

WELCOME TOM THARP & WYSS HOUSE UPDATE



An article in the newsletter a few weeks ago introduced you to Tom Tharp, our summer seminary intern. He will begin his ministry with us on Tuesday, June 1. Tom is a

graduate of St. John's Fisher College in Rochester, New York. He is completing his first year at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. Tom is looking forward to the opportunity to use his ministerial gifts with us this summer.

Tom's father is retiring from the First Baptist Church of Penn Yan, New York in June. Tom will join his family for his father's retirement celebration on the weekend of June 27.

Since Tom will be a long way from his family, we encourage you to make him feel *"at home"* at First Baptist Church. Begin thinking of ways you might assist him in getting to know you and the community (e.g., lunch/dinner, trip to

Wildlife Prairie Park, etc.). You may even want to *"take in"* a meal for him some time.

Tom will be residing at the *"White House"* on Wyss Lane. A number of improvements have been made to the property recently. Since the youth group meets there, they agreed to both purchase the paint and paint the house!

The Trustees removed all the old shrubbery (at the suggestion of Greenview Nursery). New bushes will be planted when the painting is completed. New faucets have been installed in the bathtub. Additional smoke and carbon dioxide detectors have been added. The washer and dryer have been hooked up and are ready to go!

Please be present for worship on Sunday June 6 to welcome Tom Tharp to First Baptist Church.

Pastor Bayes

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2010

10:00 a.m. Worship ■ 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time

"A Living Legacy"

Hebrews 11:1-3, 39-40 & Revelation 2:1-7

It is important that we have days like Memorial Day to remind ourselves of those things which are worthy of being remembered. We have many ways to do this. Our lives are a living memorial, and the ways we faithfully live determine the faith legacy we leave for others.

Music:

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" — Chancel Choir

Dedication Service Led by the Memorial Committee

Greeters: Richard & Delores Swigart, Beulah Bobbitt
Charlie & Gay Barton, Mark & Sharon Stanard

Welcome Center:
Chuck Browder & Karen Vickerman

Flowers on Sunday, May 30 will be given by Happy Dean and family in memory of Ed Dean and all who have served their country in the United States Military.



CALENDAR

Sunday, May 30

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day—Office Closed

Tuesday, June 1

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

11:00 a.m. Prime Timers

Wednesday, June 2

6:00 p.m. Wednesday Dinner

Saturday, June 5

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in your prayers:

Jim Ashton

Sheila Hawes

Gail Sexton

Don Stoner

Jan Swanson

Eloise Sauer

Sieg Polakow

Madelynn Claire Ryan

ABWM/RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Saturday, June 19

8:00 a.m. to Noon

Fellowship Hall

AN INVITATION

You are cordially invited to stroll through our courtyard. Smell the flowers, listen to the running water, sip your coffee, and relax for just a bit. It is there for you. It is your garden. The doors will be open.

—Jan Olson & Mary Lou Russell



Baptist Churches exist for mission and ministry.

"You shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria
and to the ends of the World"

—Jesus Christ, as quoted by Luke.

Many American Baptist churches of the Great Rivers Region live this out each day, in good and poor economic times. Many members recognize that our poorest of economic times has us in much better condition than what most in this world experience in the best of their times.

What will be your first step to bring meaning, purpose and joy to others?

Please give to the One Great Hour of Sharing June offering--goal \$5,000.

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

Nan Weers, Mission Board

A FINANCIAL NOTE

Checks next month will be run on June 2 and June 19. Check requests need to be submitted prior to those dates to be processed in June. Check requests received on or after June 19 will be processed in July.

—Lorey Schlehuber

HEALTH TIPS

Want to stay dry all day? Apply antiperspirant at night. You sweat less while sleeping, so perspiration-blocking ingredients are better absorbed into the sweat ducts then.

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



MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday, May 30, we will have a special time of remembrance and appreciation for gifts given to the Memorial and Faith Legacy Endowment Funds at First Baptist Church.

Money given to the Memorial Fund in memory of loved ones and friends has been used during the last three years to buy infant changing tables, basketball backboards for Fellowship Hall, tables and drapes for the Bell Choir and blue stoles for the Chancel Choir; to landscape in front of the Sanctuary and in the courtyard; and to fund an Illinois Central College music scholarship. During this service we will recognize gifts purchased since June of 2007 and the individuals in whose memory they were given. We will also recognize memorial funds established since 2007.

Gifts given to the Faith Legacy Endowment Fund are of great importance to the church's present and future. Endowment fund donors since June of 2007 will be recognized at this service, as will those funds which have made college scholarships possible.

Please plan to join us for worship on this special Sunday as we remember those who have left a legacy to friends, family and First Baptist Church.

THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS

This Summer: June – August, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Just 12 Pages A Day! That is all it takes for you to read the Bible in 90 days. What some people spend years just thinking about can be accomplished in 14 short weeks, with benefits that will multiply for the rest of your life.

The rewards are outstanding:

Deepen your relationship with God by reading his Word with focus and understanding.

Gain knowledge of the Bible's big picture and how it all fits together.

