



DID JESUS EVER TAKE A VACATION?

Vacations are wonderful opportunities to get away from the daily grind of our busy, hectic, demanding, and sometimes dull routines. A vacation is that experience set aside for relaxation, rejuvenation, and renewal. All of us need such moments. Such times have caused me to ponder, *"Did Jesus ever need a vacation?"*

In the 11th chapter of Matthew, Jesus seems to answer that question. He has been traveling through various Galilean cities and everywhere he has traveled he has encountered some form of rejection. Out of his frustration he denounces the cities that have rejected him. He says that the city of Capernaum is going to hell! It doesn't seem to be one of Jesus' finer moments.

Jesus has a bit of an epiphany at that moment. He realizes that his disciples have traveled from town to town telling others about God. Not just Jesus. Every day they preached, taught, and healed the sick. Not just Jesus. They worked so hard that they often didn't have time to stop to eat or sleep. Not just Jesus. They become very tired and exhausted. Not just Jesus. When Jesus realizes this, he says, *"Come with me to a quiet place and get some rest."* Later, Matthew tells us that they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.

I thought of Jesus' words as we gathered for our annual Canadian fishing trip this year. This trip is both a communal experience and a solitary one. We enjoy the fellowship of our brothers in Jesus Christ. We enjoy the hospitality of the guides and people of Red Indian Lodge. We also enjoy those solitary moments when we pull away to absorb the majesty of God's magnificent creation. We see some unforgettable sunsets. We see the glowing light of the moon shining brightly upon the lake. Through some very thoughtful devotions each morning, we are drawn ever nearer to God.

The trip reminds me that we need to take Jesus with us on our vacations. We need to realize that both in our communal and solitary moments Jesus comes to refresh us, renew us, and rejuvenate us. He does this for *his* greater purposes. We are renewed each and every day through him. Jesus wants us to return home with renewed resolve to serve his kingdom.

This summer I hope you find your moments of rest, relaxation, renewal, and rejuvenation. May the sacred moments of retreat renew you for greater service in Christ's kingdom.

—Pastor Bayes

WORSHIP

Sunday, August 1, 2010

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

"Don't Forget the Valley"

Luke 9:28-36

Many of us have had them, those times when we felt like we were on top of the world. We call these "mountaintop experiences," and we want to hang on to those moments for as long as we can. Jesus and his disciples experienced such a moment at the time of his transfiguration. As great as these moments are, Jesus leads us as he did his disciples down to the valleys of everyday life and living as well.

Music: Men's Ensemble

Greeters: Paul & Nancy Phillips, Earl & Lois Markle,
Julie Mayeur, David & Dolly Sanders

Welcome Center:
Sharon Rees, Chuck Browder

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 1

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:20 a.m. Bible in 90 Days (Chapel)

Monday, August 2

6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner
7:30 a.m. Fun & Fit
11:00 a.m. Heartwarming Hats
7:00 p.m. FunMakers

Tuesday, August 3

6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner
9:00 a.m. RAA Y Program
10:00 a.m. M.U.G.S. (Paneras)

Wednesday, August 4

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, August 5

6:30 a.m. Kids' Corner

Friday, August 6

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

Saturday, August 7

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

OUT OF TOWN

Pastor Bayes will be in Chicago on July 30 & 31 where he will preside at the wedding of Jeff Maulding and Barbara Wilson.

ON VACATION

Pastor Bayes will be away on vacation August 1 through August 24.

Pastor Cheri Grizzard will be on vacation August 12 through August 21.

Pastor Criswell will be available to provide pastoral care. He can be reached at (309) 688-5496.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in your prayers:

Rose Kelly	Ruben Redard
Harry Miller	Josephine Smith
Gail Sexton	Richard Petroski
Don Stoner	Mike Mason
Jan Swanson	Sieg Polakow
Bill Pitts	Madelynn Claire Ryan

HEALTH TIPS

Treating Summer Rashes

Here's how to recognize summer's most common varieties:

Heat rash (prickly heat) is caused by excessive sweating during hot, humid weather. What's it like? Clusters of reddish bumps or pimples. Medical care? Unnecessary.

