



First Baptist Church

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

Newsletter for Members & Friends of First Baptist Church

January 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Bob Weiss

Adult Bible Studies

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 January

Flower Committee:

All Church

Ushers:

Gary Allmendinger &
Joyce Allmendinger

A little humor to start the year! **YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM NORTH DAKOTA WHEN**

- Vacation means going to Medora.
- You've seen all the biggest bands, 20 yrs after they were popular.
- East means to Fargo.
- You've ridden the school bus for an hour each way.
- You carry a blizzard survival kit in your car 12 months a year.
- You find 3 feet of snow a minor inconvenience.
- You know if another North Dakotan is from the eastern, southern, middle or northern part of ND as soon as they open their mouth.
- There is a Dairy Queen in every town with a population of 1000 or more, but McDonalds are spread out every 100 miles.
- You know Ole & Lena personally.
- You find it exciting to stare through a hole in the ice and look at the bottom.
- You can tell the difference between a gopher and a chipmunk at 300 yards.
- You keep the snow tires on your truck all year because it isn't worth taking them off for only two months.
- You are proud that your state makes the national news 96 nights each year because Bismarck is the coldest spot in the nation.
- Someone in a store offers you assistance, and they don't work here.
- You're polite to telemarketers.
- You may not have actually eaten it, but you have heard of Lutefisk.
- You are surprised to find that Lefse isn't served at Thanksgiving and Christmas everywhere in the country!
- You never had to rewind any part of "Fargo" because you "missed some of the dialogue".
- Your bank has the name of your town included in its name.
- You think that "UFF DA" is a Standard English phrase.
- You can recite, from memory, more than a half-dozen "Ole and Lena" jokes.
- You expect to be excused from school for deer hunting season and harvesting.
- Your soup du jour at your hometown cafe is always beer cheese or knoephla.
- You think of something other than the Bible when you hear the words "Great Flood".
- You drive to town during a blizzard just to see if the weatherman knows what he's talking about.
- You assume everyone has seen northern lights and sundogs.
- You understand "Yah, y'betchyah" means either "I agree" or "You're full of it" and know the difference.
- You think that ketchup is a little too spicy.
- You didn't know there was a Red River Valley in Texas
- The band you choose for your wedding has to know rock, country, and polkas.
- You wear a t-shirt, and no jacket in March on a warm day (in the 40's)



January

5th Achille NGoma
7th Alvina Allmendinger
10th Marilyn NGoma
10th Zota Dennis
14th Barbara Gieke
15th Dan Kasper
16th Annette Ekstrom
16th Martha Just
19th Barbara Ellison
19th Sheri Cichos

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



Shirley in the office, is
always looking for
individuals willing to share
their photos of FBC
Events and Activities.
Please contact her at
firstbaptistbis@q.com



On Saturday, December 7, 2019 at noon the ABW celebrated our annual Christmas Potluck dinner with 16 ladies present. Pat opened with a devotional entitled "God Became a Man" by Max Lucado, Scripture Philippians 2 - 7.

We enjoyed a variety of ethnic and favorite family Christmas dishes, main, salad and dessert. The tables were adorned with white table clothes with a red streamer in the middle with red Christmas balls for decorations. The chairs were covered with white coverlets with a great big red bow in the back. At each place setting was a Christmas tree made of Hershey kisses and made by Shirley Quick. These were to take home. It certainly looked very festive.

For our program Deanna Hedegaard shared a portion from her book "The Birth of Christ". We ended the program by singing four Christmas carols. A Love Gift was presented entitled, "87 Years of Love Gift". The offering was \$175.00.

Thank you ladies for coming and hope you enjoyed the dinner and the time together as we begin celebrating the Christmas season.

The Lois Circle will be meeting Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. with Pat Gingery as hostess.

The Ruth Circle will be meeting Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. with Lori Lundblad as hostess.



FOUR12 YOUTH

A big thanks to those who donated hats, mittens and scarves for Northridge school. We will let you know next month how many items were donated.