Build confidence in your ability to understand God's Word, refer to it, discuss it, and live by it.

This small group experience begins in June and ends in August. The pastoral staff will be leading the Bible exploration. If you are interested, please call the church office at 682.5491 or email us at fbcpco@mtco.com to learn more.

The Way of Christ An Adult Discipleship Series

June 6, 13, 20, & 27

11:20 a.m. in the Chapel

(Alternative sessions on Wednesday nights June 9, 16, 23, 30)

June 6: The Way of Discipleship

Christian beliefs and the way of salvation.

June 13: The Way of Christ

Christian beliefs and the way of love, forgiveness, and service.

June 20: The Way of American Baptists

American Baptists and beliefs about baptism, the Lord's Supper and the church.

June 27: The Way of Faith at First Baptist

Learning about First Baptist and its ministry.

You are welcome to attend any and all of the sessions!

Invite a friend to join you.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN

To the parents of all those little people from ages 4 to 8 years old. We are after your child's worn-out, but still fancy tennis shoes for our garden! We're looking for all kinds and colors, the more variety the better. Have your child(ren) bring the tennis shoes to the classroom Sunday morning; and we'll go from there. (Please do NOT expect your child to wear them again!)

Our first garden class begins June 6th, the week after Memorial Day weekend.
—Jan Olson

2010 GRADUATES

Congratulations and gifts were presented on Sunday, May 23 to First Baptist Church Members and 2010 high-school graduates, Maria Paton and Matthew Klotzbaugh .



Congratulations



Class of 2010

David Austin

University of Illinois

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering

Son of Michael and Phyllis Austin

Chris Adams-Wenger

Bradley University

Bachelor of Music Education

Son of Denise Adams and Lee Wenger

Maria Paton

Richwoods High School

Daughter of Bob and Lori Paton

Matthew Klotzbach

Calvary Christian Academy

Son of Dan and Susan Klotzbach

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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.

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PRIME TIMERS



TUESDAY, JUNE 1
11:00 A.M.
TO
2:00 P.M.

COURT YARD BBQ

All food will be furnished.

Parlor Dining

Let's Take a Look at FBC History.
Bring with you any old documents
or photos you may have.
Let's do some reminiscing.

Make your reservations with
Garland by calling 688-5496 or
682-5491.



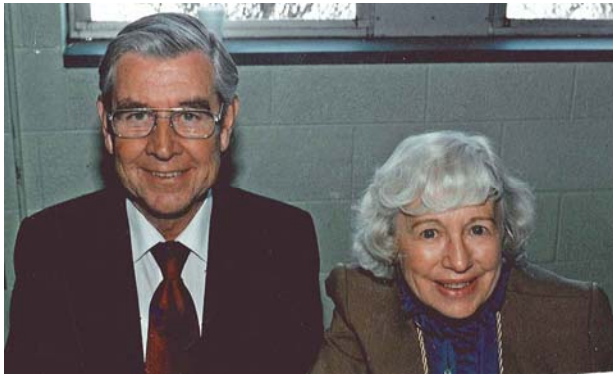
SANCTUARY RENOVATION OPEN HOUSE

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

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.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these meetings.



Lew and Hazel Burger

HAZEL BURGER

Hazel Burger plays tennis once or twice a week. “Not well,” she says, “but there’s a good group of girls who put up with me.”

She takes tap dancing classes – for the fun and for the exercise.

About a year ago, she met “a gentleman who loves to dance,” and they go ballroom dancing weekly.

She’s active in the local Presbyterian church and a member of its community action committee; helps serve lunch at the Boys and Girls Club, and continues her work with the Salvation Army, a passion she shared with her husband, Lew, when they lived in Peoria.

For her most recent birthday, Hazel got four cakes. It may have taken that many to hold all the candles, for in January she turned 99. “My daughter keeps telling me they’re planning something big” to celebrate her 100th.

If you were seeking a definition of “amazing woman,” you could stop right here. Hazel says she’s been blessed because she has so many friends at Hilton Head, where she’s lived the last 11 years; because her daughters are nearby; and because she’s able to be active. But she blesses others with the same sort of commitment to community service that were the hallmarks of her life with Lew in Peoria.

As the first chairman of the Peoria Civic Center Authority, Lew Burger was instrumental in saving the project when cost overruns threatened it. He was a founder and chairman of the Peoria Area Community Foundation; president of the Civic Opera; on the national board of the Salvation Army; and a recipient of its top honor, the William Booth Award. There was hardly a cultural, social or civic organization in town that didn’t feel his influence. When he died 10 years ago, the Illinois General Assembly officially mourned his passing. The Center for Student Leadership at Bradley University bears his name.

In Peoria Hazel herself volunteered with the Salvation Army for two decades, with the Methodist Hospital Service League and with other organizations. First Baptist Church was a significant beneficiary of her passion. “I did something all the time,” she says. She especially enjoyed working with flowers.

Hazel and Lew started attending FBC shortly after moving to Peoria for the second time. They came because her brothers – Eldred and George Byerly – were members, but it wasn’t long before they found that the church’s commitment to community outreach suited the mission focus of their lives. They joined in 1972.

