

# First Baptist Church



## COLUMNS

### First Baptist Church

421 Park Avenue,  
Omaha, NE  
PH: 402-345-5009  
Fax: 402-933-2020

Email:  
office@omahafbc.org  
Website:  
www.omahafbc.org

Check us out on Facebook

First Baptist Church,  
Omaha

#### Staff:

Rev. Matt Toupin  
*Senior Minister*

Jim and Karla Musick  
*Music Directors*

Phyllis Porter  
*Office Manager*

Ben Martinez  
*Building Superintendent*

#### Sunday Worship

9:45 a.m.—Sunday  
School for all ages

11:00 a.m.—Worship  
in the sanctuary

12:00 a.m.—Coffee  
fellowship in the  
church parlor.

### ***GOD'S LOVE IN MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND CHURCH FAMILY***

<sup>7</sup> *Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.*

<sup>8</sup> *Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

<sup>9</sup> *This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.*

<sup>10</sup> *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

<sup>11</sup> *Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*  
(1 John 4:7-11 NIV)

I came across this passage recently and was struck by how many times the word, “love” shows up. Love is a major theme in the tiny book of 1 John. It is of course also a major theme throughout the pages of God’s word. This should not come as a surprise, for, as 1 John 4:8 says, “...God is love.”

If there were any question as to what that little phrase means, John explains it to us. God proved his love to us by sending his one and only Son (whom he loved), to die on the cross for us. It reminds me of our 2013 Annual Theme, which you may remember is “GOSPEL: GOD’S WORD FOR EVERYONE.” At the very heart of the Gospel is God’s love for all people. And it is in the light of such great love that we are called to love one another. Those of us who are married are called to love our spouses; all of us are called to love the members of our families; and all of us are called to love the members of our church family as well.

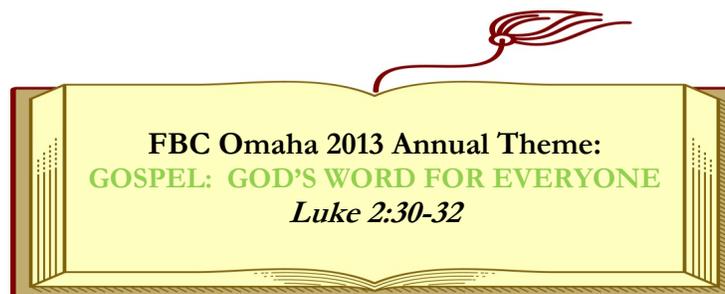
In that context, our February focus at First Baptist Church of Omaha will be “GOD’S LOVE IN MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND CHURCH FAMILY.” God’s love, the sort of love that was demonstrated on the cross, is absolutely essential for healthy, Christ-honoring relationships in all of these settings—and it applies to each one of us.

To help us to celebrate God’s love in marriage, family, and church family, I am excited about a couple of big events coming up in February. First, there is the vow-renewal ceremony of Mike and Lola Murtaugh on February 5th. They are celebrating 37 years of marriage and are inviting the church family to help them celebrate: What a remarkable testament to God’s love and faithfulness throughout the years! Second, there’s the annual Valentine’s Dinner on February 15th, sponsored by our Men’s Ministry. This event is open to everyone and will be a great time to celebrate God’s love for each one of us!

So please, join me in celebrating God’s love for us all this February!

In Christ,

*Pastor Matt*



### Please Remember The Following In Your Prayers

**Our** homebound members: Beverly Tompkins, Linda Buxton, Nancy Clatterbuck, Joan Kolle, Velta Hanson, Willi Treu, Ruth Saklar, Bob Snyder, Pat Buie and Pauline Borromeo.

- ◆ Those with other medical concerns: Vida Crosby and Connie Payne.
- ◆ Pray for the men and women in the military serving at home and abroad
- ◆ Remember our young people in prayer.
- ◆ Pray for our church leaders.

*Prayers of sympathy to Linda Buxton on the death of her husband Vincent Buxton on January 9th, 2013.*



You Are Invited to Celebrate  
The Installation of  
The Rev. Matthew A. Toupin

Sunday, February 10, 2013  
At 3:00p.m. in the sanctuary.

Refreshments will be served  
following the service.

## The Challenge

*FBC Omaha Spring Men's Retreat 2013*

*"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." (1Th 5:11 NIV)*

Attention all FBC Omaha men:

Join Pastor Matt and the Men's Ministry Team to be *challenged* this April...

- Challenged...*to go deeper in your faith.
- Challenged...*to become a better man, a better husband, and/or a better father.
- Challenged...*to serve God through hands-on projects.
- Challenged...*to encourage and build up your brothers in Christ.

As you consider whether or not you are up to the challenge, here's the info. you will need:

- Date: Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> (exact times TBA)*
- Location: Camp Moses Merrill*
- Cost: Free (but we'll be doing projects around the camp to help them get ready for summer)*
- Signup: RSVP on our events page on Facebook or by signing up in the Parlor*

### TABLE TALK

In partnership with the Discipleship and Adult Education Team, Pastor Matt will be starting a new sermon-based and fellowship-focused adult Bible Study called "TABLE TALK" on Wednesday night, February 6th. This new ministry will include acoustic worship, corporate prayer, fellowship, and small-group discussion geared to challenge you to live out God's word in everyday life. It all starts at 7pm in the Parlor.

