



Volume 13, Issue 19

May 11, 2010

NEVER GIVE UP

From the many true and apocryphal stories about the life of Winston Churchill comes the report of a commencement address. After enduring a lengthy introduction, Churchill is reported to have risen from his seat, walked to the podium and stared fixedly at his audience of new graduates. *"Never give up!"* he pronounced solemnly. Churchill then turned, walked back to his chair and sat down. As the stunned students momentarily sat in silence, Churchill, with perfect timing, once again rose from his chair, returned to the podium and again announced, *"Never give up!"*

Now, terrified they might respond improperly, the audience never uttered a word as their speaker once again returned to his seat. Sure enough, Churchill returned to the podium again, and again and yet again delivering his single-minded message, *"Never give up!"* At last, feeling he had exhausted his audience and driven home his point, Churchill himself did give up and returned to the podium no more. But you can be sure that every graduate in that audience never forgot that speech and never forgot that he or she was to "never give up!"

Sometimes it seems that the church has forgotten that it has received the same message. *God has promised never to give up on us.* Adam and Eve disobeyed, but God never gave up on them. Abraham wandered, but God never gave up on him.

Peter denied he knew Jesus, but God never gave up on him. The disciples all ran away, but Jesus never gave up on them. Paul persecuted the early Christians, but God never gave up on him. We too disobey, deny, and wander and run away from God, but God never gives up on us either.

As Christians, we are called to be people who never give up. We should not give up on God. God loves us and never forsakes us. We should not give up on ourselves. God tells us to love our neighbors *as* we love ourselves. That is not a narcissistic love but a love that emanates from a healthy self-respect for what God has created within us. This enables our love to be *"other"* centered.

Jesus calls upon the church to *"never give up"* on its mission and ministry. Jesus calls upon the church to never give up on the task of transforming hopeless people into a hope-filled people. We should never give up on the idea that hope, peace, love, reconciliation, forgiveness and justice can transform the world.

Christ calls his disciples to rise to the challenges of ministry. With perseverance and commitment we move forward to fulfill the great commission. As we fulfill Christ's command may we be encouraged by Churchill's admonition, *"never give up."*

—Pastor Bayes

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2010

10:00 a.m. Worship ■ 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time ■ 11:20 a.m. Sunday School

"A Place You Don't Want to Forget"

Acts 1:1-14

We all have places we do not want to forget. Perhaps that's the way it was for Jesus before he ascended into heaven. Perhaps that's what prompted the question, "Why do you stay here staring at the sky?" There was something special about that place for Jesus and the disciples, and that moment in that place would mark a new beginning for the disciples and their ministry.

Music:

"Lift Him Up," — Chancel Choir

"Christ Is In This Place" — Chancel Choir with Chris Adams-Wenger, cello & Nora Race, flute

"Here I Am, Lord" — Harmony Singers

Greeters: Jay & Judy Tellier, Skip & Sally Snyder,
Joyce Clarke, David & Diane Tomsovic

Welcome Center:
Phil & Mary McAlearney

Flowers on May 16 will be given by Ethel Roberts' family in honor of a very special birthday for Ethel on May 16.

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 16

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 11:20 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 12:00 p.m. Executive Meeting

Monday, May 17

- 7:30 a.m. Fun & Fit Over 50
- 9:00 a.m. Peoria Symphony Board

Tuesday, May 18

- 10:00 a.m. M.U.G.S. (Panera's)

Wednesday, May 19

- 7:30 a.m. Fun & Fit Over 50
- 5:15 p.m. Bell Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Dinner
- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 21

- 7:30 a.m. Fun & Fit Over 50

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in your prayers:

- Josephine Smith
- Gail Sexton
- Don Stoner
- Vicki Weatherington
- Jan Swanson
- Eloise Sauer
- Sieg Polakow
- Madelynn Claire Ryan

CONGRATULATIONS

Lois and Chip Kellogg on the birth of their granddaughter, Quinn Maxine Kellogg. Quinn was born in Los Angeles on April 26 to Bri and Charlie Kellogg. She arrived 3-1/2 weeks early weighing 5 pounds 7 ounces. Mother and daughter are both well.

HEALTH TIPS

Hidden Skin Agers

As much as half of your exposure to the UVA rays that cause sun spots and fine lines occurs while you're indoors. The main source is light coming through windows (most glass blocks only UVB rays.) To save skin, wear a broad spectrum sunscreen every day, even if you are staying inside.

Debbie McGlothlen, 635-3666
Lurene Ladd, 691-2054



CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

On May 23, the Board of Christian Education will be presenting Bibles to those children who are completing second grade this year as well as to any child who completed second in previous years but never received a bible. Names were to be submitted by May 9. Due to the low response, we are extending the time frame for submitting names to May 16. Please submit names to the church office by phone 682-5491 or e-mail, fbcpeo@mtco.com.

