



2008 PRAYER LIST

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Lorena Buehler | Homebound |
| Bill Cherry | Homebound |
| Bette French | Homebound |
| Dorothy Gilreath | Homebound |
| Janie Allen | Good Samaritan |
| Carl Bruce | Protestant Home |
| Sharon Buckles | Columbia Healthcare |
| Byran Buehler | Good Samaritan |
| Mabel Georgesen | Heritage Center |
| Ardythe Hester | Health South |
| Margaret Hollingsworth | Good Samaritan |
| Thelma Julian | Protestant Home |
| Ruth McMillan | Core Nursing Home |
| Stella Neel | Holiday Village |
| LaVone Peach | Good Samaritan |
| Gladys Rezek | Solarbron |
| Roberta VonHarten | Atria Assisted Living |
| Dr. Robert Williams | Heritage Center |
| <hr/> | |
| David Jones | US Army-Iraq |
| Sgt. Matthew Peninger | US Army-Iraq |
| John Tucker | US Army-Iraq |
| Dr. Wayne & Katherine Niles (serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo) Home & Foreign Missionaries | |
| Bill Epley, Jr. | Illness |
| Terry Stilley | Illness |
| Quinn O'Brien | Dog Bite |
| Rick & Laci Daugherty | Car Wreck |
| Prentice Ethington | Illness |
| Ron Shanks | St. Marys |
| Allison Holder | Riley's |

Church Staff: Dr. George Huffsmith - Reverend, H. Posey Gaines - Pastor Emeritus, Julie Lauer - Music Director, Olivia Yates - Organist, Marge Baker - Pianist, Beth & Sarah Bloss - Nursery Attendants, Tom Kinner - Sexton, Rhonda Wilson - Financial Secretary, Vada Chrockrem - Church Secretary, Donna Waller - Saturday Secretary, Nelya Palamarchuk - Custodian

The Celebrations (USPC 932440) is published bi-weekly by First Baptist Church, 320 Cherry St., Evansville, IN 47713
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to First Baptist Church, 320 Cherry St., Evansville, IN 47713

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
320 Cherry Street, Evansville, IN 47713
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Telephone: 812.425.8296
Fax: 812.425.4445
E-Mail address: firstbaptistchurch@fbcevansville.org
Web Site: www.fbcevansville.org

Periodical
Postage Paid
Evansville, IN

THE CELEBRATIONS

First Baptist Church

Evansville, Indiana

Vol. 56, No. 61



August 27, 2008

Vision Statement

We are building on our heritage and approaching the future with a vision relevant to our changing world while creating an atmosphere where Christ can bring healing, hope, and joy to all.



There is a new church pictorial directory being developed and we want you to get in the picture. I am looking forward to this publication. I have learned the faces that are in the church and I have seen the names, but sometimes I still struggle to put the names and the faces together. Please be sure to see or call Sarah Bloss and schedule a time to get your picture taken. You are a part of the First Baptist Church Family and the family picture will not be complete without you in it. Here are some comments and questions I have heard and my response.

"I can't afford to buy pictures." You do not have to buy or pay for anything. Each family who participates gets a free 8X10 of their family and a free copy of the directory. They will offer you the opportunity to purchase copies of the photos but you are under no obligation to do so.

"I don't like to have my picture taken." When in life do we only do what we like to do? I don't like taking out the trash but it is safe to come to the house and visit because I do it anyway. I hope your photo session will be a pleasant experience, but more than that I hope you will have your picture taken.

"My picture doesn't need to be in the directory, everyone knows me." Two problems here: 1) As new people start attending church here they don't know you until we hand them a copy of the directory with your picture in it. 2) One of our members (the name escapes me at the moment) told me that they can't remember names like they used to so they get out their old directory to help them remember.

(continued on next page, column 1)

(continued "From the Pastor")

"I won't be in Evansville, or I won't be free those dates to have my picture taken." We can arrange for you to have your picture taken on other dates although they will not be taken here at the church. They will however be included in the directory. If you are a non-resident member now living in Arizona or Delaware we can arrange for you to have your picture taken at a location close to you.

"I don't get out much anymore." We can pick you up and we can take you home. The photo shoot will be in the fellowship hall and there is an elevator. Your limited mobility will not be a problem.

"I'm not a member of the church." This is a church family directory, not a membership directory. If you worship at First Baptist even occasionally you are welcome to be a part of the church directory program.