Poison ivy, oak and sumac are plants that cause rashes when your skin comes in contact with their oily sap or resin. What's it like? Reddish rash with blisters and crusting where the skin has been in contact with plant resin. Self care: Wash skin with soap and warm water within 10 minutes of contact with plant to help prevent or minimize rash. Relieve itching with over-the-counter hydrocortisone creams, calamine lotion or oral antihistamines, such as Benadryl. Seek medical care immediately if you have a severe allergic reaction such as difficulty breathing or swelling of the face, tongue or lips, or if the rash is extensive.

Swimmer's itch is a skin rash caused by an allergic reaction to infection with certain parasites found in fresh water. What's it like? Small reddish pimples on skin that was exposed to the affected water. Self care: Try not to scratch. To relieve itching use over-the-counter hydrocortisone creams, baking soda baths or calamine lotion. Medical care is usually unnecessary. If itching is severe, ask your doctor about prescription anti-itch lotions or creams.

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



FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for the Sanctuary or the Warm Room, there are Sundays available August 1, 8 and 22 and September 5, 12 and 19. Flowers may be donated in recognition, remembrance, honor of a loved one, special occasion or group.

Please contact Karen Vickerman at 309-692-3268 to arrange a donation.

SAVE THE DATE

The Friendship Group Social will be August 7 at the home of Dave and Karen Stroemer.

If you haven't been contacted, please call 691-0853.

AUCTION 2010

Sat., Nov. 6 is the date for a "make it, bake it, grow it, build it, donate it", *All-church Auction for Missions*. Church family and friends are invited to join the Friendship Group as they present this fun project.

We need YOU to help make this a success. All money goes to local mission projects. Please put this date on your calendar, join us for a fun evening.

A 'NORTH 40' UPDATE

The kids' planting session ended with the creation of our hosta path through the pine trees that connect the church to the white house. Our overall plan is to eventually plant a hosta garden under the trees on either side of the path. We think folks just might have a favorite hosta to contribute that would eventually tie into the overall outdoor planning program for our church.

Janet Middleton brought her own furry little animals — and a friendly bird — to church one Sunday to visit our kids, and visit they did! We also welcomed Paula Austin and her two performing dogs, Radar and Rocky on July 25.

We invite one and all to view our garden and note the little shoes who walk its paths!

In August, the Summer Sunday School will meet in the craft room.

A NEW LILY

Among the lilies at the west side of Fellowship Hall is a beautiful new yellow one developed by Richard Petroski. He named it "Grace Goes Outward" (*before Sunday's grace service*), and there's a small white stake in the ground that marks it. Be sure to pause to admire this wonderful addition to our garden.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010



We finished VBS Thursday night, July 22. I would like to thank all of those who gave their time and effort into helping with this year's Vacation Bible School program, Camp E.D.G.E. (Experiencing and Discovering God Everywhere). I'd like to send a special thanks to Tom Tharp for stepping up and doing the opening/closing activities as Extreme Camper Blaze (along with Makenna Beard who worked the puppet, Sparx the fox) and for putting so much effort into the Bible Story time.

No matter what size role you played, your help made our VBS successful. Thank you!

Kim Still, Christian Ed Board Chair



Over the course of five nights, the kids and youth of the church participated in Vacation Bible School at Camp E.D.G.E. They learned such important lessons as carrying God with them in their hearts wherever they go and putting others needs before their own. With stories about the upper room and crossing the Jordan with the Ark of the Covenant and crafts and songs, the kids learned how to experience and discover God everywhere. I want to thank Kim, Todd and everyone who planned the activities, and all the people who helped out, for making this a great and enriching program for the kids! I enjoyed working with you all and the kids loved it!