Long Term Prayer Needs:

- *Charlotte Martin
- *Dale & Annette Eckstrom's grandchildren
- *Mary Ann Rauser
- *Sue Reuther
- *The Congo

Please be in prayer for:

- *Bruce Rauser
- *Caryl Kaseman
- *Charlotte Martin
- *Deanna Hedegaard
- *Deb Burke & Family-death of her mother
- *Elmer Schoch (Dan Baillie's brother-in-law)
- *Jeff French
- *Kari Kolstoe
- *Leo Heinz
- *Mark Jones the Weiss' friend (Cancer)
- *Mary Hayes
- *Nancy Zander's Sister, Janelle (Heart Attack)
- *Nancy Zander's Brother-in-law, Dave (Surgeries)
- *Pastor Boots Marsh (Cancer & Death of his Grandson)
- *Scott Simpson



Thank you to all of the kids who participated in the Christmas program.

Thank you to Corinna and Eric McCallister for filling the Christmas bags that were handed out after the program.

412 Youth participated in a Christmas Party on December 18th.

A New Year's Eve Lock-In was held December 31 thru January 1. Youth spent a couple of hours at SkyZone in Bismarck.

Saturday, January 11th any 412 Youth interested in participating in the 2nd Annual Huff Ski Day, is welcome to attend. Meet at BBC at 8:30 am and will return about 5:45 pm.



Please Remember our
Home Bound

**Charlotte Martin
Curtis Funches
Mary Ann Rause
Shirley Zacher**

If you have recently
visited someone
homebound, please let
Pastor Bob know.

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



**Don't Throw Away
That Empty Cartridge!
Bring it to Church**

Empty inkjet cartridges can be
recycled and remanufactured.
Our church will receive up to
\$4.00 for each cartridge turned
in. This will directly benefit
Frist Baptist Church, not to
mention it is great for the
environment.

Empties 4 Cash box is located
in the Church Foyer

Happening this month

January 1	8:00 am 412 Youth Pick-up from Lock in
January 2	1:00 pm Stonecroft Meeting
January 5	Pizza Sunday 1:00 pm Cannonball
January 6	7:00 pm Ruth Circle Meeting
January 7	6:30 pm CLT Meeting
January 8	1:00 pm Lois Circle Meeting 6:30 pm AWANA & 412 Youth Group 7:00 Adult Bible Study
January 11	8:30 am 412 Youth Group @ Huff Hills 9:00 am Un-Decorating Party
January 15	Annual Report Due 6:30 pm AWANA and 412 Youth Group 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study
January 20	Newsletter Articles Due
January 22	6:30 AWANA and 412 Youth Group FBC Serving the Meal-Cookies/Bars needed 7:00 Adult Bible Study
January 25	8:00 am Men's Breakfast
January 26	11:00 am Annual Business Potluck
January 29	6:30 AWANA and 412 Youth 7:00 pm Adult Bible Studies

Annual Business Meeting and Potluck Dinner

January 26, 2020

On January 26, 2020 we will have our Annual Business Meeting. A potluck meal will be held after morning worship at approximately 11:15 a.m. to be followed by the business meeting beginning at approximately 11:45 a.m. Please bring a hot dish or salad or dessert to share. Plates, utensils and beverage will be furnished. Come for the food and fellowship and stay to hear the annual reports and to consider action on the 2020 budget, and the 2020 slate of candidates for Church offices. The proposed 2020 budget and ballot are posted in the hallway if anyone would like to look at that information prior to the Annual Business meeting.

De-Decorating Party

January 11, 2020

First of all, thank you to everyone who helped in decorating for Advent--from bringing items down from the attic to doing the decorating on several different days because of the bad weather. A special thanks to Marty and Micah for doing the “high” work on the garland and then to the guys who made a special trip to move the big tree to its spot.

Now that everyone has been enjoying the Christmas decorations during Advent we will need to take them down. We will do this on Saturday, January 11 beginning at 9:00 a.m. If we all pitch in we can be done in just a couple of hours -- it is always easier to take them down than to put them up. Come, enjoy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate and donuts and spend some time with fellow church members in putting the decorations away. The more people we have the quicker the task.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY®

As you and your family ring in the new year, consider these ideas for getting your year off to a great start:

Look Back to Look Forward

I help my kids reflect on the past year so they can choose one goal that is important for them in the coming year. Anything that is a positive change counts. As we talk, we remember to keep our goals simple and specific. If a goal is too difficult or too vague, it's unlikely the child will succeed.

