



BE CAREFUL HOW YOU READ THE SIGNS

Randy Hammer tells the story of a farmer who stepped outside one day and looked up at the sky. The man was one who believed that God gives signs about what course of action one should take. As the man gazed at the clouds, it seemed that they had formed the letters P.C. The man thought and then said, *"God is telling me to preach Christ!"*

The man announced his call to his church and community and set about trying to preach. He failed miserably. After a fair amount of frustration and failure, the man prayed earnestly and said, *"Lord, when I saw the letters P.C. in the sky, I took that to mean you wanted me to preach Christ."* The man heard the Lord reply, *"What I was trying to say to you was it is time to Plow Corn."*

The man had misread the signs and had been wrong about his calling. It is a dilemma for every Christian. God's leading is rarely as clear as we would like for it to be. It is a challenge to read God's signs in our lives. *How do we discern God's leading in our lives?*

It is helpful to live a life of devotion, Bible reading, and prayer so that we are attuned to God's leading when it comes to us. We need to judge what we think we are hearing by asking if it is true to the

nature of Jesus Christ. We need to decide if what we hear God saying to us is compatible with the person God has created us to be. We need to seek guidance from others whose wisdom and insight we cherish and respect. Sometimes we can look for open doors as signs of divine leading when other doors close.

Jesus said, *"Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"* As Christians, we believe God is still speaking to us as individuals. To discern God's leading for our lives, we first have to be careful how we hear and how we read the signs.

What is true for individual Christians is equally true for us as a church. As the body of Christ, we need to live a life of devotion, prayer, and Bible study. We need to be true to the nature of Jesus Christ. We need to decide if what we believe God is saying to us is compatible with the church God has created us to be. We need to seek guidance from one another as the fellowship of believers.

May we have ears to listen and may God give us the discernment to be clear on how we hear and how we read the signs of God in our mission and ministry as we plan for the future.

—Pastor Bayes

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2010

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

"A Baffling Question"

Ephesians 6:4

During the 1950's, television shows like *Father Knows Best* portrayed fathers as ideal people with great wisdom and knowledge. Ward Cleaver of *Leave It to Beaver* exemplified the father who knew how to relate to his two sons. Today, shows like *Modern Family* and *Parenthood* try to portray more realistic tensions between fathers and their children. They acknowledge that fatherhood is a bit more perplexing and complicated than those original TV shows demonstrated. In his book Fatherhood, Bill Cosby raises an interesting question for fathers to consider. We will explore the ramifications of that question in our sermon this Sunday.

Music: *"Father's Eyes"* — Danielle Blancaflor

Drama: *"Across the Miles"*

Greeters: Cliff & Thelma Hopwood, Jim & Dorothy Middleton,
Janet Middleton, John & Rachel Schwarzendruber

Welcome Center:
Marti Atwater, Bonna Zimmerman

Flowers on June 20, will be given by the Martha Solomon Family in celebration of Martha Solomon Nibblen's 100th birthday and in memory of Milton Solomon husband and father.

Flowers in the Warm Room on June 20, will be given by Jim and Arlene Wise in celebration of their 63rd anniversary June 22.

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 20

- 9:00 a.m. Praise Team Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 11:00 a.m. Blood Pressure (Rm 226)
- 11:20 a.m. The Way of Discipleship
In the Parlor
- 11:20 a.m. The Bible in 90 Days
In the Chapel
- 1:00 p.m. Martha Nibbelin Birthday
Party in Fellowship Hall

Monday, June 21

- 6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner (Hines School)

Tuesday, June 22

- 6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner
- 10:00 a.m. M.U.G.S. (Panera's)

Wednesday, June 23

- 6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner
- 7:30 a.m. Fun & Fit
- 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Bible in 90 Days (Chapel)

Thursday, June 24

- 6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner

Friday, June 25

- 6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner
- 7:30 a.m. Fun & Fit

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in your prayers:

- Richard Petroski, Gail Sexton,
Don Stoner, Jan Swanson,
Eloise Sauer, Sieg Polakow
Bill Pitts, Madelynn Claire Ryan
Jason Roberts (son of Andi & Dennis)

SYMPATHY

Ruth Turner on the death of her brother, Frank Mauck of Hammond, Illinois. Frank died Tuesday, July 8.

