

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

100 E. Webster St.
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

Church Office
319-385-4920

Email -
fbchurch@iowatelecom.net

Pastor's email
fbcregan@iowatelecom.net

Office Hours
8-12 M-Th

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



FBC After School Program
Kindergarten—5th Graders

Every Wednesday
during the school year
3:30—5:00



Great News
First Baptist Church Mt. Pleasant

February 2011

The Bright Side

It's that ridiculous scene in Monty Python's *The Life of Brian* - which I'm not recommending, by the way - where Brian is being crucified alongside many other men, and one breaks out into this song.

*Some things in life are bad
They can really make you mad
Other things just make you swear and curse.
When you're chewing on life's gristle
Don't grumble, give a whistle
And this'll help things turn out for the best...*

*And...always look on the bright side of life...
Always look on the light side of life...*

Sometimes I'm not so good at doing that. I'm a realist, and I like to be prepared for what can happen, and look at things realistically. But sometimes, that borders on pessimism, and many of you may be the same. As Christians it is easy to see our sinfulness and how it gets in the way of our relationship with Jesus over anything else. How often do you say to yourself, "I don't read the Bible as much as I should", "I don't pray enough", or "Why do I keep committing the same sins?" And it's true that sin is an ongoing distraction in our lives with Christ, but they are not the point. The enemy loves to remind us of all the things we're missing; all that we're doing wrong. But Jesus wants us to see Him and what He is doing in us and through us, not the distractions.

It happens in churches too. We get too busy looking at budget numbers, some minor disorganization, or distractions in the sanctuary to notice that God is working. It gets me too. It took a visitor noting all the new faces in worship one day to open my eyes to the exciting ways that God is using this church. I guess I've been consumed lately with the details and the struggles without seeing the victory that Jesus is bringing.

Did you know we saw a huge jump in attendance this last year? That's more people worshipping together every week. We have so many youth on Wednesdays that we need a bigger room. We've had the opportunity to show love to one of the most unloved areas of our community through outreach and our children's ministry. Our baptistery is being used so much, we need to look into upgrading. God is working in us here at FBC, and we need to not forget that. And if you need a reminder of that, get involved. Come play with kids at BK5; take a turn in the nursery with babies, toddlers, or preschoolers; join us for coffee at Tazza Bella Tuesday mornings; or sit with someone new in worship, and get to know them better over a donut following the service.

Satan wants to frustrate us and distract us from the joy that Jesus brings. Let's not allow him to get to us. Let's look at the bright side of the life that we have with Jesus; both in our everyday lives and in our church. What a blessing it is to serve Him together.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY
CLASSES

We will again be offering the Financial Peace University classes. These classes will help you understand all the principles associated with sound personal finance; including learning how to save and budget your money. Classes will begin Sunday, February 13, at 6:30 pm and run for 13 weeks. The cost is just \$100 per family for the class materials. Scholarships are available. Free childcare will be provided. For more information contact Pastor Regan at 385-4920.

Do you want to REACH?

Beginning in February, each Monday night will be filled with Reach Teams working to reach up to God in prayer, reach in to the needs of our congregation, and reach out to the community. Join our Deacons in committing one Monday a month to be on a Reach Team. Teams will plan visits, make phone calls, write letters, and pray as we work to care for one another and for our world.

Sign up in the foyer for the Monday night that you prefer.

“Adopt a Kid!”

You may be wondering what we're talking about... "Adopt a Kid!" is becoming a pew parent for a child who comes to church on our Van Ministry, but doesn't have his or her own parents to sit with during church.

Each "pew parent" will be assigned **one** child to sit with during church each week - we feel that if a child sits with the same person or couple each week, a relationship will develop, an understanding of expectations will develop, and a more meaningful worship experience will be had by all. "Just for Kids..." bags are available in the back of the sanctuary filled with items kids can enjoy during worship!

Please let Katie know if you feel led to be a pew parent and be a disciple to children who truly need your love!

The Discipleship Team

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14

**Nursery Workers
NEEDED!!!!**

Please let Katie know if you are interested.

DISCOVERY SEMINAR

Discover your FAITH, your CHURCH, your PLACE, in God's family at the next Discovery Seminar. This event covers topics such as what we believe and why, our Baptist history, requirements for membership and discovering your unique, God-given spiritual gifts.

Pastor Regan will be leading this five week seminar during the Sunday School hour beginning Sunday, February 20, in the Fireside Room.

If the weather should become inclement on a Sunday, a decision to cancel Sunday School and Worship will be made by 8:45 that morning. It will be announced on KILJ 105.5 FM and 1130 AM. It will also be put on the church's answering machine and on the church's website.



