



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Living the Gospel **OMAHA**

Matt's Musings...

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
(Matthew 28:18-20 NIV)*

This month, we are wrapping up our "Living the Gospel" sermon series, during which we have been taking a closer look at our new mission statement:

**WE EXIST TO EQUIP PEOPLE
TO LIVE OUT THE GOSPEL IN EVERYDAY LIFE,
LOVING GOD,
LOVING ALL PEOPLE,
IN MIDTOWN OMAHA AND BEYOND.**

During this series, I've challenged us all to memorize the mission statement. I have never been good at memorization myself; it has always been a struggle for me. That's why I'm so impressed when I run into someone who has entire chapters or even books of the Bible memorized. Well then, if I am so bad at memorization, why have I asked the congregation to memorize this statement? Well first of all, I want you all to know that I've been working to do this *with* you. And I think I've just about got it! If you want to test me on it, just ask me some time at church. But don't be surprised if I ask *you* to say the statement from memory too!

The reason why I've asked *us all* to memorize this statement is that I believe it's an important way to allow the mission of the church to sink into our hearts. It helps us all to be on the same page, working as a team to reach our community with the love of God. It gives us a "rallying call," something to get us excited about as we consider all that God is doing in our midst. And that is why I'm so excited about the last line in our statement, "IN MIDTOWN OMAHA AND BEYOND."

As I reflect on those words, I cannot help but think of the Great Commission, found at the end of Matthew's gospel, when Jesus told the Church to "go and make disciples of all nations." This is a much *earlier* mission statement, and it really is the basis not only of our FBCO statement, but of what every church on earth should be doing. You see, we are part of something big! We are part of a mission that goes back millennia and that extends to "the very end of the age."

While reading the pages of this newsletter, you will learn about all sorts of different activities and opportunities for sharing the love of God with our community. There's the All-Church Work Party, summer camp at Moses Merrill, a Conference on Poverty in Latin America, Vacation Bible School, the Ignite Mission Trip, the World Mission Conference, a joint worship service with American Karen Baptist Church, and even a First Baptist Baseball Night. Each and every one of these activities is an opportunity to be about the business of living out the gospel in our everyday lives, sharing our faith with other people, and serving the needs of our community in the name of Jesus Christ. As we look toward this busy, exciting summer, may we be energized by the many ways in which God is calling us all into mission "IN MIDTOWN OMAHA AND BEYOND."

Living the Gospel with you,

-Pastor Matt

June, 2014

COLUMNS

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STAFF

Matt Toupin
Pastor

Kyle Stanek
Youth Pastor

Jim and Karla Musick
Music Directors

Phyllis Porter
Office Manager

Ben Martinez
Building Superintendent

Sunday Services

9:45am Sunday School for
all ages
11am Worship in the
Sanctuary
12pm Coffee Fellowship in
the Parlor

**COME JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP!**

**REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING
IN PRAYER**

Beverly Tompkins, Wanda Chandler, Nancy Clatterbuck, Velta Henson, Ruth Saklar, Bob Snyder, Pat Buie, Pauline Borromeo, Marge Braman, Charlene Howard, Vida Crosby, and Inez Edwards

- Those with other medical concerns.
- Our men and women who are serving our country in the military at home and overseas.
- Our kids and youth.
- The staff of FBCO and the members of the Cabinet.
- Pray for continued growth of the American Karen Baptist Congregation that meets in our sanctuary every Sunday!

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Church Family,

The Bake Sale proceeds were \$297.70. Your support was overwhelming. Thank you to all who baked and bought the baked goods. You are very much appreciated!

Rebecca-Ruth Circle

To those volunteers who gave of their time to come down to the church and helped with the "Spaces" luncheon on Wednesday, May 28, THANKS SO MUCH! The men and gals were so appreciative of our kindness.

Judy Cunningham

KUDDOS to Alvadine and Kevin Gilliland for weeding, planting and maintaining the flowers in the church courtyard. The next time you see them tell them how much you appreciate the work they put into keeping the courtyard looking nice! And for the planter of pansies in front of the church!



**Coming Soon
For Kids!
VBS - 2014**



- ◇ DATE: July 7th—14th
 - ◇ TIME: 6pm-8pm
 - ◇ WHERE: First Baptist Church Omaha
- Volunteers are needed. Interested?
See Colleen Sariscsany
More information will be forthcoming



**Back to School
Carnival!**

WHEN: Sunday, July 27th
TIME: 6pm—8pm

Volunteers are needed in many areas!
Interested in helping? See Michelle Wing.