### MANY THANKS VOLUNTEERS

There were many helping hands in the church kitchen Tuesday morning and afternoon cleaning cupboards, silverware, pots and pans, etc. and to those who were there

THANK YOU, THANK YOU !!!

## 29 on 29<sup>th</sup> A Prayer Focus for Lent

This Lenten Season, you are invited to join Pastor Matt to pray for our church, for our leaders, our staff, our city, and our future. The Book of Acts, which chronicles the history of the early Church, ends with a 28<sup>th</sup> chapter. As the church today, we are like the 29<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts: The continuing history of God’s people. And, as Providence would have it, we are located off of 29<sup>th</sup> street. So, could it be that we are being called to pray for 29 minutes on 29<sup>th</sup> street every Wednesday afternoon in Lent at 12:29pm, as God’s “Acts 29” people? Who knows what great things will happen when God’s people gather to pray!

This will be a “no frills” time, dedicated only to corporate prayer: Just us and the Lord. It is a particularly important season for prayer as Pastor Matt will be working during this time with the leaders of our church on a visioning process to discern God’s will for the future ministry of our church. You are welcome to bring your lunch with you if you need to. And if you can’t make it in person, you are invited to pray from wherever you are located at 12:29pm, every Wednesday.

“29 on 29<sup>th</sup>” will meet every Wednesday of Lent from February 13<sup>th</sup> through March 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:29pm in the Lobby (the entryway room to the Pastor’s Office).

## SUMMER CAMP PRICE REDUCED TO \$195!

Summer camp for 2013 just got a little better. Not only will MMCCC provide its usual perfect summer setting, wonderful campfires, meaningful worship moments, and new calls to Christ, this year it will be less expensive. Early bird pricing for summer camp has been reduced to \$195 instead of the usual \$250! Be looking in the mail and around the church for the brochures and registration forms to be coming soon.



## FBC Omaha: Mark your calendars now for

**MISSION SUMMIT 2013**  
An American Baptist Biennial Gathering  
Overland Park/Kansas City, June 21–23

- Celebrate the Judson Bicentennial with special guests from Burma
- Worship and celebrate together
- Hear nationally recognized preachers and speakers.
- Greet long-time friends and make new friends from across the country and around the world.
- Meet missionaries, hear talented ABC musicians, and great choirs.
- Elect officers for the next biennium
- Engage with teams working on ministry and adaptive challenges
- Explore the richness and beauty of ethnic diversity within the American Baptist family
- Learn how God has been transforming us by the Spirit since our last gathering
- Discover the power of transformation

### Pizza/ Movie Night

A pizza/movie night has been planned for February 22 starting at 6:30 p.m. We will eat first and then watch the movie.

Pizza will be provided by the Women’s Ministry Team. A donation towards the cost of the pizza will be appreciated.

The movie is “October Baby” and is a Christian movie. A blurb from the movie... “When Hannah collapses during a college play, she’s rushed to the hospital, where medical tests reveal the underlying cause...trauma suffered at birth. Soon afterward, she discovers another shocking fact....

Rated PG-13. Dove approved.

## ATTENTION: NEWSLETTER CHANGE

In an effort to be better stewards of our resources, we will be making a change in how the newsletter is distributed, starting with the March edition. We will no longer print out a copy and place it in the bulletins each month, which will save us on paper, ink, and staff time. Instead, we will email a link to the newsletter each month (if you want on the email list, please contact the office), so that you can read it from the comfort and convenience of your own electronic device. We will also be sure to have plenty of printed copies available near the Parlor for those who prefer that format. Additionally, we will continue to mail paper copies to our members and friends who are home-bound. If you have any questions or concerns about this new process, please contact the church office at [office@omahafbc.org](mailto:office@omahafbc.org) or by calling 402-345-5009.

First Baptist Church  
Omaha, NE

Forward in Faith...

Empowered by the Spirit



### Our Mission Statement

Leading people to Jesus Christ AND helping one another grow in a relationship with him.

## *Valentine Dinner*

When: February 15, 2013

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Dining Room of FBC

Make your plans now to attend this annual event sponsored by the Men's Ministry. Once again adults are invited to a gourmet catered dinner. This is a free event; however, donations would be appreciated.

A nursery will be provided for those who need one.

A sign-up sheet is located on the table near the women's lounge. DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>.

Invite a friend (s) to this evening of food, music and fellowship.



### February Birthdays and Anniversaries

1—Tina Shelton and Christina Atkins

2—Ryan Todalen

5—Sally Schoening

12—*Larry and Holly Graves*

13—Cheryl Lillie

16—Jackson Wing

18—Christine Hillebran

19—Hannah Kubiak

26—John Thies

28—Kirsten Cleveland



# COZY MOUNTAIN LODGE™

Where women find shelter in God.

The Theme for the  
2013 Women's Retreat  
at Moses Merrill Camp and  
Conference Center.

FBC Women—Start making plans to attend the  
2013 retreat the weekend of May 3,4,& 5

The rate for two nights and 3 meals is \$70.00  
per person. Scholarship money is available.

Further information will be forthcoming.