

# First Baptist Communiqué

Volume 229

St. Johns, Michigan

APRIL 2014



## April Events



Sunday, April 6th

David Zimmerman,  
Operation Christmas Child -- PM Service  
(David will be bringing Alex who received a  
Shoobox as a child living in Rwanda)



Wednesday, April 16th

Quarterly Business Meeting  
6:30 pm



Easter Sunday, April 20th

Sunday School  
Morning Service  
NO Evening Service



Sunday, April 13th

Palm Sunday

Communion -- PM Service



Good Friday, April 18th

Good Friday Service  
6:30 pm



Sunday, April 27th

Communion -- AM Service  
Deacons Fund Offering will be taken for Lane &  
Emily Bargeron to help with expenses





### Building Project

## Schedule for the Remodeled Building Project

### Sunday, April 6th

- Small groups begin
- Children's church begins

### Save the Date

### Sunday, May 4th

- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- NO PM SERVICE
- AM Service will be a special Dedication Service for all three phases of the building project
- Church-wide potluck dinner in the gymnasium immediately following the AM Service
- Community open house from 3pm to 5pm



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### Home Plate 2014 Detroit Tigers Baseball Game Saturday, May 10, 2014

First Baptist Men's & Youth Ministries will once again be going to Home Plate. Home Plate is an outreach by Jeff Totten, Chapel Leader of the Detroit Tigers and Director of SCORE Ministries.

This year's program participants will include some or all of the following: Detroit Tiger outfielder, Torii Hunter; Tiger infielder/outfielder Donnie Kelly; Minnesota Twins outfielder Josh Willingham and former Detroit Tigers, Frank Tanana and Willie Horton. Home Plate 2014 will begin at 9:30 AM at Comerica Park. An on-the-field baseball clinic, sponsored by the Detroit Tigers, is scheduled from 11 AM-12:15 PM; then the Detroit Tigers will face the Minnesota Twins at 1:05 PM.

The cost for the Home Plate Ticket \$30/person-this includes the program, souvenirs, food coupon, and ticket. First Baptist will again be providing transportation (coach bus) for an additional \$6/person; so your total cost is \$36/person. We will be leaving the church parking lot promptly at 6:45 AM on May 10th. **We only have 52 tickets available for Home Plate 2014, so you will want to reserve your place as soon as possible.**

Sign up sheet will be on the Communications Table. Any questions, contact Tim Fair (517) 202-9605; [td-fair@msn.com](mailto:td-fair@msn.com).



## Senior Saints

March 11th, found 24 Senior Saints eating a fabulous meal together. Many folks brought an art/craft item to share including a quilt made by "my mother", jigsaw puzzles, a "Chucker", several pieces of "handwork", a couple of small photo books of ministries enjoyed, a car rebuilding project, purse making, "roller" pigeon raising, woodworking projects and other hobbies. What a talented group of people we have! Pastor Ron also gave us a tour of the remodeling project!

April 8th, we plan to have a noon potluck in the church gym! (Youth Room if necessary) It's a HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US party. Bring your own table service, a main dish and salad, veggie or dessert to share. Also bring a CHEAP, usable, wrapped gift to exchange (\$1.00). Beverages, ice cream and cake will be furnished.



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### Graduation Sunday, June 1st

**We will honor our High School Graduates and recognize our College Graduates in the AM Service**

**Parents and Graduates we need your help!!!!**  
We would like to include your High School/College graduate in the May Communiqué and the display easel in the foyer (High School only).

**High School Graduates** - - date of graduation, school graduating from, open house information by **Tuesday, April 22nd**. Senior picture and/or Open House information (wallet or proof size) by **Tuesday, May 6th**.

**College Graduates** - - date of graduation, college or university graduating from and the degree they are receiving by **Tuesday, April 22nd**. Please drop off/mail your information to the church office or Secretary's box in the Office Work Room.



## “BY THE WAY, WHAT IS OUR POLICY ON.....”

### SOUND AND MULTI-MEDIA EQUIPMENT

God has been very gracious to our church in acquiring the necessary equipment for our ministries to function at their highest level. Through the work of many dedicated volunteers, we have appropriated top-notch equipment through the years. In order for us to steward wisely the resources that we have been given, it is the desire of the church that this equipment not be used by people who have not been **properly trained**. Therefore, unless you are a qualified sound team member, please stay out of the sound desk area. If you need assistance, please contact the church office.

To ensure that our equipment lasts as long as possible, sound equipment is **not** to be used for non-church related events outside of the church property. This includes all sound systems and microphones as well as video projectors and multi-media equipment.

Because a wedding is considered a church-related function, sound equipment is available to brides and grooms if they are married at our church. If the wedding ceremony is held at our church, but the reception is held off-site due to size, you may use sound system equipment at the reception if one of the church's sound technicians physically takes the equipment to the reception and is responsible for the equipment during the reception, and then returns it to the church building following the reception.

