



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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PONTIAC, IL 61764

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# Growing the Family of God

Telling the Story

Serving the Community

Nurturing Believers

*Coffee with Jim*



The American Baptist Home Mission Societies has coined the word Passionary. Passionaries are persons who exhibit and extend the grace of God with everyone, everywhere, by embracing the whole Gospel, answering the call to grow in discipleship and working for justice. Passionaries are ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Passionaries are faithful Christians who promise to focus each day on following Jesus, incarnating God's grace and loving others as God would love them. As part of their spiritual journeys, passionaries rely on the Holy Spirit to resist the call of popular culture. Each day passionaries struggle to answer these three questions:

How shall I follow Jesus today?

How can I demonstrate Jesus' love and justice today?

How can I play my part in practicing the perseverance of Christ, right here, right now?

Passionaries pursue justice fervently and cultivate the Beloved Community by practicing radical acts of hospitality, welcoming the stranger, and cultivating compassion.

As members of the community of faith we need to articulate what we are passionate about and then commit our spiritual, physical, and emotional energy on working to make our vision reality.

We are passionate about inviting people to come to faith in Jesus Christ. Rather than building church membership we are passionate about welcoming people to experience abundant life-NOW-acknowledging that eternal life is not merely future oriented, but is living in the constant presence of God in the here and now.

We are passionate about growing in our faith walk. We are looking for innovative methods for spiritual growth and development. Few of us would try to live on only one meal per week, yet we attempt to grow spiritually on only one worship experience. People who are passionate to grow in faith are constantly searching for opportunities to grow in

our faith walk. Sunday school is only one avenue of spiritual development. If we are passionate about spiritual growth in addition to Sunday school we will be involved in small groups both in the church and in our home; we will be dedicated to our personal devotional time.

We take seriously our commitment to serve the community. Among the commitments that we take seriously are the food pantry, Bible study fellowship, girl scouts, Mosaic, Jubilee Christmas, Promise Keepers, and the Cursambri Center. Each of these services, and others, represent our commitment to Christ and his church in the world.

Our vision for ministry is constantly evolving. It cannot be the same as it was twenty years ago or even last year. Our vision includes passion for peoples' spiritual well-being; calling, equipping, nurturing, and serving.

### Did You Know?



Donations to the church and her specific ministries can make wonderful gifts for those hard to shop for people on your gift lists! Have a friend with a birthday and a heart for children? Make a donation on their behalf to the ABK or ABY programs. A relative with an anniversary and a heart for helping the needy? A donation in their name to the Food Pantry or Jubilee Christmas might be the perfect gift. Also, don't forget about those hard to shop for people on your Christmas list! It's coming up faster than you think!

When you make a gift donation to the church in a loved one's name the church will acknowledge your gift by sending a lovely thank you note letting your loved one know of the gift you made on their behalf.

If you would like to honor a friend or family member by making a gift to the church, please be sure to include the person's name and address as well as the specific ministry to which you'd like your gift applied.

### Peoria Friendship House



The Esther and Ruth Circles will be collecting items for the Peoria Friendship House again this year. There will be a listing of items needed on the table in the Narthex. If you would like to donate an item, put your name in the blank beside it on the list. The items can be put in the box by the table.

If you would like to help but don't have the time to shop, you may also donate money to be used to purchase any items that are not donated with any remaining cash to be donated to The Peoria Friendship House.

Donations must be brought to the church no later than October 30th. Thank you all for your help.

### 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.



### Newsletter Deadline



All articles for inclusion in the November edition of the church newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than Wednesday, October 19th.

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.

### Children's Church

Oct. 2: Michelle Bohm

Oct. 9: Michelle Bohm

Oct. 16: Bob and Shirley Carroll

Oct. 23: Bob and Shirley Carroll

Oct. 30: Rick Golliday and Julie Amdor

# Jubilee Christmas



It's beginning to look a lot like Jubilee Christmas! For those of you who are not familiar with our Jubilee Christmas program, it is an outreach ministry that helps provide a Christmas celebration to children and families who may otherwise be unable to afford one.

This year's Jubilee Christmas event will be hosted here at FBC on December 10th and it's never too early to start planning for this incredibly meaningful community ministry! If you'd like to support this amazingly festive ministry, you can make a donation by marking your check 'Jubilee Christmas' and dropping it in the offering plate. Also watch upcoming bulletins and newsletters for your opportunity to volunteer to help during the event - we'll need hosts, wrappers, loaders, and people to set up and bake cookies, etc. This is a great way to give back and share the joy of Jesus during the holiday season so make your plans to help now!