Tom Tharp (Blaze)

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
411 West Lake Avenue
Peoria, IL 61614-6093
Website: www.fbcpeoria.org
Church Phone: (309) 682-5491
Church Fax: (309) 682-5450
E-mail: fbcpeo@mtco.com



FBC Staff

Thomas G. Bayes, Jr., Sr. Pastor
(309) 692-6267 tomb@mtco.com

Cheri Grizzard, Pastor of Worship & Community Life
(309) 452-0782 cherig@mtco.com

Garland Criswell, Pastor of Older Adult Ministries
(309) 688-5496 garla103@sbcglobal.net

Tom Tharp, Summer Seminary Intern
(309) 682-5491 fbcpeo@mtco.com

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

Judy Teller, Administrative Asst. judyt@mtco.com
Lorey Schlehuder, Financial Sec. loreys@mtco.com

Sandy Johansen, Church Sec. fbcpeo@mtco.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Cindy Huddle has moved to:
Bickford House Cottage
2000 W. Willow Knolls Dr.
Peoria, IL 61614

Husband, Mike Huddle says "she loves visitors anytime."

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

- | | |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Aug. 3 | Reading Across Ages with Youth (RAAY) |
| Aug. 7 | Six Flags |
| Aug. 12 | Sr. High Youth Cook-out at the Sexton's, 6:00 p.m. |



Peoria Area SeniorNet cordially invites you to attend our next pre-registration Open House.

Saturday Aug. 7, 2010, 10 to 12 a.m.
First Baptist Church Media Center
411 W Lake Ave, Peoria

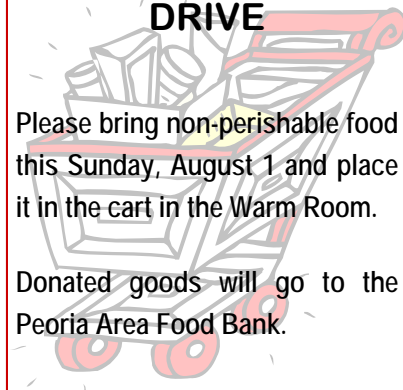
SeniorNet Volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions and discuss interests such as what computer you should buy, what courses to take and what computer programs are available. Admission is free and open to all.

For more information call 1-800-872-4651, ext 1510 and leave a message. A SeniorNet volunteer will return your call.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Please bring non-perishable food this Sunday, August 1 and place it in the cart in the Warm Room.

Donated goods will go to the Peoria Area Food Bank.





JEAN AND GORDON BROWN

By Jo Sternberg

When Jean Brown says she and Gordon would like a more "exciting life," she isn't talking about luxury cruises or fame and fortune. They long "to volunteer in an exotic place....we could appreciate the beauty of the place and still help. Gordon and I both have to help people. What makes it easier is we're both like that."

For the Browns, service is a committed way of life. Gordon says, "Jean has always taken the words 'See a need, fill a need' as her call to action." And Gordon, son of a Baptist minister, says he has been "totally immersed in the Lord's work" from childhood. He has witnessed "so many lay persons, ministers, missionaries full of love for the Lord and living a purposeful life in Christ."

At First Baptist, Gordon has served as church school teacher, junior high sponsor, member of the Financial Committee and Diaconate, and Assistant Treasurer. Jean has been on the Missions Board and Music Committee, taught church school and now serves on both the Flower Committee and in the two-to-three-year-old room. Observes Gordon, "This church is more diverse than people may think. [There is] quite a range of ideas and views....[It is] dynamic." He adds, "The friendships we built -- the people -- kept us coming."

Deloris Jean Culpepper, oldest of seven children, grew up in East Peoria but attended First Assembly of God Church in Peoria. In her teens, however, she was active in the youth group at the East Peoria Baptist Church. Gordon, the second of three sons, born in Kenton, Ohio, moved several times as his father was assigned to different churches. The family finally moved to -- guess where? -- East Peoria, where Gordon's father was the new pastor. They just *happened* to live next door to the Culpeppers.

One Halloween, says Jean, "Gordon picked me up to take me to the church Halloween party." "There," she wryly added, "the youth group leaders thought it would be a good idea for us to start dating." So they did - for a while. But Gordon, seven years older, "thought it was best to break up." harrumphed Jean. "Gordon thought I was too young, that I needed to experience life! We wound up dating again after seven or eight months...He realized he never should have broken up with me in the first place!"