We will also need donations of school supplies. Pencils, erasers, glue sticks, backpacks, notebooks, etc. Kids attending the carnival will earn points toward the school supplies. This is an outreach event for the kids in our neighborhood who might not be able to afford these items when school begins.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



On the Table...

MESA will be taking a break this summer. Our last meeting will be June 8th.

Watch for more information

on when we will re-start in the fall coming soon. Thank you to all who have been a part of this new ministry!

MEN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

Attention all men! Here's some important info. for you all to know about:

NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST ON JUNE 7TH @ 8:30AM. You won't want to miss this one! Stephen Stout of Good Neighbor Ministries in Omaha will be our guest speaker. Invite a friend and come to enjoy a good breakfast and fellowship with your brothers in Christ!

AB MEN'S CONFERENCE AUGUST 8TH-9TH. Taking place up at Moses Merrill Camp and Conference Center. This conference will feature encouraging times of worship, great food, and opportunities for recreation out in God's creation. Mark your calendars now and watch for more information on the Men's Ministry board. Questions? Contact Jim Musick. To register, contact the camp office at 402-666-5639.



First Baptist Baseball Night

Everyone is invited to come root for the First Baptist Church Youth Baseball Team on Friday, June 13th at 6:00! Our own Noah Wing is one of the star players on the team. So, come, support the team and enjoy our nation's pastime. The game takes place on Grover field located at 64th and Grover. Go team!



FREE SEMINAR ON POVERTY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN LATIN AMERICA

JUNE 3RD @ 7PM (Parlor)

How to preserve human dignity in the face of issues such as extreme poverty and human trafficking is one of the greatest challenges of our era.



Goretty Jora pictured above!

Come and learn how local leaders in Bolivia are beginning to address these issues following the mandate to serve "the least of these."

This seminar will be bilingual and is open to the community.



Carmen Flores with her family pictured above.

KAREN CORNER

The church has become aware of the need for rice to feed the 140,000 Karen and others in the nine refugee camps along the Thai/Burma border. These are friends and family members of our sister congregation.

Duane Binkley, American Baptist International missionary, who is managing the project wrote, "...Food rations and other assistance to the refugees are being cut as funding increasingly goes to programs within Burma. Meanwhile, the Thai government does not allow the refugees to find work and support themselves." Dr. Simon of the Kawthoolay Karen Baptist Bible School & College in the Mae La Camp had contacted Duane about their desperate need.

Since \$1.00 will buy enough rice to feed 1 person for more than 4 days, and \$100 will provide for a family of 5 for 80 days, it is hoped that the goal of \$5,000 will improve survival rate of hundreds of refugees and give them hope that others are thinking of them.

The church will accept gifts for this project through July. Please make checks payable to First Baptist Church and put "Rice for Refugees" on the memo line or envelope. If you wish more information go to: www.internationalministries.org/projects/100.



These boys live in one of the 9 refugee camps along the Thai/Burma border. The uncertain future of Burma combined with world-wide economic challenges have caused some donors to stop helping. This has meant cuts in food and supply rations. Even after 6 years of resettling 80,000 refugees in the U.S. and other countries, the camps are still home to more than 140,000 people.

All Church Work Party!

WHO: Everyone!

What: A chance to spruce up the building

Why: To help make our church more welcoming to visitors and members

When: Saturday, June 7 at 9:30am

Help Out! To help out, check out the sign-up sheet at the "Church Biz" Board.

June Birthdays

- 1—Wanda Chandler
- 3—Darlene Anderson
- 4—Kevin Gilliland
- 8—Joshua Toupin
- 12—Joe Mettenbrink
- 27—Lila Laizure
- 28—Noah Wing
- 29—Elizabeth Gamblin
- 30—Jim Fitl

June Anniversaries

- 10—Jim & Karla Musick
- 24—Jim & Colleen Sariscansy
- 26—Bess & Vergel Borromeo



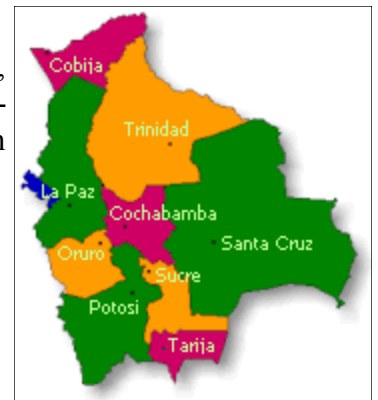
International Mission Focus: Ignite Bolivia 2014

What is Ignite?

