



First Baptist Church

306 E Divide Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501
701-223-8614

Newsletter for Members & Friends of First Baptist Church

March 2019

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Bob Weiss

Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Church Office:

Monday thru Thursday
8:30 am – 1:00 pm
701-223-8614

firstbaptistbis@q.com
www.firstbaptist.faith

Volunteers for the Month of March

Flower Committee:

Shirley Quick &
Sheila Quick

Van Drivers:

Lloyd Gingery, Leo Heinz
&
Karlene Fine

Ushers:

Tom Feser & Karen Cichos

America for Christ Offering 2019

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 God's children and to lighten the burdens they bear in the service of love for their community.

We are motivated and inspired by American Baptist Home Mission Societies' (ABHMS) America for Christ (AFC) 2019 "Healing Communities" theme, based on Galatians 6:9-10: *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers* (NIV).

The "Healing Communities" theme is a passionate reminder to join with diverse communities in engaging existing resources, expanding our understanding, and nurturing community healing that encourages mutual transformation. Your generous AFC gifts supported the following ministries last year:

- "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico" — rebuilding the island one church and one building at a time.
- Scholarships and Emerging Leaders — providing scholarships to students to help ease the debilitating effects of excessive student-loan debt.
- Immigration and Refugee Resettlement — partnering with organizations that have resettled more than 100,000 displaced persons from across the world.
- Rizpah's Children — partnering with agencies that provide support to children living in poverty.

Additional supported ministries include Disaster Response, Volunteer Mobilization, Prisoner Re-Entry and Community Outreach Ministries.

AFC 2019 encourages us to engage in service to the church and the community. For many, that may be the way they experience the love of Christ in us. 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 with ABHMS in healing communities.

In the month of March we will be collecting the America for Christ Offering. Please consider giving above your monthly tithe to this offering. You are supporting programs such as these mentioned and also The Church of Hope at the South Dakota Women's Penitentiary in Pierre, SD. Pastor Bob



5th Dan Baillie
 6th Ben Lundblad
 10th Bruno NGoma
 11th Katrina Fine
 17th Scott Simpson
 18th Bruce Rauser
 20th Charlotte Martin
 23rd Dwight Reuther
 26th Elijah McCalister
 27th Dekunseh Glekiah
 29th Mary Ann Simpson

If your Birthday is missing and
 you would like it added, please
 contact Shirley in the church
 office 223-8614 or
firstbaptistbis@q.com.



Wednesday's

6:30-8:00 pm

March 6th

"Movie night

PJ's & stuffed Animals

March 13th

"Regular night"

March 20th

"90's night"

March 27th

"Regular night"

Service Opportunities



Volunteers are amazing! Your generous help and talents are a blessing from Heaven.

If you have not filled out an "Opportunity for Service" form yet, they are located in the church entry foyer. Please place in the church basket or turn into the church office. Thank you



FBC will be hosting 2019 Family Camp July 12-14. Kathy Martin is looking for people to help her plan camp. If you are interested in helping, please let Kathy know asap so we can get the planning process started.

Children's Church started a new lesson set based on the Parables. Ask your kids about what they have been learning.



The Bis-Man Mentor Squad (formally "Big Brother/Big Sister Program") is currently seeking 25 people to provide strong and enduring one-on-one relationships with children in our area, that are in need of mentoring. If you are ready to make a difference in a young person's life, please contact them at 701-222-0797 or bismanmentorsquad@gmail.com



Long Term Prayer Needs:

- Ann Schoepp
- Charlotte Martin
- Dale & Annette Eckstrom's granddaughter
- Edwynna McRaney
- Mary Ann Rauser
- Norma Eberle
- Sue Reuther
- The Congo

Please be in prayer for....

- Bruce Rauser
- Caryl Kaseman
- Deanna Hedegaard
- Kari Kolstoe (Beth W Friend)
- Lee Weiss
- Mickie (Deb Burck Friend)
- Tammy (Deb Burk friend)

Military Service

- Adam Vettel
(Norma Eberly's grandson)

Remember our Home Bound

- Ann Schoepp
- Charlotte Martin
- Curtis Funches
- Edwynna McRaney
- Mary Ann Rause
- Norma Eberly
- Shirley Zacher

If you have an on-going need for prayer, please contact the church office, so we can include it in the newsletter.

The Pie Social was held Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. There were 24 who attended in spite of the cold weather.