I know there are lots of other excuses that you may use. Call me or email me with the excuses and I will give you my response. If you haven't got the idea yet I want you to be in the new church directory and I am grateful for your cooperation.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor George



September

- 1st Nell Ernspiger
 - 4th Daryl Buente
 - 6th Jake Mills
 - 7th Loraine Layson
 - 11th James Tharp
 - 11th Mitchell Farmer
 - 16th Larry Allen
 - 19th Marcia Yurks
 - 21st Debbie Carlton
 - 23rd Lorena Buehler
 - 23rd Jessica Bartley
 - 24th Regina Garnett
 - 25th Stew Hall
- (If anyone was inadvertently left off, please call the church office.)*

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Due to your generosity, to-date we have collected \$5,025 toward the \$7,000 debt for the A/C unit. Your help is still needed, please feel free to write a check and place it in the offering plate or mail it, annotating "FLC A/C Unit".



AUGUST KOFFEE KLATCH

31st - Entire Church

NEW STUDY

Ever wonder why God allows suffering? The Seekers class is beginning a 2-part study on "Suffering and Pain" and "Heaven". Adults of all ages are invited to attend. The study began on August 24 and will continue for approximately 12 weeks. The Seeker's class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the classroom at the bottom of the West staircase.

PLAYTIME FOR ME

PlayTime for Me will begin September 4th from 9:30 to 11:00 am. Our group will meet the first Thursday of each month at the same time. Parents and Guardians are invited to bring their 4 year olds and younger for a time of play, fellowship, and sharing. September will start off with a fun time of finger painting. For the month of October . . . come join us for "Fun with Pumpkins".

EDNA MARTIN CIRCLE

Edna Martin Circle is proud to host an evening with Posey and Gerri Gaines on Monday, September 8TH at 7:00pm. Everyone is invited to come and hear their experiences as missionaries to The Philippines. Bring your family and friends to learn how God has worked through their lives to minister to those in other lands.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Sign ups have begun for the new FBC Church Directory. To schedule your photo appointment, please see Sarah Bloss or visit the church's website and click on the link there. Photo sessions will take place Thursday, September 18th from 2:30-9:00pm, Friday, September 19th from 2:30-9:00pm, and Saturday, September 20th from 10:00am-5:00pm. No purchase is necessary. For participating you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory! If you have not yet checked your contact information, please see Sarah and make sure we have the right information for you! If you have any questions, I'll be glad to help! Thanks so much and don't forget to sign up, we want you all there!! Sarah - - 473-0455

CHURCH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

CLI is offering courses in Vincennes on "Introduction to Theology" and on "Leadership". Also a course on "Pastoral Care" is being offered at Franklin College. Registration deadline is September 22nd. The fee for each course is \$120. Dates are October 4th and 25th, November 8th and 22nd for each course. For more information call Jennifer Greene at 317-635-3552 ext. 221 or email jennifergreene@abc-indiana.org.

CHILE MISSION TEAM 2009

The First Baptist Church of Greensburg, IN invites you to join us as part of a Mission Team to Chile. Application deadline is September 30th. Completed applications and a \$200 deposit must be received by Tuesday, September 30th. Additional payments are due on November 15th and January 1st. The cost for this two week mission experience is \$2,200 per person and includes round trip travel and expenses from Greensburg, IN. For further information contact Dr. Lee C. Riggs at 812-593-4311 or by email rev.riggs@gmail.com.

YOUTH CELEBRITIES

Our FBC Youth Group will be Celebrity Servers at the Golden Corral on the West side of Evansville on Tuesday, Sept. 23rd from 5:00-8:00pm. Golden Corral will give \$1 for each patron that signs in with our group, plus all tips will go to our group. All proceeds will go to the FB Children's Ministry. Bring your friends and family for a good meal, fellowship, and an opportunity to support this growing ministry at First Baptist.

FOOD PANTRY TABLE

Support FBC by providing non-perishable food items each time you come to the church for a donation to Patchwork Central to help those in need.

YOUNG ADULTS

Our new young adult class is going great, but there is always room for more. We are currently studying "Certainty: Why We Believe What We Believe". All young adults that are out of high school and up through their mid 20's are welcome to join us.

2008 Region Biennial Meeting

Crawfordsville First Baptist

Oct. 3 – 7:00pm-8:30pm

Oct. 4 – 8:30am-2:45pm

Conference fee - \$49 per person

www.abc-indiana.org



PIZZA & GAMES

All Middle Schoolers and their friends are invited to join us on Sunday, September 14th at 6:00pm for pizza and games. Call the church office if you need a ride!

BONFIRE

All High School, YAUT and their friends are invited to a Bonfire on Saturday, September 13th at the Hollis' at 8305 Hogue Road. Meet at their house at 6:00pm. Call the church office if you need a ride.

FLOURISHING CONGREGATIONS

The Center for Congregations is presenting a program "Flourishing Congregations" an exciting, hands-on educational experience that explores positive change processes and how they can work within congregations. It will be held Wednesday, September 24th at the Marriott Hotel on Highway 41 in Evansville.