If you plan on using any multi-media presentation for your wedding, you must have a multi-media/lighting person as well as a sound technician. They must be people who are our regular sound/multi-media church people.



## Beacon of Hope Update

### Keep Box Tops For Education Coming!

Thank you to all who have given box tops to Beacon of Hope. Please continue to cut and save your box tops for Beacon. You may place them in the box on the Communications Table where we collect Campbell Soup Labels.

### Volunteers Needed

Beacon needs volunteers to rotate working in the library on Tuesdays. This involves helping participants check out or renew library material. No previous library experience is necessary. Older teens would be welcome to help. Contact Karen Leif if you are interested in helping or for more information.

### Beacon of Hope Needs

These are the ongoing needs for the Learn & Earn store: Kleenex, cleaning supplies, Infant and Children's Pain Reliever, baby bath or shampoo, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and dish soap. Items do not have to be "name brand" – inexpensive or "store brand" is fine.



# FIRST BAPTIST THIS 'N' THAT

Please make these changes to  
your FBC Phone Directory:

- Jeremy & Emily Brun  
Phone Numbers:  
Jeremy: 989-388-9375  
Emily: 989-388-1167
- Tom Edsenga  
Phone Number:  
517-662-2692
- Pastor Tim & Lori Knaus  
Phone Numbers:  
Pastor Tim: 517-706-7921  
Lori: 989-640-0564



*Congratulations to Ethan & Kim Painter on the birth of their son, Corban Taylor. Corban was born on Thursday, February 20th. He weighed 7 pounds 6 ounces. Grandparents are Al & Mindy Miller and Darrell & Cindy Painter. Great Grandparents are Tony & Mart Feldpausch and Ted & Donna Herig.*



## Thank You Notes

Dear Church Family;

*Thank you so much for your prayers and kindness.  
Thank you ladies for the delicious food. It was appreciated.*

*You are special. May God richly bless you all.  
In Christian Love, Louise Law*

Dear Church Body,

*In December we were able to present over 30 Bibles to Karenni (Burmese) refugee children and teenagers who attend our "Kids Club".*

*We challenged them to read through the New Testament in 52 weeks, and most of them are eager to do so.*

*We praise God that they are responsive to our team and to the Lord. And we Praise God for YOU, who made this gift of Bibles possible through your generous gifts.*

*Thank you for your eternal investment.  
Marcia Stump and Gwen Hummel*

Dear Pastor Ron, Pam and First Baptist Church Members,

*Thank you so much for your participation in the Baby Bottle Blessings - a grand total of \$2,673.19 was raised by your church family! You are such a blessing to this ministry - we appreciate all of you so much! I pray the Lord blessed you back incredibly!*

*Thank you for supporting Life! Everyone working together makes it possible for us to do what we do - Save Lives!*

*A short time ago we were so blessed to have a young mom change her mind and choose life after receiving godly counsel and bonding with her baby via ultrasound.*

*I praise God that we are here to help women, that He is here with us and that a community such as yours stands beside us! Thank you for blessing the widows and orphans!*

*Nancy Kujawa*

*Executive Director of Pregnancy Services Of Greater Lansing*

*James 1:27 "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."*





# MISSIONS UPDATE:

## BUSY HANDS FOR MISSIONS

Busy Hands will resume after the completion of the remodeling.

A Reminder: Please continue to save your dimes in your dime banks. This year the money will go to Kent and Jenny Schafer. **Dime Bank Money will be collected the first week of April.** You may give them to Dee Chapman or Holly Merignac in the church office. **Coins do not need to be rolled.** Thank you. This offering will be a blessing to Kent and Jenny.

Another reminder: We are still collecting test strip containers and film canisters. Please remove labels and give them to Dee Chapman. We do not collect "Swanson" labels, just Campbell Labels for Education. There is a wood container on the Communications Table for you to put your labels. Thank you.

## MISSIONS CLOSET

Gifts were given from the Missionary Closet to Phil and Kitty McMillen. Kitty appreciated nice hand creams/lotions to use for gifts and men's socks and small tool items for Phil to gift national pastors in their ministry area. They can only carry small items with them back to Togo.

Becky and Glenn Kerr chose some books from the book table, a couple in Spanish to be used in ministry. Becky's kitchen is green and dark purple/plum so dishtowels and dishcloths in green and white and some dark purple patterned towels, pot holders, including a double handed hot mitt were gathered from the storage boxes. A queen size set of dusty green sheets and a set of blue bath towels plus white athletic socks for Glenn. He found a halogen work light, saw blades and a few small tools very helpful.