## You're Invited!

On October 15th from 9:00 to 11:00 am the Acafelaz Chorus group from ISU is coming to play a game of whiffle ball in the gym with the Cursambri kids and friends. Afterward, everyone will gather in the sanctuary to hear the acapella group sing. The Cursambri Center would like to extend a warm invitation to the church family to come watch the game and/or listen to the concert!

## Don't Forget...

When leaving the church after an event, please take the time to ensure that you have turned off all the lights and locked all the doors.



**Prayer Chain Number**  
815.419.4454

## Ladies Night Out



Let's Fall into autumn with Ladies Night Out on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Vineyard room. We'll have food, fall bingo and plenty of fellowship so please come join us for this evening of fun and laughter!

# Board of Ministries

The Board of Ministries met on Thursday, September 8th at 7:25 pm.

**Sunday School:** Average attendance for August was 66 with an average offering of \$34.00.

**Fellowship:** In August the food pantry served 108 families representing 357 individuals.

The funeral dinner for Ruby Lloyd was held on August 29th with approximately 55 people served.

**Facilities:** Church clean up day ran smoothly. New garage construction will begin soon.



# Koinonia Koffee

Every Sunday night at 5:00 pm the Koinonia Koffee room is open and everyone is invited to come, have a cup of coffee or tea, and join in the fellowship.

If you've got kids in our ABK program, this is a perfect place to enjoy some relative quiet while the little ones have fun in their groups!

# Thanksgiving Feast



FBC's Thanksgiving Family Feast will be held this year on Sunday, November 20 at 4:30 p.m. Table service and drinks will be provided, but we do ask that you bring two dishes to share so that there will be plenty to go around. We will need donations of 6 turkeys and 4 hams. We are also looking for volunteers to cook and carve/slice the turkeys and hams at home to bring to the feast.

Watch upcoming bulletins for opportunities to reserve your place or you may call the church office to make your reservations. Mark your calendars and plan to come and join us in giving thanks for all of our wonderful blessings here at FBC!

# Drive and Treat!



On October 31st we will be hosting our first 'Drive and Treat' on the circle drive in front of the church. During Pontiac trick-or-treat hours, come by and take a slow drive around the circle and 'trick or treat' without even having to get your little goblins out of the car!

If you would like to donate bags of candy or volunteer to help with this event, please see Harlin Dean for more information!




# October



- 1 Roman Battleson
- 1 Kara Thomas
- 2 Dorley Dodd
- 2 Bernice Childers
- 3 Phylis Bowman
- 4 Darlene Garrett
- 5 Christian Waggoner
- 6 Nickey Gruen
- 6 Gary and Peggy Boldt
- 7 Kay Birch
- 9 Maggie Crawford
- 9 Darrell & Patricia Shoop
- 11 Brenda Dodd
- 11 Eric and Missy Hoover
- 11 Gary Wykes
- 11 Edward & Julia Bonnevier
- 14 Todd Henderson
- 16 Dean Easton
- 17 Gordie Frobish
- 19 Rob and Jeana Boase
- 21 Joe Stanton
- 22 Julie Amdor
- 22 Ken Ferguson
- 23 Jackson Harder
- 23 Terry Stanton
- 24 Kelly Sullivan
- 25 Rick Golliday
- 26 Nicholas & Brittney Lundeen
- 27 Judy Leach
- 28 Skip Jones
- 28 Emily Miller
- 29 Teri Newsome
- 30 Bill and Gwen Battice
- 30 Shirley Carroll
- 30 Gary Boldt

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 5:00 pm ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Ruth Circle 9:00 am ROMEO Club 1:00 pm Esther Circle 6:30 pm Grace Sm. Group	<b>6</b> 9:00 am BSF Women's Class 7:15 pm Board of Ministries	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
<b>9 Pastor App. Sunday</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 5:00 pm ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	<b>10</b> 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith 7:00 pm Covered in Prayers	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 am ROMEO Club 6:30 pm Grace Sm. Group	<b>13</b> 9:00 am BSF Women's Class	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 5:00 pm ABY 5:00 pm ABK 5:00 pm Koinonia Koffee	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19 Newsletter Deadline</b> 9:00 am ROMEO Club 6:30 pm Grace Sm. Group	<b>20</b> 9:00 am BSF Women's Class	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
<b>23</b> Regular Sunday Schedule	<b>24</b> 1:00 pm Single Women of Faith	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Ladies Night Out	<b>26</b> 9:00 am ROMEO Club 6:30 pm Grace Sm. Group	<b>27</b> 9:00 am BSF Women's Class	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:30 am PK Fellowship at FBC 8:00 am PK Study at FBC
<b>30</b> Regular Sunday Schedule	<b>31 Halloween</b> Drive and Treat					