This event will empower leaders to look at the positive core of congregations when they function at their best. Through positive change processes such as Appreciative Inquiry, World Café, and more. Participants will learn various ways to look at their faith communities as mysteries to be embraced rather than as problems to be solved. Each congregation is invited to bring up to 5 people.

I am scheduled to be out of town that week so I will be unable to attend, however, if there are one or more people who would like to represent First Baptist at this event I would be glad to work with them both before and after the event. Just let me know about your interest. For more information go online to www.centerforcongregations.org. Thanks for considering this opportunity.

Pastor George

BAPTISM/CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Have you ever considered being baptized or becoming a member of First Baptist Church but felt you had questions that needed to be answered or you wanted to understand better what that would mean? Here is an opportunity for you. On Wednesday evening beginning September 3rd I will be leading a Baptism/Church Membership class. This will be on the same schedule as the PrimeTime program, starting about 6:00pm till about 6:45pm. If you would like to join us dinner is served in the Family Life Center at 5:00pm. If you need transportation we can see that you are picked up by the van, just call the church office and we can schedule a pick up.

The class is open to all age groups. We will look at what it means to be a Christian, what it means to be an American Baptist and what it means to be baptized. Our meeting will help you to decide if Baptism and church membership is right for you at this time.

Please call the church office if you are interested so we will have enough supplies for everyone or just show up that first evening. We will plan to meet in the Seekers Sunday School room at the bottom of the stairway off the parking lot. Any questions call me, Pastor George at 425-8296.



**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU to all the Angel Food angels that came out to help with our third Angel Food distribution. From three year old Bella Albright to helpers in their 90's we distributed 149 units of food to help families save money on their food bill. Every one who came to pick up their food that morning was welcomed by a smiling face and offered a helping hand. It was a great success and I can not express enough thanks for all those who came out to help.

Now we need a picture of our Angel Food Team for our upcoming church directory. If you have helped with this ministry collecting orders, handing out flyers, picking up food, assisting in distribution or any other way, we want YOU in the picture. We will be organizing a group shot Sunday, September 7th after church. If you have an Angel Food shirt you may want to wear it or bring it that morning. The success of Angel Food comes from the hard work and dedication of the volunteers and I am so grateful to have such a fine group of volunteers to work with.

Joanne Huffsmith

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

During the month of October, FBC will be collecting monies for support of The World Mission Offering. We will also be highlighting some of the missionaries. There is more information on-line for you to check out. Go to www.worldmissionoffering.org



STAN SLADE, Emily Farmer Slade's father-in-law. Stan is a global consultant for theological education. Stan previously served as a visiting professor for leadership training ministries throughout Iberoamerica and now serves as a visiting professor around the world. In this role Stan joins IM missionaries and partners to strengthen their work of preparing church leaders, specifically in theological formation and reflection, both formal and informal.

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses . . . let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Hebrews 12:1-2

"I've been waiting 33 years for this!"

A cheer erupted from the 110 church leaders in the small room as they listened to the tiny man before them. They, too, had been waiting a long time. It was early January 2008 and we were standing in the first floor meeting room of the new office of Baptist Churches of Vietnam (BCV) – their first since 1975.

Baptist witness in Vietnam was begun by Southern Baptists in 1959, but missionaries left and many pastors were forced to relocate when the war there ended in 1975.

One of the relocated leaders was Thong Nguyen ("Tong Nwin"). At age 32, he made the best of a difficult situation, and supported his family driving a motorbike taxi. But deep down, he burned with the desire to see the rebirth of the Baptist movement in Vietnam. So, when the national government enacted its liberalizing "doi moi" (renovation) policy in 1986, Thong returned to Saigon—since renamed, Ho Chi Minh City.

As Pastor Thong assisted a local congregation, he also searched for signs of Baptist life throughout the country. But it all had to be done in secret, for Baptists were not a recognized group. They had no permission to hold public meetings, let alone, build worship facilities.

On October 2, 2007, more than 20 years of patient persevering paid off, when Pastor Thong and the BCV were granted

preliminary recognition by the national government. The movement had grown to over 20,000 baptized believers in more than 400 congregations nationwide. In December, the BCV held a worship service in Ho Chi Minh City's central part, attended by 12,000 people – 1,500 gave their lives to Christ that night!

I met Pastor Thong in January 2008, when I had the privilege of teaching at the BCV's first public pastoral training event. A tiny man with a huge smile, deep devotion and an iron will, he will always be for me the embodiment of what it means to run the race of smith with perseverance.

World Global Consultant

Your Global Servants around the world include a small number of people whose assignment is not to serve only in one location, but to put their gifts at the service of partners all around the world. These people, called "Global Consultants," are specialists in their field of ministry. Their gifts and expertise have been developed over many years of ministry. IM makes these special people available to national partners and missionaries who need them to help develop programs or strengthen existing ministries.