Sharon Rees on the death of her brother-in-law, Robert Hamilton on Wednesday, June 9. Services were Monday, June 14.



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

HEALTH TIPS

Homesickness Survival Kit

Kids go away to camp each summer. For most, summer camp is an opportunity to be independent, learn self-reliance and experience adventure. However, with so many children going to camp, some will become homesick. You can help prevent homesickness with these steps:

- Let your child help choose the camp.
- Do a practice run. Let your child do a sleepover at a friend's house.
- Save the date. Mark your calendar with the camp dates so your child can visualize the beginning and end of the trip.
- Pack together.
- Have a heart-to-heart. Explain that everyone gets homesick sometimes.
- Don't promise an early pick-up if your child is homesick.

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



Note: Debbie McGlothlen will be out of town June 21-27. If a parish nurse is needed during that time, please call Lurene Ladd.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

It's time to update the address listing of the church directory. If your home address, e-mail address or home phone number has changed since the current directory was published in 2007, please update your information using the form in the Sunday bulletins June 20 and 27 or by mail, phone or e-mail to the church office. Changes are due by June 30.

First Baptist Church
411 W Lake Ave., Peoria, IL 61614
e-mail: fbcpeo@mtco.net
phone: 309-682-5491

ALL CHURCH AUCTION FOR MISSIONS

The auction, sponsored by the Friendship Group, will be held Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010. Church family and friends are invited to donate items to be auctioned. A (donated) soup dinner and dessert will be served before the auction for a moderate price, and all proceeds are given to local mission projects. Please put this date on your calendar and join us for a fun evening.



LAKE SPRINGFIELD BAPTIST CAMP

Kindergarten — High School Ages

- First Baptist Church Covers one-half of the registration cost.
- Registration forms are available from the church office or on-line at <http://www.abcgrr.org/grrcamps/index.htm>.

Camp (Cost)

Grades 2-5 (\$130)
 Grades 2-5 (\$130)
 24 Hr. Camp Grades K-3 (\$35)
 Grades 1-4 (\$140)
 Grades 6-9 (\$210)
 Grades 4-6 (\$210)
 Grades K-2 (\$25)
 Grades 9-12 (\$240)
 Grades 6-9 (\$240)
 Grades 2-5 (\$130)
 Day Camp, Grades K-5 (\$25)
 Day Camp, Grades K-2 (\$25)

Dates

June 20 to June 23
 June 23 to June 26
 June 27 to June 28
 June 29 to July 2
 July 5 to July 10
 July 11 to July 16
 July 17, 9:30-4:00
 July 18 to July 24
 July 25 to July 31
 August 1 to August 4
 August 6, 9:30-4:00
 August 7, 9:30-4:00

THANK YOU

Flowers in the Warm Room on June 13 were given by Richard and Joyce Eagleton in loving memory of William and Mary Louise Chandler Eagleton.

I would like to thank Pastor Bayes, Pastor Grizzard, Pastor Criswell and Tom Tharp for their visits to Proctor Hospital. Also, I appreciate the cards and phone calls from many church members. It means a lot to me to have your thoughts and prayers.

—Richard Petroski

SNACKS FOR SOLDIERS

The women of ABW invite our congregation members to bring snack items to send to soldiers of Platoon C, Company 1, Army 87th Infantry Division currently serving in Afghanistan. Serving in Platoon C is John Blankenship, cousin of Carolyn Pasquini.

Snacks may be left in a marked box in the Warm Room on June 20 and 27. Snacks will be shipped at the end of the month. Please avoid large bags that crush easily and easily melted chocolate such as Hershey bars. Trail mix, microwave popcorn, peanut M&M's, cans of Pringles, nuts, gum, licorice, etc.

THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS

Last Call for the Bible in 90 Days

Because of the good response to the Bible in 90 Days program, a Sunday session is being added. If you were considering joining this challenging adventure, there's still time to get on board. Please contact the church office if you'd like to be added to one of the groups.

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.

The pastoral staff will be leading the Bible exploration during June, July and August.

THE WAY OF CHRIST An Adult Discipleship Series

June 20, & 27

11:20 a.m. in the Parlor

(Alternative sessions on Wednesday nights June 23, 30)

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.