Graduation Sunday is also planned for May 23. If you have a 2010 graduate (high school or higher education) in your family, please let the church office know by May 16. We certainly don't want to leave anyone out on such a special occasion!

Kim Still, Christian Education Chair



MOM'S NIGHT OUT
SATURDAY, MAY 22
7:00 P.M. @
CHEVY'S IN WEST LAKE
ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT
DIANE TOMSOVIC,
691-1451.

ABWM NEWS

American Baptist Women's Ministry will meet in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 15 at 10:00 a.m. There will be a delicious brunch for only \$4.00 and a program on China, during which Sharon Stanard will share an adoption experience in China. All are welcome, and a cordial invitation is extended to women who are members or friends of First Baptist Church. Reservations may be made by calling ABWM President, Carolyn Ihnken at 685-1388.

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Esther-Hannah Circle will meet Tuesday, May 18 in the home of Jackie Kellogg, 352 E. High Point Drive, phone 692-2251. The meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. with a shared dessert and social period. The program, "Childhood Memories," will be presented by Zene Baker. Everyone is encouraged to bring a childhood picture of herself. Devotions will be led by Orvillene Jones.

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Evening Literature Circle will meet Tuesday, May 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the home of hostess, Lynnelle Ryan, 825 Anne St., Washington, phone 444-1936. Dessert will be provided by Sue Whetstone. The book Tipperary by Frank Delenay will be discussed.

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Afternoon Literature Circle will meet Wednesday, May 26 at 12:30 p.m. in the home of Mary Hinch, 5311 N. Isabell, Peoria, phone 691-8083, with Betty Wenger as hostess. Mary Hinch will lead a discussion of Sarah's Quilt by Nancy Turner.

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Each Sunday in May ABWM will be collecting donations for Church World Service/CWS Blanket Plus program. Your \$5.00 donations will purchase blankets to be distributed to those in need throughout the world. Please consider supporting this worthwhile mission project.

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ABWM will host a June blood drive for the Red Cross at First Baptist Church. Watch the newsletter for more details.

HOLY LAND 2011



INFORMATIONAL MEETING

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 23

TIME: 11:15 a.m.

PLACE: CHAPEL

*Walk where Jesus walked...
the garden where He prayed...
the wilderness where He was tested...
the seashore where He fed 5,000...
the place He was crucified.*

First Baptist is planning a trip to the Holy Land in early 2011. Interested? Join Pastor Bayes **Sunday, May 23rd at 11:15 a.m. in the Chapel** where he will share tour information. Come with your questions.

sharing resources.



changing lives.

One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. Today, projects are underway in more than 100 countries, including the United States and Canada.

Be prayerful of your gifts in our upcoming June offering as these gifts are necessary to support those in need by way of disaster relief, refugee assistance, development aid and more.

Jesus said, "Do you love me? Feed my sheep." John 21:15-17

Nan Weers
Mission Board

Goodbye, Chris!

Sunday, May 16th will be the last Sunday Chris Adams-Wenger will be with us as Director of the Harmony Singers. It's been a pleasure to have Chris around for the past two years, and we wish him well as he graduates from Bradley. He hopes to find a teaching position in the Peoria area, so maybe we'll still be able to see him from time to time.

Please plan to take a few moments in Fellowship Hall following worship on the 16th to express your appreciation for Chris' ministry with us.

THANK YOU



EVERYONE

All Church Work Day
Sat. May 1, 2010
Cleaning up the church grounds

First Baptist Church of Peoria
411 W Lake Avenue
Peoria IL 61614

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THE MISSION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IS TO MINISTER TO OUR CONGREGATION, THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD, SO THAT ALL MAY EXPERIENCE THE LOVE AND GRACE OF GOD.

First Baptist Church of Peoria
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Peoria, IL 61614-6093
Website: www.fbcpeoria.org
Church Phone: (309) 682-5491
Church Fax: (309) 682-5450
E-mail: fbcpeo@mtco.com



YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

- Sunday, May 16** Friendship House, then Painting the White House
Bring old clothes to change into for painting.
- Sunday, May 23** Picnic
- Sunday, May 30** Memorial Day - No Meeting

Contacts: Doug & Pam Miller, 688-6095. Joe & Lisa Sexton, 692-1416

FBC Staff

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Sandy Johansen, Church Sec. fbcpeo@mtco.com

SANCTUARY RENOVATION OPENHOUSE

Sunday, June 6 — 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Monday, June 7 — 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Members and friends of First Baptist are invited to an informational meeting in Fellowship Hall on either Sunday, June 6, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm or Monday, June 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm to review and discuss possible plans for our sanctuary space.

Work by the review team and Keach Architectural Design, Inc., consultant for phase one of a possible sanctuary reconfiguration, is nearing a conclusion. Keach has developed a chancel design that provides for more flexible use of the space and allows better visibility from the pews.