A get acquainted time was held by completing questions which got people to come together to get the answers. Two brain teasers followed and then bingo was played. There were three jars filled with crayons, another with coins and the last one was candy. Three lucky people guessed the right amount were able to take the contents and jar home. Prizes were also given to the winners for the brain teasers and bingo. Of course, to end the evening we enjoyed the variety of pies and ice-cream. Yum Yum!

A free will offering was taken in the amount of \$205.00.

The Lois Circle will be meeting Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. with Pat Gingery as hostess. The Ruth Circle will be meeting Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. with Jane Willows as hostess.

Happening this month

March 3 rd	10:00 am Worship & Communion Fellowship with Pizza
March 5 th	7:00 pm Ruth Circle Meeting
March 6, 13, 20, 27 th	5:30 AWANA Family Meal
March 6, 13, 20, 27 th	6:30- 8:00 pm: AWANA and Youth
March 6, 13, 20, 27 th	7:00 pm Lenten Forgiveness Groups
March 7 th	1:00 pm Stonecroft Meeting
March 7 th	6:30 pm Worship Team Practice
March 10 th	Daylight Savings begins
March 12 th	7:00pm Church Leadership Team Meeting
March 13 th	1:00 pm: Lois Circle Meeting
March 14 th	6:30 pm Worship Team Practice
March 20 th	5:30 First Baptist Church serving AWANA family meal
March 21 st	1:00-3:00pm CWC Planning Meeting
March 21 st	6:30 pm Worship Team Practice
March 22 nd	Newsletter Deadline
March 23 rd	8:00 am Men's Breakfast
March 28 th	6:30 pm Worship Team Practice



First Baptist Church has launched a new website page. Please check us out regularly, as it is a new work-in-progress.

www.firstbaptist.faith

Sermons and weekly bulletins are available to our homebound members. If you would like one mailed to you, or know of someone that would enjoy receiving either, please contact the Church office.



If you are able, please visit or call our homebound.

“The homebound need to have fellowship brought to them. They miss their friends and the fellowship of other Church members.”



Lent Forgiveness Challenge

"How good are you at forgiving?" Would you be willing to commit eight weeks during Lent to going deeper and learning more about forgiveness and how to become a better forgiver? During the Season of Lent (beginning March 6 to Easter) First Baptist Church will be having a Lent Forgiveness Challenge and we want as many people as possible to take part in this challenge.

Using the book, *The Path to Forgiveness* and the new *Path to Forgiveness Study Guide*, we will meet in small groups of 8 – 10 people for about one hour per week, either at church or at someone's home, to dig deeper into forgiveness. If you are interested in being part of this Lent Forgiveness Challenge, or even being a group guide, please let Pastor Bob, Preston VanLoon, or the church office know. Thank you. "

“What’s on your Bucket List?”

Thursday, March 14th 2019
Municipal Country Club
930 N Griffin Street
Bismarck

Cost: 10.00 inclusive
Doors open at 11:30 am
Serving starts at 12:30 pm

Special Feature:
Your Bucket list, Your Legacy
(A fun lighthearted activity)

Speaker: Scott Gottchalk from
Kimball, MN

Theme: “Are Angel Real” An
Amazing story of deliverance.

Luncheon reservations are Essential
and should be honored or cancelled
by March 11, 2019

Sponsored by Stonecroft/Christian
Women’s Clubs

Please call Jan at 701-222-8558 or
Freda at 701-751-2869



Work Camp	May 28
Counselor	Training May 29-30
Men’s Roundup	May 31-June 2
Women’s Retreat	Jun 7-9
Senior High Camp	June 9-15
Junior High Camp	June 16-22
Junior Camp	June 23-28
Family Camp	July 12-14

2019 Church Officers

- Moderator-Lori Lundblad (Will also serve as Chair of the Church Leadership Team)
- Vice Moderator-Dale Ekstrom
- Financial Secretary-Donella Engstrom
- Assistant Financial Secretary- Linda Gingery
- Treasurer-Larry Martin
- Treasurer Assistant-Shirley Quick
- Church Clerk-Linda Gingery
- Pastoral Relations Committee at Large Member-Tom Feser

Church Leadership Team (CLT)

- Gary Allmendinger 2 year term
- Ralph Layton 2 year term
- Karlene Fine 2 year term

Continuing on the CLT for one-year terms

- Renee Herman
- Kathy Martin
- Preston VanLoon

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2019

Your gifts to the America for Christ Offering
impact thousands—through ministries with
marginalized children, mission trips that
transform lives torn asunder by hurricanes,
resources that cultivate Christian leaders,
chaplains who bring comfort to hospitals and
nursing homes, and much more.