A farmer’s daughter, Hazel grew up near Ft. Wayne, Ind., and got a two-year teaching degree from North Manchester College in the city of the same name. She met Lew when her sister married his Purdue University roommate. “I stood up in her wedding, and a year later we were married,” she recalls. Their wedding took place on Easter Sunday of 1936 at the old First Baptist building in downtown Peoria. Her brothers had moved here to open a music store, and she’d spent time with them after the premature death of her mother.

General Electric hired Lew out of college and sent him to Pittsfield, Mass., where they lived for 19 years. Subsequent corporate assignments took them to New York, Pennsylvania and Indiana. After 25 years with GE, Lew joined Westinghouse Air Brake Co. (WABCO) in Pittsburgh. When the company bought LeTourneau, Hazel and Lew were on their way to Peoria. They were on the move again two years later.

In 1972, after another buyout, Lew was named group executive for American Standard and told to go to Chicago. But the Burgers had fallen in love with Peoria during their earlier stay, and “he said he wanted to work here,” Hazel recalls. The company agreed. Even in retirement, Lew’s love for the city was so consuming he couldn’t say no to requests for help. They moved to South Carolina partly to save Lew from exhaustion, she says.

“Peoria is like home to me,” says Hazel. “I still have friends that I see and keep in touch with.” She particularly enjoys spending time with Tom and Dianne Bayes and Deb Ritschel, the Civic Center Authority’s executive, when they vacation in the area.

Not that Hazel’s lonely. Daughter Sarah has a house in Hilton Head, daughter Glenys lives within five miles and daughter Sandra is 150 miles away in Charleston. The family includes six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A year and a half ago all gathered over Thanksgiving week in Disneyworld. “We took up one whole floor of the motel,” she recalls. “I couldn’t be better blessed.”



Mary & Phil McAlearney

PHIL & MARY MCALEARNEY

A college roommate introduced them. Mary McAlearney smiles as she recalls, "She painted a rather bleak picture (of Phil) so I wouldn't be disappointed." To further solidify the possibilities, the roommate said to Mary, "You're a senior in college and not engaged – so what do you have to lose?"

As it turned out, both Mary and Phil had everything to gain. The co-ed and the school teacher hit it off right away.

Mary was born in Davenport, Iowa, growing up with one older brother. She has good memories of life in a family with chickens, a cow, a horse and a dog named Queenie. Her father, a mail carrier, also farmed 50 acres and built their home in two years (never working on Sundays) while they lived in a garage. The family was very active in the local Baptist church. They "were like extended family," according to Mary, and she still maintains friendships with some church friends.

Her first job was running an elevator at J.C. Penney. But after graduating from Davenport High School, where she was a debater, she was off to pursue a degree in elementary education at Sioux Falls (South Dakota) College, graduating in 1961. She taught in Minnesota for a year, then in South Dakota for another.

Phil was delivered at home in Chillicothe. He had no siblings until his sister was born when he was nine, but he had lots of friends in the neighborhood. They loved going to the local theater, where 25 cents got them entry, popcorn and pop! He attended the local Methodist church.

As Phil grew, so did his sports interests. In school he played every sport offered. After two years at Chillicothe High, his family moved to Indianapolis, and Phil finished high school there. An Indiana State Scholar, he could have gone on to Franklin or Indiana State University. He chose ISU.

Majoring in elementary education, he was also still steeped in sports, working on a physical education minor, playing football and managing the basketball team. Well-rounded, he played drums in the band and was social chair for his fraternity – Lambda Chi Alpha. Quite the dancer, Phil says, with a twinkle in his eye, he "had a ball" lining up parties with the sororities.

Phil graduated with a B.A. in 1953 and got his first teaching job in Fargo, N.D., where he taught sixth grade science and P.E. He always planned to be in administration ("Phil *always* has a plan," says Mary), so he began working on a master's degree at the University of North Dakota. But he soon moved back to Terre Haute to teach sixth grade and, in 1959, finish up his master's at Indiana State. By that time his parents lived in Sioux Falls, and since his father had heart problems, Phil moved there to help out. That's how he landed on Mary's atlas page and in her heart.

The couple married about a year and a half after the introduction. Mary taught until daughter Sheryl was born, then became a full-time mom. From there it was to Larchwood, Iowa, and a principalship for Phil. Five years later it was on to Hanna City, where Phil became principal at the elementary school. Mary substituted frequently at Illini Bluffs and began teaching full-time there when son Steve was in fifth grade. She retired 22 years later.

Phil retired in 1992 but remained active as a referee – certified in almost every sport – until 2009 when a new hip sidelined him. He's a Rotarian, was mayor of Hanna City for 12 years, and is president of the Hanna City Home Association Board. Mary enjoys reading and needlepoint and belongs to a sorority of women educators.

They've been very involved at First Baptist since joining in 1970. Both currently serve as deacons.

Sheryl lives and teaches in Sandwich, Ill. Steve, his wife and two boys live in Annapolis, Md., where he is Assistant to the Superintendent of the Naval Academy.

←—————→

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.