



The Baptist Bell

News from Lake Springfield Baptist Camp

Dear Partner in Ministry,

I am writing you because your church sent campers and/or financial support for Lake Springfield Baptist Camp in 2008. Thank you for being one of the 39 key supports of camping at Lake Springfield!

Because you have already shown your support for camping, I am asking for your help with a significant health and safety need at camp. The "upper bath house" at Lake Springfield is in desperate need of repairs. The Regional Ministry Board at its meeting in February 2009 authorized me to raise \$6000.00 for those repairs. We will be replacing doors, light fixtures, shower fixtures, and the roof. In addition there are several plumbing and cosmetic issues which must be corrected. We plan on this work being done by volunteers. Because this

work needs to be completed before the camping season, and no work will be authorized until we have the money in hand, we really need to receive gifts within the next two months. Even in these difficult financial times, this is not a lot of money, but time is of the essence.

Please send your gift to the Region as part of your regular "mission support" submission, but clearly identify amounts intended for LSBC Bath House." If the gifts should exceed the costs for this project, the excess will be applied to other priority maintenance needs at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp.



Thank you for your faithfulness that makes this important regional ministry possible.

Sincerely,
Dwight Stinnett,
Executive Minister

Youth Activities
@
First Baptist
This Spring

AWANA

Ages 2—2nd grade
Sundays, 5:30 pm
March 8, March 22
March 29, April 5
April 19, April 26

ABY Jr. High

Sundays, 3-5pm
March 8, March 22
April 5, April 19
March 7
Movie Night

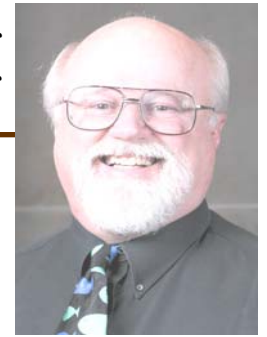
ABY Sr. High

Wednesdays 6:30-8pm
March 4, March 11,
March 18, March 25,
April 1, April 8

Sundays, 6:30-8pm
April 12, April 19,
April 26

From My Heart to Yours.....

Pastor
Jim Harper



With Willing Hands

Serve. Sacrifice. Surrender.

“For the love of Christ urges us on...” 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15

Dear Friends,

We are called by God to a life of holistic stewardship—to *fully serve, sacrifice, and surrender to the One who has given our lives new and eternal meaning*. And yet that relationship becomes profoundly multifaceted in its real-world application as we live for Christ in order to make a difference in our communities and respond to many needs “with willing hands.”

You can help make a difference! Service in Christ’s name is both an opportunity and a challenge. For 176 years National Ministries, ABCUSA has assisted American Baptist congregations as they have confronted and responded to the spiritual and physical needs resident in many communities like ours.

America for Christ gifts support ministries that transform lives, churches and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico—bringing hope to children living in poverty and equipping leaders to share the Good News of Jesus through evangelism, discipleship, congregational transformation and prophetic justice. WWW.ABC-AFC.ORG

Our church’s contribution to the America for Christ Offering goes to support Christ-centered ministries that are transforming lives across the United States and Puerto Rico. Our giving directly impacts local activities, projects and ministries such as:

- Evangelism and Church Planting
- Camps and Leadership Development Conferences
- Community Development and Refugee Resettlement
- Scholarships for education and Volunteers In Mission



I believe God is calling us to support local missions in America and Puerto Rico and to join with our sisters and brothers as together we serve, sacrifice, and surrender. Our goal is to contribute \$1200.00 to the AFC Offering. Please join this wonderful opportunity to reach America for Christ. We will be receiving the America for Christ Offering this coming Sunday, March 8, 2008.

For the love of Christ urges us on.....