The meetings will be in an informal open house format to allow for maximum participation. Large-scale drawings will be displayed showing various configurations. Members of the team and representatives from Keach will be on hand to discuss the proposed project and answer questions.

The review team is excited about the possibilities for our sanctuary design and hope you will be able to attend one of these meetings. Your participation in the process will be an important factor in the choice of a final design.

STEPHANIE AND DEREK ZIMMERMAN

Meet Stephanie and Derek. These active Zimmerman siblings chose a perfectly symbolic way to celebrate the New Year and their new Christian journey. They were baptized in January.

Stephanie, an eighth-grade student, really enjoys athletics, participating in soccer, cross country and track. She also plays flute in the school band, and she pursues her interest in flute outside of school, taking private lessons. Her choice of other leisure-time entertainment is quite eclectic. She recently read the post-apocalyptic young-adult series, *Hunger Games*. When it's time for a little TV, she enjoys *The Office* or programs on the History Channel. And when spending time on the computer, she's likely to visit the iTunes and YouTube websites. Of course, she enjoys using her iPod.

Stephanie is already mulling over possible careers, and right now she's thinking she might like to become an architect or historian.



Derek is a seventh grader and very active in school-related activities, including Lego Club, newspaper, Jazz Band and Concert Band. He plays the tuba, trumpet and trombone. In fact, Derek loves band so much he is considering a career in music. When not *making* music, he enjoys listening to others do so – especially Dublin rock band U2. He enjoys outdoor activities as well, participating in track, football and soccer.

Derek's away-from-school time is spent reading fantasy action novels, playing video games (Spore, Sims and gamefudge.com), or reading news and reviews of video games on IGN.com (Imagine Games Network). He also plays Mario and X-Box games and watches the Disney Discovery Channel.

Both Stephanie and Derek are greatly enjoying their time in junior high school and at church. They participate in choir and Youth Group. During the holidays they enjoyed entertaining their family by playing their musical instruments. They also participate in music competitions, performing together and as soloists.

Natives to the Peoria area, their parents are Jeff and Doris Zimmerman, and grandparents are Wayne and Bonna Zimmerman. In fact, both chose Grandma Bonna to be their mentor in the baptismal class as they prepared for membership in First Baptist Church and a life of Christian service.

← This profile is part of a series on First Baptist Church's newest members and those who have held membership the longest. The series is the work of a church committee headed by Barb Drake. Please let her know if anyone has been overlooked. →

KATHERINE PARADISE



Kathy “the hustler” is **not** a hustler. But she does like to play pool and has done so for 17 years with a Monday night Lady’s League. Katherine Paradise’s other favorite pastimes are more traditional -- reading, crocheting and spending time with family.

Daughter Lisa and husband Tim Austin, both First Baptist Church members, live in Trivoli; daughter Sherry and husband Chris Hardy teach at Canton Middle School. Kathy loves to spend time with grandson Blaine, who’s 15, and grand-daughters Isabelle and Amelia Hardy, ages 5 and 3. Favorite places to visit are Wildlife Prairie Park and Glen Oak Zoo. Most years Kathy receives a Prairie Park pass as a Mother’s Day gift.

Kathy’s father, Vernon Haling, was a career Navy man. Along with her mother Ann, one sister and two brothers she remembers moving frequently. Born in Wausau, Wis., she has also lived in Florida, Tennessee, Virginia, Texas, Louisiana, California and Hawaii. Her sister and one brother continue to reside in Wisconsin, while her second brother is awaiting his third tour in Afghanistan with the U.S. Army. He has also had two deployments to Iraq.

Kathy was just out of high school and working as a filling station attendant (during the 1970’s “real men and women” didn’t pump their own gas) when she met Arthur Paradise. He was (what else?) a Navy man. Kathy remembers moving about every three years during that part of their 32-year marriage.

Arthur’s last tour of duty was at the reserve center on Plank Road, from which he retired in 1992 after 20 years of service. The family moved to Trivoli, living there for 15 years until Arthur’s untimely death from cancer in 2003. Kathy eventually sold the Trivoli home to Lisa and Tim. Tim, an Operations Manager, and Lisa, a Data Quality Team Leader, are employed by Affina. Kathy happily lives in an apartment in Hanna City.

Moving from place to place can be difficult. Kathy found having a job helped to build friendships in each new environment. Besides her gas station job, she worked in an ice cream parlor in her teen years and later, while Arthur was in Vietnam, in the circulation department of the Chicago Today newspaper. She also was employed by pre-school and day-care centers and at Montgomery Ward. For the last 12 years, she’s worked in the circulation department of the Peoria Public Library.

When asked her favorite place to live, Kathy is quick to say Hawaii. She especially enjoyed daily strolls on the beach with Lisa and Sherry. Although Illinois winters are no stroll on the beach, we were happy to welcome Kathy as a First Baptist member in October 2009.