Ignite is an exciting program, sponsored by American Baptist International Ministries (IM), that enables young adults to spark a connection, kindle spiritual and personal growth, and blaze with passion for Jesus Christ. It is an adventure of cross-cultural mission service that will push them out of their comfort zones into an extraordinary faith walk with God. During their travels, team members deepen their relationship with God while seeking a deeper understanding of international missions. Each year, Ignite takes an adventurous group of young adults to a different part of the globe where International Ministries is engaged in missions work. This year, they will be heading to Bolivia. The 2014 Ignite team has already formed and will include members both from the United States and Chile.

Pastor Matt will be partnering with IM missionary in Bolivia, Mario Morales, along with other IM staff, to lead the team. He will be in Bolivia July 7th-20th. After that, he will accompany the team to the World Mission Conference in Green Lake, Wisconsin, July 21st-25th.

This is a unique mission opportunity not only for Pastor Matt, but for our entire church family as well. How can you get involved? First, let's begin praying NOW for a transformative and safe experience for the Ignite team. Secondly, let's use this experience as an opportunity to consider how we at FBCO might get more actively involved in missions internationally as we seek to be "*Living the Gospel in Midtown and Beyond*," to use the words of our new vision statement. Third, consider attending the World Mission Conference in July to celebrate what God is doing through missionary work in Bolivia and elsewhere throughout the globe.



Celebrate International Ministries' 200th Birthday!
July 21-26. 2-14 at Green Lake

Join Pastor Matt and the "Ignite" team at the World Mission Conference!

American Baptist International Ministries will celebrate its 200th anniversary this July 21-25, at Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake, Wisconsin. Come and meet your international missionaries and hear about their exciting adventures. The World Mission Conference is not just for missionaries, it's for anyone interested in knowing what God is doing in the world! Whether you know a little or a lot about mission work, this event is for EVERYONE. You'll hear stories from folks fresh from the field as you rub shoulders with brothers and sisters in Christ from dozens of countries. It will be inspirational, educational and a lot of FUN!

Register online: go to www.internationalministries.org and click on the link

World Mission Conference

\$159 Program fee for one adult

For housing, call Green Lake Conference Center at 920-294-3323.

Housing at Green Lake is full but they can give you information about lodging in the surrounding area.

For more information, call Carole Sydnor at 610-768-2313

FBCO Finance Update
April 2014

Capital Fund Drive
July 2012 - June 2015
April 2014 Progress Report

| Current Operating Income And Expenses* | | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| Category | April | YTD | YTD Budget |
| Income | \$12,345 | \$51,750 | X |
| Expenses | \$17,652 | \$71,788 | \$76,251 |
| Variance | -\$5,307 | -\$20,038 | \$4,463 |

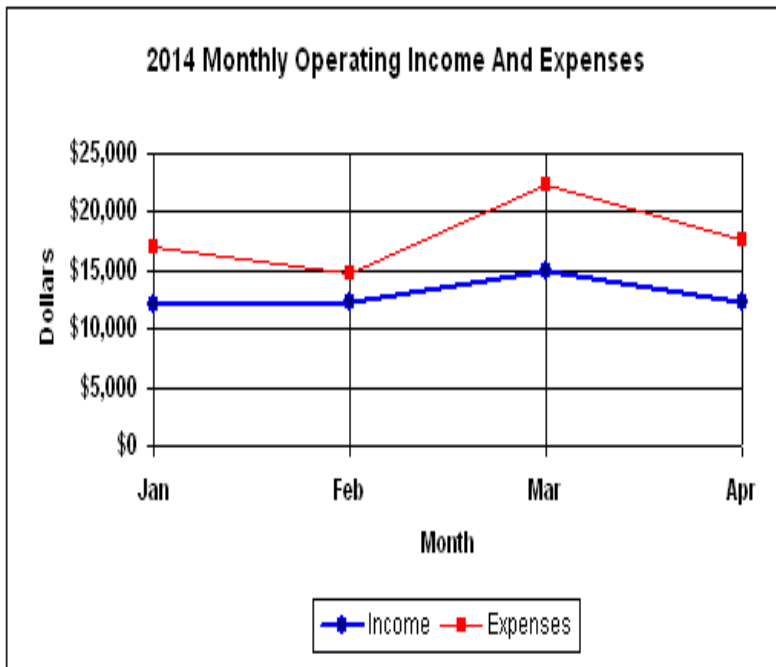
* Excludes non-budget, self-supporting, and designated categories

