

First Baptist Church
100 E. Webster St.
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Rev. Regan Stoops, Pastor

www.firstbaptistmp.com

How to Reach Us

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Office Hours
8-12 M-Th

Pastor's Hours
9-12 & 1-4 M-Th



Great News
First Baptist Church Mt. Pleasant

August 2011

OUT AND ABOUT

A church is the one building in the world that exists more for the people on the outside of it, than for those on the inside."

That's one of my favorite quotes. I don't even know who originally said it, but I've heard my dad say it for years. I posted it online last week as a reminder of what we're about and my brother shrewdly pointed out that a prison fits the same criteria.

But if that statement is true, our churches haven't been living that way. For the most part, the church in America has been internally focused rather than externally focused. We've made programs for us, planned worship around what we like, and guarded against the outside world. And to some degree that's necessary. We are warned to not embrace the values of the world around us, but to remain true to God's values instead. And it's important that we do worship together and grow in our relationships with Jesus, so programs and worship services serve those purposes. But if we look at the life of Jesus and His disciples, we see that His relationship with them was for a greater purpose. He didn't spend time with those 12 men so that they alone would be changed. He was preparing them to be His hands and feet in the world.

So going by Jesus' example of ministry, we do focus internally to grow and equip God's church so that we all can go out and show and tell the Gospel of Jesus.

Do you remember "Show and Tell"? Back in early grades we had the chance to take things that were important to us and show them to our class and explain their significance. It's a great model because others get the chance to experience those items. But our churches have spent hundreds of years just telling about Jesus and rarely showing. The few examples of radical "showing" are noticeable: people like Mother Theresa, who gave up everything to serve the poor. While I'm sure she had much to say about Jesus, it was her actions that changed the lives of thousands.

So how do we show and tell in our community? I think the answer to that is service. We go out and serve our community with no regard for receiving credit or adding to the numbers in our sanctuary on Sunday morning. Instead, we serve because we are called to serve, and we show the love of Christ by living out His love for people in this community.

This fall we are going all in on being externally focused. We'll be going through The Externally Focused Life in worship, small groups, and Sunday School; and we'll be taking it from the classroom and sanctuary to the streets and homes of Mt. Pleasant. You need to plan to be here for this important training beginning in September. Let's Show and Tell the Gospel together.

August Birthdays

Kelly Upton	5
Kris Kreutner	8
Brittanie Anderson	9
Nathan Howard	9
Jana Crull	11
Ida Belle Morris	12
Cliff Hunsaker	14
Lisa Meeker	17
Andrea Glick	18
Marcelene Jordan	19
Sully Scott	21
Jim Arnold	22
Carol Collett	22
Sally McKim	22
Kenzie Scott	22
Pastor Regan Stoops	24
Makenzie Crull	29
Amber Scott	30
Carson Stoops	30

August Anniversaries

Merlin & Marilee Donnolly	4
Jeremy & Amy Mullenix	7
Jim & Donna Upton	12
Jon & Lindsey Myers	20
Kris & Tina Kreutner	26

Please inform the church office of any birthday or anniversary additions or corrections.

August Communion

Preparer: Mersihda Dyer
Servers: Stan Ross, Don Upton
Diana Upton & Ted Ogier

August 2011

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 7:00 pm Reach Team	2 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 11:30 am Ladies Lunch @ Jerry's Restaurant 7:00 pm Deacons Mtg.	3	4 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 4:00 pm Praise Team Practice 7:00 pm Seekers Circle	5	6
	7 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship & Communion	8 7:00 pm Missions Team Mtg. 7:00 pm Reach Team	9 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 1:30 pm Women's Bible Study @ SunnyBrook 7:00 pm Worship Team Mtg.	10 6:45 pm BYG	11 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 4:00 pm Praise Team Practice 5:30 pm F.U.T.U.R.E.	12
14 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Old Fashion Hymn Sing & Jam Session	15 7:00 pm Reach Team	16 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 6:00 pm Trustees Mtg. 7:00 pm Leadership Team Mtg.	17 6:45 pm BYG	18 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 4:00 pm Praise Team Practice 7:00 pm Link Circle	19	20 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
21 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Baptisms @ Forest Lake Camp	22 12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline 7:00 pm Reach Team	23 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 1:30 pm Women's Bible Study @ SunnyBrook 7:00 pm Outreach Team Mtg.	24 6:45 pm BYG	25 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 4:00 pm Praise Team Practice 5:30 pm F.U.T.U.R.E.	26	27 1:00 pm Aplara in Fellowship Hall
28 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	29 7:00 pm Reach Team	30 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella	31 6:45 pm BYG	