In the meantime, Gordon had graduated from Bradley as an accounting major and begun a series of jobs with Peoria companies, including financial analyst, auditor and contract negotiator. Eventually moving to Hyster, then Aetna Life, he became a personnel administrator. Jean got a job in Springfield for the Secretary of State, living in an apartment "with my best friend."

Soon, Jean relates, Gordon realized the "error of his ways" and proposed. Jean quit her job and returned to East Peoria to live at home and start saving money for marriage. She also completed cosmetology school. They were married at Jean's former church in Peoria. But, after Gordon's father left the East Peoria church, the Browns decided to find a new church home. Through the dartball league, Gordon had friends at First Baptist and they started attending. In 1976, one year later, Gordon and Jean Brown became members.

When Shana, the oldest daughter was born in 1974, Jean pretty much became a stay-at-home mom, supplementing their income by cleaning houses. Daughter Leann followed in 1975. "Both girls are now into their second careers." laughed Jean. Once the girls were older, Jean returned to work, first at Illinois Eye Center, then to the Peoria High School cafeteria, and finally to her current job in the Washington High School cafeteria. Gordon's job took the family to LaGrange Park, then Galesburg, from 1997-2005. He now does contract consulting and training part-time.

This year the Browns will celebrate 40 years of marriage, one that Gordon affirms "has been quite a journey, full of wonderful times together." That includes travel -- they speak excitedly of seeing Hawaii and Ireland. Jean reminisces about the beautiful country they saw when they drove to Seattle on their way to an Alaska Inside Passage Cruise. Yes, they did get in a cruise!



SUSAN WHETSTONE

Keeping busy is never a problem for Susan Whetstone. She learned at an early age that if she said she was bored, “My mother would have me cleaning out closets or some other household chore and then check to see how I did.” So she always found something to do outside, such as playing in the creek. She also learned responsibility and organization.

That smart mother, Mildred Stone, died in 1975 after a courageous battle with cancer. Susan’s father, Calvin, a Circuit Court Judge, subsequently remarried. He and wife Mary moved to Florida after his retirement. Sue says her sister, Chris Rainey, “is the most influential person in my life and my best friend.”

Born and raised in Peoria, Susan grew up in North Sheridan Baptist Church. She came to First Baptist by marriage, joining in 1972; taught first grade Sunday School; and served on the Diaconate and the Board of Christian Education. She now enjoys singing in the choir.

When attending Hines Grade School, Susan played basketball; her team picture is still there, hanging on the wall just outside the gymnasium. She graduated from Richwoods High School and attended Illinois Central College for two years.

Recently Susan celebrated 36 years at National City Bank (now PNC), working in the Wealth Management Department. Her job involves supporting the trust officers with their clients’ investment and trust accounts. “My years there have been very interesting, challenging and rewarding,” she said. She also has mentored at Peoria Business Academy, giving tips on why to stay in school and emphasizing the training and education needed to enter the workforce.

Family is very important to Susan. Son Mark Whetstone, a high school English teacher and baseball coach, lives with his wife Kirstin and two sons in Chicago. Matt Whetstone, a deputy with the Macon County Sheriff’s Department, lives with his wife Crystal and their soon-to-be daughter – the long-awaited girl in the family -- near Decatur. She also has three stepchildren — Jeff Hopkins, stationed at Fort Campbell in Kentucky; Ron Whetstone, Jr. and his family in Florida; and Michele Whetstone in Oregon.

Susan loves being outside -- gardening, walking, hiking, etc. She recently finished an eight-week golfing class at ICC and hopes to play often. She really enjoys reading and has joined the Evening Literature Circle. She also finds attending plays at Cornstock and Peoria Players very entertaining, but says her best time is spent with her grandchildren.

Susan has taken several trips, but Yellowstone National Park and the Carolinas, especially Hilton Head, really stand out. In fact, a second trip to Hilton Head is in her plans for this summer.

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.