Pastor Jim Harper

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1701 MOUND ROAD
JACKSONVILLE, IL 62650
PHONE: (217) 245-6119
E-MAIL: FBC@FBCJAXIL.ORG OR
PASTORJIM@FBCJAXIL.ORG

WEEKLY SERVICES:

SUNDAY 9:00 AM AND 11:15 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 AM

FOR INFORMATION ON

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS, CHOIR, BELL CHOIR, AMERICAN BAPTIST YOUTH OR OTHER MINISTRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

OUR WEBSITE

WWW.FBCJAXIL.ORG

GREAT RIVERS REGION WEBSITE:

WWW.ABCGRR.ORG

AMERICAN BAPTIST WEBSITE:

WWW.ABC-USA.ORG

CHILDREN IN POVERTY SEMINAR

MARCH 14, 2009

9:30 AM-12:30 PM

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

321 N. 7TH STREET

QUINCY, IL 62301

217-222-1310

WWW.CBCQUINCY.ORG

The **Rev. Lisa Harris**, the **National Ministries Coordinator** for the **Children in Poverty Initiative**, will present an educational seminar consisting of information and statistics about how poverty affects children on a national and local level as well as resources for churches can better serve children and families in poverty.

God is doing an amazing thing at Central Baptist Church! The Lord is leading children from various family systems and backgrounds to our AWANA program. Some of these area children live at or under the poverty level. WE wonder what churches can do to help children and families out of poverty. Therefore, we will host a "Children In Poverty Seminar" on Saturday, March 14, 2009. I hope you will be able to join us!

I invite you and your children's leaders to hear the Rev. Lisa Harris, Coordinator for the Children in Poverty Initiative of the American Baptist Churches, USA, Board of National Ministries. She will present an educational seminar at Central Baptist Church from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Register for this free seminar by contacting Central Baptist at 217-222-1310.

(Central Baptist Church is located at the corners of Seventh Street and Broadway in downtown Quincy, Illinois. Ample parking is accessible off of Broadway, Seventh and Vermont streets. There is reserved handicapped parking near the building. An elevator is available for persons needing special assistance.)

Blessings,

Rev. Ivan E Greuter



Men's Conference ~ Springfield, IL

March 21, 2009

First United Methodist (Koke Mill campus)



Chuck Stecker is the President and Founder of A Chosen Generation and has recently written a book for parents and leaders about Rites of Passage entitled, Men of Honor & Women of Virtue, Raising Kids to Keep the Faith. Chuck previously served in key leadership positions as an Army Lieutenant Colonel including three years on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon. After his retirement, he served with Promise Keepers for three years as a Regional Director. He is a contributing author to Effective Men's Ministry and serves as an adjunct professor at Denver Seminary. He and his family live in Littleton, CO.



Vince D'Acchioli is Founder and President of On Target Ministries and is committed to helping men live out the biblical model of manhood. With more than 30 years of leadership experience in both business and full-time ministry, Vince is a stimulating speaker, author and consultant with a great sense of humor and dynamic motivational approach. He is author of Wired to Work and coauthor of Effective Men's Ministry. Vince and his family live in Colorado Springs.

This Conference is for Men of All Ages

Emerging Men (ages 13-19)

Full Throttle Men (ages 30-55)

Pioneering Men (ages 20-29)

Seasoned Men (ages 55+)

Health Notes

Sis Goben, RN,
Parish Nurse



Office Hours:
Mondays
10am-3pm

Blood pressure clinics:
2nd & 4th Sundays of each
month in the Narthex

**Home, nursing home and hos-
pital visits:** upon request

Contact:
First Baptist 245-6119 or
Sis Goben, RN 245-6204

Ways to Dine Out and Dine Healthy

1. Request adjustments in food preparation
 - Baked or broiled entrees instead of fried.
 - Steam vegetables instead of cooking in butter.
 - Remove skin from chicken prior to cooking.
 - Trim visible fat before cooking.
 - Leave off the bacon from the filet mignon.
2. Ask for salad dressing on the side with low fat if available.
3. Request no sauce or place it on the side.
4. Substitute rice, vegetable or baked potato for fries (for the baked potato -no sour cream or butter and light on the margarine).
5. Ask for adjusted ingredients.
 - Cook without added fat. If you must use fat then ask for margarine or olive oil instead of butter.
 - Ask that no additional salt to be added during cooking or at the table.
 - Substitute egg white or egg substitute in omelets or scrambled eggs.
6. Reduce portion sizes
 - Share a dessert or entrée.
 - Request lunch size or children's size portions.
 - Order an appetizer and salad instead of an entrée.
 - Take home half of the meal to savor again at the next mealtime.
7. Drink water, diet soda, or iced tea instead of calorie containing beverages.
8. For dessert, choose fruit, one scoop of sherbet, sorbet—or just skip dessert.
9. Choose appropriately from the menu with emphasis on lower fat, lower salt, lower calorie and higher fiber items. Emphasize fruits and vegetables.

