

First Baptist Church



2013

COLUMNS

First Baptist Church

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Check us out on

Facebook 

First Baptist Church,
Omaha

Staff:

Rev. Matt Toupin

Pastor

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 p.m.—Coffee
fellowship in the
church parlor.

New Life!

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”
(2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV)*

Easter is a time to celebrate New Life at First Baptist Church of Omaha!

First and foremost, the good news of Easter is that Jesus Christ, the Savior, is risen...he is risen indeed! And it is because of that great truth that ordinary people, like you and me, can find new life in him. As the Scripture says, “if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” It doesn’t matter who you are, where you’re from, or what is in your past: If you are in Christ, “the old has gone, the new has come!”

There is also some Easter good news that is *specific* to our church. And that is that we are preparing for a baptism celebration on Easter Sunday! I believe *any* day is a good day for a baptism. However, baptism on Easter Sunday itself is just plain *cool!* Think about it: Easter is the celebration of our Lord’s resurrection, right? Well, in a church like ours, where baptism is done by immersion, by literally “dunking” the person all the way into the water, there is a clear proclamation of the Easter Good News. Here’s what the Apostle Paul has to say about it:

“We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” (Romans 6:4 NIV)

You see, when a person gets immersed in the water, it symbolizes their identification with the death and burial of Jesus. And then, when they come out of the water, it is an amazing illustration of their identification with the resurrection of Jesus and the new life that he has made real to them.

You see, when a person gets baptized, they are actually proclaiming the gospel loudly but without using words. Through the illustration of going into the water and then coming back out, they boldly tell family, friends, church family, and the world that Jesus died and rose again!

So, as we celebrate New Life at First Baptist this March, join me in praying for those who are considering getting baptized. Pray that we, as a church, would boldly and graciously proclaim the great truth that Jesus died for our sins and then rose again. And may we all work together to consider how this relates to our 2013 Annual Theme, that the GOSPEL IS GOD’S WORD FOR EVERYONE!

In Christ,

Pastor Matt

**FBC Omaha 2013 Annual Theme:
GOSPEL: GOD’S WORD FOR EVERYONE**

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 and the "Vision Summit on 3/16.

Effective Monday, February 18 The church offices will be open on the following days and times.

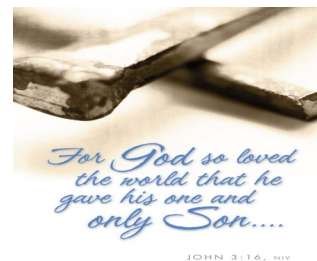
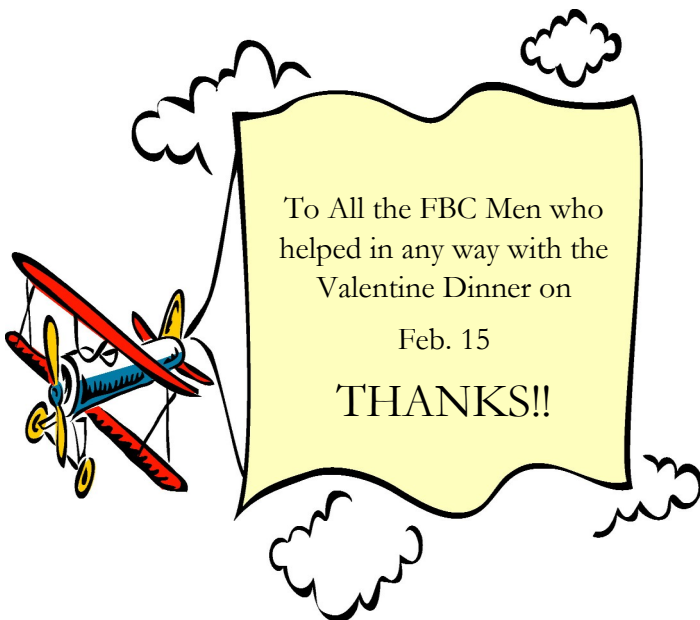
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
9:00am to 4:00pm.

The offices will be **CLOSED** on **Fridays**

CELEBRATE NEW LIFE AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH!

As we approach Easter here at FBC, we are gearing up to celebrate new life in Christ and new life in our church! To help us do this, we will be offering a special Easter Baptism Service on Sunday, March 31st. Easter and Baptism are big reasons to celebrate at First Baptist Church. Listed below are special opportunities to those who are considering following Jesus in baptism or by becoming a part of our church family:

- ⇒ **Plunge!** (For Students) Attention all students, grades 6-12: Join Pastor Matt for a special learning opportunity designed specifically for YOU! Have you been thinking about getting baptized or becoming an official member of FBC Omaha? If so, join us for "Plunge!" We will be talking about what it means to take your faith seriously. It all happens in Pastor Matt's office during the **Sunday School Hour, 9:45am to 10:45am, on March 3rd and 10th.**
- ⇒ **Baptism 101 (For Adults)** Maybe you have been considering getting baptized. Or maybe you are just curious what it's all about. Whatever the case may be, you are welcome to join Pastor Matt for a learning experience for adults that will explore the meaning of baptism and for "seekers" who are wanting to learn more. It all happens in Pastor Matt's office during the **Sunday School Hour, 9:45am to 10:45am, on March 17th and 24th.**
- ⇒ **Church 101 (For Adults)** Are you interested in connecting with the FBC church family? Then this learning experience is for you! We will be looking at the importance of local church membership, what the word "Baptist" means, and how you can become connected with serving the Lord and this community at FBC Omaha. It all happens in Pastor Matt's office during the **Sunday School Hour, 9:45am to 10:45am, April 14th, 23rd, and 29th.**



Save the Date!!