Monthly Financial Analysis

	Budget	Actual
May 2010	for Month	for Month
Pledges	\$32,808	\$37,757
Projected Giving	\$6,258	\$6,914
Plate Offering	\$1,383	\$794
Other Revenue	\$941	\$969
Month Total	\$41,391	\$46,434



ABWM/RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, June 19, 8:00 a.m. to Noon
Fellowship Hall

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.

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Peoria, IL 61614-6093
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FBC Staff

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(309) 692-6267 tomb@mtco.com

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(309) 452-0782 cherig@mtco.com

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Dr. Susan K. Klotzbach, Organist
(309) 664-4442 klotzbach@verizon.net

Judy Tellier, Administrative Asst. judyt@mtco.com

Lorey Schlehuder, Financial Sec. loreys@mtco.com

Sandy Johansen, Church Sec. fbcpeo@mtco.com



News From the North 40

Sunday, June 20 is "Hens 'n Chicks" day at the North 40.

Our 4 to 8 year olds will be turning their old discarded tennis shoes into homes for these interesting looking little plants.

If you have any old children's tennis shoes of any shape, size or color, please drill some holes in the soles and drop them in the box in Fellowship Hall on Sunday.

Thanks
Jan and Karen



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010

Come take VBS to the extreme! Camp E.D.G.E. is not your typical stroll through the woods. It's an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition to an Extreme Adventure Camp that teaches kids their strength and might come from God.

Get ready to trek through the scriptures July 18-22, from 6:00 p.m.- 8:15 p.m.

VBS is open to all children age 4 through 4th grade. Watch the church website and future Sunday bulletins for enrollment forms.



FBC Peoria Wants YOU!

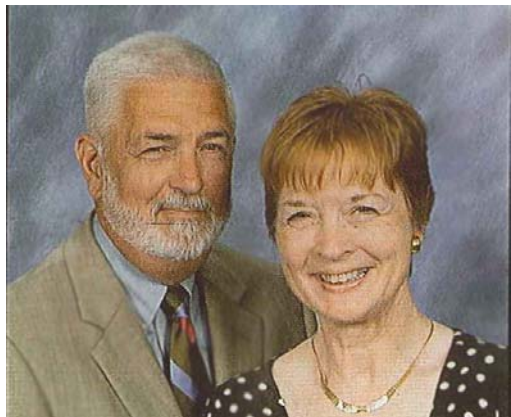
We are looking for people to staff our [Welcome Center](#) and to become [Pew Greeters](#).

No prerequisites are required and you don't work during Church services!

If interested please contact:

[Pew Greeter](#) - Richard Heller:
rpheller@comcast.net or 922-1665

[WC Staffer](#) - Chuck Browder:
charles_browder_820@comcast.net or 678-0114



CHARLIE & GAY BARTON

Charlie and Gay Barton met at a post-wedding party in Chicago. Make that a no-wedding party. "The bride called it off on the church steps," recalls Charlie.

At least one good marriage – theirs – came out of that improbable encounter. It has produced one son, two granddaughters and nearly 40 years of First Baptist Church leadership. Charlie has chaired two boards, served on one other and served as moderator. More recently, he was brave enough to agree to lead the team studying sanctuary modification. Gay has been on every board in the church, the music committee and the committee that writes these profiles.

"It's very much a comfort level for me," says Gay of First Baptist. "I like the open-mindedness. I like that people can have diverse views and not be viewed as bad or sinful."

"As you become more involved, you have a deep feeling for the church," says Charlie. They've been members since 1972.

Gay's first encounter with First Baptist was through the weekly teen dances held in Fellowship Hall in the 1950s and 1960s. She married Charlie in the church on Oct. 29, 1964, the same month and day his parents and grandparents had married. It was a Thursday, but the church accommodated.

The woman Charlie married was born in central Arkansas to cotton and strawberry farmers. She fondly remembers picking and culling berries and playing in mounds of cotton piled up in the bed of the family's pick-up truck. When she was in third grade, her father joined those migrating north to work at Caterpillar "with the promise of better times," she says. She graduated from Peoria High School, where Jo Sternberg was a good buddy.

Gay's first job out of high school was in a bank; her second, at WIRL Radio. Back then WIRL called itself "The Big Sound," its deejays were big personalities, and it brought big rockers to town. She escorted Mary Wilson of the Supremes to the control room and at WMBD had a passing acquaintance with Huey Lewis (he passed her in a hall). At WSWT she caught her heel in a shag rug and "fell for" Tony Bennett, nearly landing on him. Those radio days – she sold ads -- were "just plain fun and a bit crazy," she says.