The Mayonnaise Jar and 2 Cups of Coffee

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar... and the 2 cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls.

He asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly, and the pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full; they agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and pored it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes."

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I

want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things: your God, your family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favorite passions—things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter—like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else: the small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical you your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised his hand and inquired what the coffee represented.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

Stewardship Report

February 2009

	General	Missions	
Year-to-Date Budget Needs	\$ 29,944.00	\$ 3,080.00	
Year-to-Date Receipts	\$ 28,989.10	\$ 2,677.00	
Difference	\$ (954.90)	\$ (403.00)	
Offering:			
February 1	\$6,825.60	\$516.00	
February 8	\$5,037.37	\$395.00	
February 15	\$2,538.29	\$345.00	
February 22	\$3,370.25	\$176.00	
Attendance:			
	Sunday School	9:00 AM	11:15 AM
February 1	76	108	39
February 8	73	108	38
February 15	78	105	39
February 22	68	104	29

MARCH AT FIRST BAPTIST

Every Week:

Sunday—AWANA 5:30 pm
 ABY Sr. High 6:30 pm
 Monday—Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 pm
 Tuesday—Bell Choir Practice 5:30 pm
 Wednesday—Choir Practice 6:30 pm

This Month:

- AWANA OFF March 15
 - ABY SR. HIGH MOVES TO WED'S IN MARCH & 1ST 2 WEEKS OF APRIL
- Saturday March 7
 ABY Jr. High Movie Night
- Sunday, March 8 & Sunday Mar 22
 ABY Jr. High 3-5pm
- Tuesday, Mar 10- Commissions/Diaconate
 6:30 pm
- Friday & Saturday, March 13-14
 Hearts At Home Women's Conference
- Sunday, March 15
 ABC-GRR Area II Annual Meeting here—
 3:00pm
- Saturday, March 21
 Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference

Lay Leaders Schedule ~ March & April 2009

Date	Ushers			
Mar 1	Kay Kafer	Nita Raye Gondek	Carroll Houston	Jeff Campbell
Mar 8	Roger McKinney	Bob Neff	Joe Goben	Geof Griffin
Mar 15	Chris Valentine	Greg Huckabay	Jeremy Walker	Bill Sims
Mar 22	Jim Hayes	Bud Birdsell	Tom Holliday	Brad Walker
Mar 29	Bill Nichols	Jeff Jacobs	Jim Hayes	Tim Runkle
April 5	Kay Kafer	Nita Raye Gondek	Carroll Houston	Jeff Campbell
April 12	Roger McKinney	Bob Neff	Joe Goben	Geof Griffin
April 19	Chris Valentine	Greg Huckabay	Jeremy Walker	Bill Sims
April 26	Jim Hayes	Bud Birdsell	Tom Holliday	Brad Walker

Date	Worship Leader	Children's Church	Acolyte
Mar 1	Bob Nicolet	Jennifer Gaus	Brock Ripple
Mar 8	Mike Hubbs	Melissa Walker	Chris Barringer
Mar 15	Melanie Floyd	Jennifer Gaus	Wade Berger
Mar 22	Melanie Floyd	Melissa Walker	Brock Ripple
Mar 29	Barb Baker	Janice Hubbs	Chris Barringer
April 5	Bob Nicolet	Jennifer Gaus	Wade Berger
April 12	Mike Hubbs	Melissa Walker	Brock Ripple
April 19	Melanie Floyd	Jennifer Gaus	Chris Barringer
April 26	Barb Baker	Janice Hubbs	Wade Berger

Raise the Roof II Update

Goal:

\$100,000.00

Given to date:

\$17,811.00

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1701 MOUND ROAD
JACKSONVILLE, IL 62650

Non-Profit Organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The **Baptist Bell**

Volume 16

March 2009

ABC-GRR Area II Annual Meeting March 15, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, IL

Registrations due Sunday, March 8

Meeting only: \$5 per person ~ Meeting with evening meal: \$10 per person

Children under 12 free. Childcare for children 6 and under.

Register with Kim Runkle or Pastor Jim Harper. Payment due March 8.