Then, as a family, we make a large poster together. We write the new year in large numbers and then list one goal for each person, such as, “I will make one new friend this year at school.”

We decorate our poster with our favorite colors, Scriptures and other personal touches. Afterward, we hang it in our home as a reminder and encouragement to stick to our goals.—*Courtney Roberts*

Looking Back on the Year

One New Year's Eve, our family wanted to celebrate the great things that had happened to us in the previous year. The problem? We couldn't remember them! Our solution was the Memory Jar — an empty canning jar with slips of paper to write down events (both happy and hard) throughout the year. A report card with excellent grades, a part in the school play and momentous events like moving to a different state were all recorded and placed in the jar. The following New Year's Eve, we opened the jar and took turns pulling out a slip and reading the memory on it. It was a good reminder of the ways God has been with us through it all.—*Kim Adam*

Lighting Up the New year

At the end of the year, our family gathers in the living room to recall blessings from the previous 12 months. We turn on exactly 12 lights around the house, and we place 12 unlit tea lights across the mantel.

Then we reflect on each month: January, something new we tried; February, a special valentine we gave or received; March, our favorite thing about spring; and so on. It's interesting and fun to hear each family member share memories. Some memories make us cry, and some make us laugh.

After each month's reflections, we turn off an electric light and light a candle. The kids love that part. By the end, the room is lit only by tiny candles. We pray and give thanks for a great year together, and we look forward to a new year.—*Marcy Lytle*

New Year's Eve

We wanted to celebrate ringing in the year with our 3-year-old daughter, Katelyn, and her older brother, Matthew, without interrupting their bedtimes. So we shopped for party hats, noisemakers and a can of confetti. When New Year's Eve came, we invited family members over early in the evening. The children were very excited and entertained us by singing songs. We set the kitchen timer to ring a little before 8 p.m. When it went off, we tooted our horns and celebrated. Then we put the children to bed and had our grown-up celebration of the new year.—*Cathy Shouse*

God Is Calling.
will you answer?



Is God Calling You?

Please be in prayer for the Nominating Committee as they seek Church members to serve as 2020 Church Officers. If asked to serve, please prayerfully consider the role you can have in carrying out God's plan for First Baptist Church at Third and Divide.

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Support FBC weekly,
monthly or yearly!
Offerings to our
Missions are available
all long year.

(See below for additional
information)



The close of another year is upon us already! We pray that this year has been a time of blessing and growth for you and your family. We have experienced the grace of God in abundance and thank you for your prayers and generous giving that enables our work here.

Our friends on the Missionary Partnership Team (MPT) have done a fantastic job of sharing our news with you over this past year. It was a joy to welcome two of our MPT members, Joseph Huse and Ruth Skar, who joined us the India Baptist Summit, our historic first gathering of Baptists from all over India. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS!** We are encouraged by the response and enthusiasm for future growth in united ministry efforts in this nation. We will begin working with the newly appointed Associate Directors of the Forums and Commissions on Anti-Human Trafficking, Religious Liberty, Mission, Women and Youth to develop their five year plans in their respective fields. A United Prayer group has formed and we pray that this will continue to develop into closer fellowship and cooperation for the edification of the church and expansion of God's Kingdom.

ADVENTURES WITH ALMA

Last month we had the opportunity to join our partner, Abundant Life Ministry Association (ALMA) in their ministry with the Yanadi and Chenchu people groups in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Despite rigorous travel and heavy schedule, this was an exhaustingly refreshing journey as we visited numerous small village churches filled with Yanadi believers eager to hear God's Word. (Photo to Left: YANADI) A highlight was traveling through virgin jungle along a trail made by the government Forestry department in a tiger reserve to reach a mountaintop village of Chenchu tribals. These people live in dense forests and survive by raising goats and hunting with hand-crafted bows and arrows. The Forest department utilizes them to track tigers. We gathered to share God's Word under a tree near the hut they call church. We were served a meal of wild jungle bird in the leader's home, noting the arrows stored among the sticks of the roof.



ASSAM HOUSE CHURCHES

The Holy Spirit continues to work mightily among this community. Despite heavy persecution from non-Christians, this year 185 men and women were baptized and 80 new house churches formed. Generous offerings for this

Did you know you are able to support First Baptist Church safely and securely using electronic funds transfer?