June 21-23, 2013

Overland Park, Kansas City

Major changes are ahead for your church. Prepare now to meet them at the

Mission Summit: your opportunity to share challenges, ideas and information with other American Baptists. Be transformed by what the Spirit is leading us to do in our churches and communities.



- ⇒ Discover 25 major changes on the horizon
- ⇒ Engage in interactive discussions and networking opportunities
- ⇒ Learn tools to transform you ministry and congregation.

Our dialogue will lead to action items that can enable your church to thrive into the future.

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO TAKE A MISSION TRIP? HAVE YOU NEVER TAKEN A MISSION TRIP BUT WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHAT IT WAS LIKE? CAN YOU PAINT A WALL, REPAIR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, PLANT A FLOWER, RAKE A YARD, HELP WITH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL? HOW ABOUT A FUN WEEK, LETTING SOMEONE ELSE DO THE COOKING, AND GIVE A HELPING HAND TO ANOTHER CHURCH!

This is what the ABC Nebraska is offering to every church June 16 (travel day) through June 20 (ending with a big street carnival).

Our relationship building experience will be with North Baptist Church, Ottawa, KS, working with folks in that congregation as they demonstrate what it is to be the hands and feet of Jesus in their neighborhood.

Our goal? 100 volunteers of all ages from Nebraska Baptist Churches from across the state to travel to Kansas

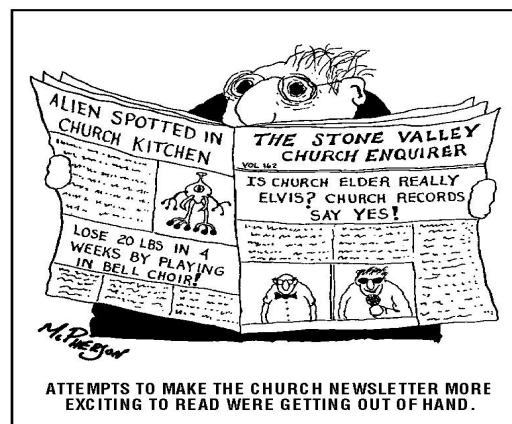
Our secondary goal? 1,000 volunteers to chip in toward the costs of this massive clean up/fix up/and to help share the love of Jesus with others by providing scholarship money for volunteers from their own congregation can spend this great week with brothers and sisters in Christ in another place.

Lodging and many meals will be provided by Ottawa University. \$200.00 per adult or young person above the age of 10 years. 9 years of age and younger—\$100.00. That's five nights lodging and lunch daily. The University will host our group for dinner on Tuesday evening. Registration forms and more details will be available from the Region Office in the up-coming days.

HOW CAN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OMAHA HAVE A PART IN ALL THIS?

- Come along for this energy-packed five day project.
- Sponsor another person or family through a financial gift.
- Add this to your 2013 Mission Summit/Biennial trip to Overland Park, KS. Five days of work followed by 3 days of celebration with our world-wide American Baptist family. What a fantastic summer vacation!

We will be promoting the America for Christ Offering during the month of March. This year's theme is "Building Communities of Hope", Matthew 5:13-16. Your America for Christ donation blesses Christian centers providing after-school tutoring, newly released prisoners struggling for better lives, pastors seeking continuing education, community food pantries feeding the hungry, and much more. Give what you feel you can give to this offering. Our goal for 2013 is \$1700.00.



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.

March Birthdays

- 1—Sharon Wooster,
- 2—Rosemary Wilder, Todd Nelson
- 10—Darrell Reed
- 14—Adriana Cleveland
- 15—Smokey Stober
- 18—Amanda Todalen
- 21—Mona Riviera
- 26—Jim Soucie
- 28—John Murray, Beverly Tompkins
- 31—Ruth Saklar



on the
HORIZON

March

- **Pizza/Movie Night**—Friday the 8th at 6:30pm for **all women** of FBC.
- **Juliets**—Saturday the 9th at 12:30pm at the Golden Corral located at 1511 Gregg Rd., Bellevue.
- **Daylight Savings Time Begins**—Remember to set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour on March 10th at 2:00am.
- **“Vision Summit”** for all ministry/cabinet members on Saturday, March 16 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Region Office.
- **Good Friday Service** scheduled for March 29th at 7:00pm.
- **Resurrection Sunday, March 31st** - There will be a celebration of baptism during the worship service.



Cozy Mountain

Lodge



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.