Goal - \$100,000

Amount Needed
To Attain
Goal - \$36,886

Contributions - \$63,114

Expenses - \$42,005



| ◀ May 2014 | ~ June 2014 ~ | | | | | Jul 2014 ▶ |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 1 *Horse Camp (MMCCC) 9:30am – Worship Practice 9:45am – Joint Sunday School with Bolivian Mission Partners 11:00am – Worship 12:30pm – AKBC Worship 3:30pm – NA (FH) 5:30pm – MESA Café (PARLR) 6:30pm – MESA Eng. (PARLOR) | 2 *Omaha Symphony Building Use (Sanctuary, Classrooms) *Horse Camp (MMCCC) | 3 *Horse Camp (MMCCC) 9:30am – Omaha Pastors' Meeting 7:00pm – Bolivia Mission Event (PL) | 4 *Horse Camp (MMCCC) 3:00pm – Staff Meeting (PL) 6:30pm – Youth Activity Night | 5 *Horse Camp (MMCCC) | 6 *Horse Camp (MMCCC) | 7 8:30am – Men's Breakfast (Speaker Stephen Stout of Good Neighbor Ministries) 9:30am – All-Church Work Party 11:30am – Community Meal |
| 8 *Youth MAD Camp (MMCCC) 9:30am – Worship Practice 9:45am – Sunday School 11:00am – Worship 12:30pm – AKBC Worship 3:30pm – NA (FH) 5:30pm – MESA Café (PARLR) 6:30pm – MESA Eng. (PARLOR) | 9 *Omaha Symphony Building Use (Sanctuary, Classrooms) *Youth MAD Camp (MMCCC) | 10 *Youth MAD Camp (MMCCC) | 11 *Youth MAD Camp (MMCCC) 3:00pm – Staff Meeting (PL) | 12 *Youth MAD Camp (MMCCC) 7:00pm – Cabinet (PARLOR) | 13 *Youth MAD Camp (MMCCC) *First Baptist Baseball Night (Grover Field @ 64 th & Grover) | 14 <i>Flag Day</i> 11:30am – Community Meal |
| 15 <i>Father's Day</i> *Junior I Camp (MMCCC) 9:30am – Worship Practice 9:45am – Sunday School 11:00am – Worship 12:30pm – AKBC Worship 3:30pm – NA (FH) | 16 *Junior I Camp (MMCCC) 11:00am – FBCO-AKBC Leadership Meeting (LIB) | 17 *Junior I Camp (MMCCC) | 18 <i>Newsletter Due</i> *Junior I Camp (MMCCC) 1:00pm – Rebecca-Ruth Circle 3:00pm – Staff Meeting (PL) 6:30pm – Youth Activity Night | 19 *Junior I Camp (MMCCC) | 20 *Junior I Camp (MMCCC) *Primary I Camp (MMCCC) | 21 *Primary I Camp (MMCCC) 11:30am – Community Meal |
| 22 *Primary I Camp (MMCCC) *Mid-High Camp (MMCCC) 9:30am – Worship Practice 9:45am – Sunday School 11:00am – Worship 3:30pm – NA (FH) | 23 *Mid-High Camp (MMCCC) | 24 *Mid-High Camp (MMCCC) | 25 *Mid-High Camp (MMCCC) 3:00pm – Staff Meeting (PL) | 26 *Mid-High Camp (MMCCC) | 27 *Mid-High Camp (MMCCC) *Young Adult Retreat (MMCCC) | 28 *Young Adult Retreat (MMCCC) 11:30am – Community Meal |
| 29 *Young Adult Retreat (MMCCC) 9:30am – Worship Practice 9:45am – Sunday School 11:00am – Worship (JOINT SERVICE – Pastor Matt) 12:30pm – “Melting Potluck” 12:30pm – AKBC Worship 12:45pm – Shepherding Team 3:30pm – NA (FH) | 30 | Notes: | | | | |