It is a secure, hassle free, simple solution for today's busy families.

- ✓ Peace of mind - because you'll be able to support your church each and every week even if you're out of town on a Sunday or unable to attend services due to weather, illness, or a family emergency...
- ✓ The convenience of not having to write a check every week...
- ✓ The security of knowing your data is protected and that every transaction is secure...
- ✓ The knowledge that you are helping your parish be more efficient, and have a steady, predictable cash flow to support the works that are important to you throughout the year...
- ✓ The simplicity of being able to arrange all of your gifts - from weekly offerings to additional special collections to appeals - in one secure program...
- ✓ The efficiency of 24/7 online access to your account, a dedicated customer service team a phone call away, and an annual statement that details your generosity and simplifies your taxes.

[Click here for Additional Information](#)

ministry provide continuous training for the new believers and leaders. Our colleague requests prayer especially for more women of this community to have opportunity to hear the gospel. Even though many women are denied formal education, or are just literate, God is raising up some strong women leaders. Pray for God's anointing and grace, that they could grow in the Lord and bring many more women to know Christ.



Women's Bible Study

UPCOMING SCHEDULE : PLEASE UPHOLD US IN PRAYER

December 20-23: Balasore, Odisha and Kolkata, West Bengal We will be in meetings and preaching in a church with our partner, Baptist Church Council of East India (BCCEI)

January 6-17: 3 programs: Kolkata for IMCC meeting, beginning the work of the Forums & Commissions: Hanamakonda, Telegana with Banjara ministry, then Telegu-International Ministries Initiative gathering, then joining the celebration of Centennial Baptist Church's 140th Anniversary.

29-Feb1: Eastern Theological College, Jorhat, Assam

February 4-11: Jaigaon, North Bengal (Bhutan Border) Indo-Bhutan Training Program, teaching new believers from Bhutan and pastors of India border churches.

February 17-24 Imphal, Manipur for the Council of Baptist Churches of North East India (CBCNEI) Mission Conference 2020 US/PR HOME ASSIGNMENT! Next summer we will return to the US for one year deputation. We hope to be able to see you all during that time.

Please contact our MPT Convenor Joseph Huse (or other MPT members) for information on our availability. (joseph.huse0118@gmail.com)

MAY YOUR NEW YEAR BE BLESSED AND 2020 BE FILLED WITH GOD'S GRACE, PRESENCE, POWER AND LOVE AT WORK IN YOUR FAMILY.

Blessings! Taku & Katie

Updates from Jeni Pedzinski



November 24, 2019

First Baptist Church

306 E Divide Ave

Bismarck, ND 58501

Dear Pastor, Staff, Friends,

God has financially blessed my husband and I beyond any expectations this year. Dan and I want to pass some of this to you. First Baptist is where I grew up in Christ, being blessed with God loving parents and being surrounded with examples of service and love at church.

Thank you all for being an earthly anchor for my mom, Vivian Usher, as she grew older. She always enjoyed so many areas of service.....women's ministries, Ruth circle, missions, camp, decorating for various seasons and holidays and tending the flower beds. I'm sure I missed a couple, but if some of the funds are needed in these ministries, please apply dollars there. Otherwise the general fund of the church is fine since I don't know what the present needs are.

(I am sending a separate check to Camp Bentley, so no need to allot some there)

Being joyful in His service,

Elaine Usher Almblade

5145 N 86th Street

Scottsdale, AZ 85250

At New Life Center's
biennial VBS Camp with
about 100 residents, staff,
and scholarship students.

A short term team from
First Baptist North Adams,
Massachusetts is here to
help lead activities. Please
pray for our health and
safety. I suddenly have a
toothache but we just
arrived for the 4 days of
camp, so it'll be at least a
week before I can get to
the_dentist. 😞 Please pray
for all of us. (P.S. It got
down to 45-50°F last
night.

Click here
to listen to
FBC weekly
sermons

<https://www.firstbaptist.faith/podcasts>

Blessings to You in the New Year
May peace fill your world,
May love fill your home
With contentment and happiness, Too—
In wonderful ways
May This year of new days
Be filled with sweet blessings for you.
Happy New Year