Let us not become weary in doing good!

www.abhms.org



*God is our refuge and
strength, a very present
help in trouble.
Psalm 46:1*

2019 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE –

I SURRENDER

4/06/2019

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Location:

Sleep Inn & Suites 2400 10th
St SW, Minot, ND 58701SHE
Ministries of First Baptist
Church, Minot is hosting their
2019 Women's Conference, "I
Surrender" on April 5-6, 2019
at the Sleep Inn & Suites,
Convention Center, Minot.
Featuring Jess Connolly
(jessconnolly.com). Jess will be
sharing her journey to
surrender and obedience and
how God has transformed her
life and used her as an
instrument to influence
women all over the world. The
conference fee is \$30 if
registered by March 11; \$35
after March 11. \$75 VIP
Package Includes a meet and
greet with Jess Connolly,
reserved seating and her book,
Dance, Stand, Run. No early
discount for VIP Package. You
may register online at
www.fbcminot.org/wconf or
contact First Baptist Church for
a registration brochure at 852-
4533 or office@fbcminot.org.



ANN & BILL CLEMMER

I Will Never Tire of the View... Bill & I live in a one-bedroom apartment that belongs to Heal Africa, our partner in Goma. The walls are built from volcanic bricks, hewn from the lava that cascaded into and destroyed the city of Goma during the eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in 2002. It is quaint and secure and after four years in South Sudan sharing various dwellings with others, we love having our own place. Some would say the inside is a bit small... but our front yard is immense; it extends in fact, as far as the eye can see. We live on the sheer expanse of Lake Kivu. Our apartment is built on volcanic rubble, sitting on top of the lake. I will never tire of the view!

Lake Kivu, surrounded on three sides by volcanic mountains, is said to be the highest natural lake in Africa. At an elevation of 5,000 feet, it extends 55 miles from Goma to Bukavu. We have numerous species of birds which use the lake as their source of food (cormorants that swim just under the surface seeking fish and pied kingfishers which dive from 40 feet in the air straight into the water to pierce their catch). We also have fishermen in small hewn wooden canoes (pirogues) who pass by our door every morning and then again in the evening with their share of the lake's bounty caught in hand-woven nets. The lake is usually calm but due to its immense size, its location near the equator, and the altitude, ferocious storms can arrive unannounced and pummel the shoreline (and drench our home if we don't quickly clasp the doors.) These unpredictable storms are a particular threat to the fisherman.

A Threatening Storm... It was on a beautiful day as dusk was turning into evening and fisherman were returning home that I glimpsed the beginning of a threatening storm on the horizon and watched the many boats hurriedly head back to shore. The wind picked up swiftly as three-foot waves began to crash onto the rocks. Whitecaps were visible across Lake Kivu. Then the torrential rains began. One lone pirogue must have thought they had more time to get to safety and were caught in the tumultuous waters.

Storm Raged On... I saw the boat, just offshore, being tossed up and down and stood transfixed in the doorway ... watching ... waiting ... praying. What a helpless feeling; there was nothing I could do as the wind gusted, the waves exploded against the rocks and the rain poured down. Time crept on as the storm raged. I prayed for God to be with them, to save them, to calm the storm.

Unable to fight the storm, the fishermen ducked down into the shallow boat and covered themselves with a tarp, being tossed about as dusk fell. For more than an hour I stood at the door and watched, continuing to lift them to God and pray them through the storm. I felt as if I was somehow responsible for them, having witnessed their plight and with no one to call or summon to the rescue in this part of the world.

Suddenly lightning struck the water, encircling their meager boat in a bright flash. I worried they were hit, but as the storm slowly abated, and as the dark clouds lifted, I could see them moving as flashes of retreating lightning lit up the darkened sky. With each burst on the horizon, they moved their boat slowly towards port ... and I thanked God for keeping them through the storm.

Daily storms... The Congolese people have faced, and continue to face terrible storms in their lives: hunger, poverty, horrific atrocities from the multiple militia groups, unemployment, volcanic eruptions, and the newest adversity, a virulent outbreak of the Ebola virus, already the largest and deadliest in Congo's history. Last night's storm was a small microcosm of life here. We see the suffering, we see the danger ... and there is seemingly so little we can do. Yet, in God's mighty power, nothing is impossible for Him. He hears our prayers and the prayers of so many of you who remember the suffering of those whose lives intermingle with ours in places like the Congo.

He accompanies us, His rod and His staff comfort us, and He is with us, and with those we serve ... each and every day!