FEBRUARY NURSERY WORKERS

	<u>Babies</u>	<u>Toddlers</u>	<u>Preschool</u>
Feb. 6	Sheryl	Melissa	Carolyn
Feb. 13	Diana	Judy Kayleigh	Mary Allivia
Feb. 20	Lindsey	Tena	Beth
Feb. 27	Judy Kayleigh	Sheryl Brittanie	Deb

Dear Loved Ones,

Greeting from our Haiti,

Yesterday Thursday January 20, I had the visit of Pastor Appolon Hubert of Soufriere Limbe Baptist Church who reported the difference the water purifier has made in his community. Tom Dake and his friend Mike Herbert helped install the water purifier in this remote area. Before the water purifier the death rate due to cholera epidemic was extremely high. The pastor talked about ten cases of cholera every day before the clean water. The death rate is close to zero today. Today January 21, Pastor Cardichon Ludner of Enery Baptist Church reports the same progress the purifiers are making in Enery and in Gonaives. The wife of the president of L'Universite Chretienne du Nord d'Haiti, Laurel Casseus, reported to the general assembly the joy and the improvement in health the purifier is making on the university community.

We say thank you to all of you, who in one way or another, contributed to saving lives in Haiti. The purifiers have brought hope to all of us that tomorrow things will be better. Special thanks go to those who risked their life by coming to install those water purifiers in our area: Terry Bivens, Dr. Ben Gray, Leslie Roberson well known in Haiti as Bouboul: strong man, Tom Dake and Mike Herbert. Today we have eleven sites where water is being consumed pure without fear of cholera.

Yours in Haiti,

Nzunga & Kihomi

Dear Supporters,

Clean Water! We don't even think about it as we turn on a faucet. In the developing world the lack of clean water kills more people each year than all of the wars and natural disasters combined. I am especially proud that we were all introduced to these life saving devices by our MPT member Terry Bivens-Fry and many were installed by her and another MPT member Les Roberson. Of course the money to buy them came from many of you. Only God can bring together the right people at the right time to accomplish these wonderful things. Thank You!

Dennis Shewell
Mission Partnership Team Communications Advocate and Convener
Nzunga and Kihomi Ministry

**Deepest Sympathy to
the families of:**

**Linda McWilliams
Richard Moyle
Helen Kelley**

**Welcome to our newest
members:**

**Karen Anderson
Blake Carel
Nathan Howard**

BYG News

It's a new year, and we need more room! With almost 30 teens at our Wednesday BYG meetings, our group is about ready to look for a bigger room to meet. What a great problem to have!

We're also gearing up for Dare 2 Share in early April, and want to invite everyone to a Spaghetti Supper and Talent Show to raise funds for our trip. On March 6th at 5:30 pm the youth will prepare and serve Spaghetti for a free will donation followed by a Talent Show open to anyone who'd like to share their talents. Join us for a fun night and help send our youth to this amazing conference!

SPAGHETTI DINNER
&
TALENT SHOW

SUNDAY, MARCH 6
5:30 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

BYG FUNDRAISER
FREEWILL OFFERING

Do you have a talent that you would like to showcase? Singing, juggling, tap dancing, storytelling, looking pretty....whatever it is, we need you! We want all kinds of talents! This fundraiser will benefit the Youth when they travel to Chicago to attend Dare 2 Share. Contact Pastor Regan to sign up for the talent show.



Did you know our youth raised just under \$600 for the homeless? And then, a donor matched it! Thanks for the great work to raise \$1200 for homeless people in our community!



February 2011

February Birthdays

Marvin Crull	1
Kaye Huff	6
Ted Ogier	10
Anne Dorrell	14
Vera Akers	16
Jacob Olson	17
Janet Langan	19
Darrell Wilkins	19
Haley Twidwell	20
Yvonne Ogier	26

February Anniversaries

Don & Diana Upton	14
Jim & Cora Arnold	28

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

February Communion

Preparers:
Bob & Joyce Stull

Servers:
Stan Ross, Bob Stull,
Sheryl Cook & Ted Ogier

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<p>1 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 11:30 am Ladies Lunch @ Jerry's 7:00 pm Deacons Mtg.</p>	<p>2  3:30 pm BK5 5:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6:45 pm BYG</p>	<p>3 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 7:30 pm Seekers Circle</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 1:00 pm White Cross Mtg. in Fell. Hall</p>
<p>6 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship & Communion</p>	<p>7 7:00 pm Reach Team 7:00 pm Discipleship Team Mtg.</p>	<p>8 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 5:00 pm Finance Comm. Mtg. 7:00 pm Worship Team Mtg.</p>	<p>9 3:30 pm BK5 5:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6:45 pm BYG</p>	<p>10 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 5:30 pm F.U.T.U.R.E.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. Class</p>	<p>14  7:00 pm Reach Team 7:00 pm Missions Team Mtg.</p>	<p>15 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 6:00 pm Trustees Mtg. 7:00 pm Leadership Team Mtg.</p>	<p>16 3:30 pm BK5 5:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6:45 pm BYG</p>	<p>17 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 7:00 pm Link Circle</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Discovery Seminar 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. Class</p>	<p>21  Presidents Day 12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline 7:00 pm Reach Team</p>	<p>22 10:00 am Coffee Hour @ Tazza Bella 7:00 pm Outreach Team Mtg.</p>	<p>23 3:30 pm BK5 5:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6:45 pm BYG</p>	<p>24 10:00 am Prayer Mtg. 5:30 pm F.U.T.U.R.E.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Discovery Seminar 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Financial Peace Univ. Class</p>	<p>28 7:00 pm Reach Team</p>					