO Club	24	25	26 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
27 9:00 am SMC 10:00 am Worship	28 Memorial Day Church Office Closed 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith	29	30 9:00 am ROMEO Club	31		