Her career also took her to the marketing departments of the Journal Star and Illinois Central College and the last 11 years to an advertising agency, buying time and space. Two years before she retired, Gay graduated from Bradley University summa cum laude.

The man Gay married was born in Oswego, N.Y, but didn't stay there long. Charlie's father worked as an engineering officer for the Veterans Administration, which moved him around. Second through fourth grades were in Texas, fifth and sixth in Michigan, and junior and senior high school in suburban Chicago. He spent high school and college summers working as a laborer, and it didn't take long to decide he'd rather be planning where to dig the dirt than digging it up himself. When Brown University's engineering program proved more theoretical than he wanted after two years, he transferred to Bradley. There he earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and master's in engineering administration.

Charlie went to work out of college for the Illinois Department of Transportation just in time to be involved in the construction of Interstate 74 through Peoria. He was Resident Engineer on several projects in the area and chief of design for the central Illinois district for five years. He was the district's land acquisition engineer when he retired in 1997.

Son Trip is a third-generation engineer, while his wife, Julie, shares Gay's love for marketing. She is marketing director for Maui Jim.

Gay is devoted to her granddaughters, providing the child care until each turned two years old. She's also a devoted walker – four or five miles a day – and a Hines School tutor.

Charlie golfs three times a week, reads two books simultaneously and is in his 11th year as a board member of the Braves Club at Bradley, having chaired it once. He traces his fondness for Bradley basketball to the year he entered the university and learned a superstar named Chet Walker was in his class. He remembers seeing Oscar Robertson break the Fieldhouse scoring record; he and Gay have held season tickets since 1963.

In retirement, the Bartons enjoy traveling together. Their most recent trip was to Budapest and one of their most memorable to Normandy. They would like to return.



CASSIE WOOD

Cassie Wood dutifully attended the discipleship classes around the usual age of 12 but demurred at joining the church at the usual age. "I just didn't feel right about it at the time," she explained. "For a period of time, I didn't go to church a lot."

Instead, Cassie concentrated on school, at Marquette Heights Elementary and then Pekin Community High School. Keeping her grades high, she is happiest in math classes -- "I get straight A's"-- and is becoming an accomplished trumpet player. She uses these skills in the Pekin High Marching Band.

Cassie began to feel a stronger desire to return to church, and last December's "Winter Blast" youth trip to Green Lake became a starting point. "I love Green Lake!" she enthused, pointing out her cell phone picture of a snowy lodge overlooking the lake. "Most of the kids at Pekin don't go [to church] -- I just wanted to start going. I thought it would be a good thing." Cassie plans to return to Green Lake for "Quest," the youth summer program; is active in the youth group under the guidance of Joe and Lisa Sexton and Doug and Pam Miller; and soon will be a trumpet asset accompanying the Chancel Choir. She solidified her decision to be active by joining First Baptist on April 18.

Born Feb. 23, 1994 in Peoria, Cassie has lived all her life since age one in Marquette Heights. She "parent-shares" her time between dad Kevin Wood and mom Chris Shay. The second youngest of a large family, Cassie noted, "Until I was seven or eight, I didn't even think of my brothers and sisters as half or step -- I thought all families were like ours." Speaking fondly of her entire family (surely an oddity for a teenager!), she says, "My mom is one of the most laid-back people I've ever known." House rules? "My parents kind of let me do my own thing because they know I don't do bad things. I've never done drugs -- I think it's stupid.... pointless."

Instead, Cassie is busy full-tilt with marching band, singing and dancing in the show choir "Intuition," and playing trumpet in a combo accompanying the senior show choir, the "Noteables." The choir recently placed eighth in National Competition in Nashville. Spare time is filled with texting and Facebook -- "I have a romance with my phone," she giggled.

Plans beyond high school are naturally vague for a 16-year-old, but she would "like to do marching band in college." Career path? Maybe "ophthalmology -- I have horrible eyesight; I like being able to see." Which may prove a bit challenging to one who says dissecting things (part and parcel of medical study) "is gross."

No matter. Cassie's eyesight may not be perfect without her contact lenses, but her vision of the future is crystal-clear -- doing the right thing for herself, her family and her church.

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.