**The Closet needs at this time are:** Tupperware, especially storage containers. Queen size mattress pads (we had two and they have been taken). Metric tool sets, including tape measures. (We have a number of other tape measures.) One handed clamps. Men's dark colored dress socks (prefer gold toe)

## MAILINGS FROM MISSIONARY CARE

Birthday remembrances were mailed to Lori Kresge and Sherri Jenks: A pretty dish towel, matching dish clothes, a small candle and a lip aid in a hand made gift bag.

## THANK YOU FROM THE SCHAFERS

Thank you from Craig and Shelly:" We got your package the day our consultant came in - everything was awesome! And it came in so I could get all the things for traveling! It was awesome! Thank you so much! All the seasonings were perfect and the coloring books, pens, crayons, and snacks - they were awesome! Thank you so much! I was glad they all made it and even made it into the tribe! Hope all is well there - we are waiting out our passports, getting some American type food in us and enjoying some time as a family.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS DURING THE MISSIONS CONFERENCE

The Missions Committee sends a **huge thank you** to all of you for your gifted items for our missionaries. We've had a few gift cards given at this time. Thank you to those who make the crocheted dish clothes, they are very much appreciated and for the gift bags that carry gifts so beautifully to our missionaries.



# Missionaries of the Month

## Brad and Beth Buser

**Address:** 2211 Penrose St. • San Diego, CA • 92110

**Telephone number:** 619.276.3496 (h) 619.277.4757 (c) **E-mail:** brad@radiusinternational.org

**Mission Agency:** Radius International

**Home Church:** Clairemont Emmanuel Baptist, San Diego, CA & Grove Bible Church, St. Johns, MI

**Brad:** 6/8/55 **Beth:** 8/19/56 • **Anniversary:** 8/9/75

**Children: Brooks:** 7/6/76 (married to Nina, son Beau) • **Brandon:** 8/24/78 (married to Rachel, daughters Briana & Grace, son, Brady) • **Natalie:** 12/22/80 • **Brock (Buzz):** 9/27/90

Beth grew up in St. Johns where her dad pastored Grove Bible Church. Her mom led her to the Lord when she was four years old. She heard about New Tribes Mission when their choir came to Grove. In 1974 she started classes at New Tribes Bible Institute in Jackson, MI. That's where she met Brad. They were married in 1975.

Brad grew up in San Francisco and San Diego. He loved surfing. One of his surfing buddies got saved. It was through his testimony and the ministry of his youth pastor that Brad came to know the Lord in 1973. The youth pastor emphasized discipleship and putting one's faith into action. Speakers from New Tribes Mission came to share with the youth group Brad's senior year. He made the decision to attend New Tribes Bible Institute and become a missionary. From 1973-1978, he attended school, training, and boot camp.

In 1979 Brad and Beth arrived in Papua New Guinea with their two sons. After learning Melanesian Pidgin they moved in among the Iteri people in late 1979. After building an airstrip they began learning the language and culture of the people. Finally they were fluent communicators and in 1985 began sharing the gospel message with the Iteris.

Soon a group of believers were growing into a local church. While living among the Iteris, their daily tasks included teaching, discipling, serving, creating an alphabet and Beth providing medical help. The translation of the scriptures was commenced in 1987 and Brad finished the translation in 1999. Along the way Natalie and Buzz were born.

They served with New Tribes Mission for the 20 years they were in PNG. Upon returning, Brad was asked to be their National Representative. Brad served in that capacity for 13 years. He traveled coast-to-coast and overseas sharing of the need for committed laborers for the unreached harvest.

In 2012, Brad and Beth helped birth Radius International, a missionary training society dedicated to training individuals who have dedicated their lives to taking the message of Christ to unreached peoples living in difficult to access areas.

Two of their children and their families are back in PNG living among two separate tribal groups (Brooks among the Yembiyembi and Brandon among the Biem people). Their daughter Natalie is a nurse in San Diego and Buzz is currently attending college.



## Food for Thought...A Challenge to be Thinking Christians



### Your Testimony Is Not the Gospel

BY R.C.SPROUL

**So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, “Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.” He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see” (John 9:24–25).**

This statement, “Give God the glory!” seems positive until we read the remainder of the sentence, in which the Pharisees revealed that they had concluded that Jesus was a sinner and therefore could not have performed the miracle. They were saying that the man should give glory to God, not to Jesus. The man was straightforward with them, saying: “I don’t know whether He’s a sinner. I don’t even know Him. All I know is this: once I was blind and now I see.”

With these simple words, the man bore witness to Christ. He testified about the redemptive work of Christ. However, he did not preach the gospel. What am I getting at? In the evangelical Christian community, we sometimes employ language that is not always sound or biblical. You’ve heard the lingo. It goes something like this: “I plan to become an evangelist so I can bear witness to Christ.” Or sometimes we say, “I had a chance to witness the other day,” meaning, “I shared the gospel with someone.” We tend to use the terms evangelism and witnessing interchangeably, but they are not synonymous. Any time I call attention to the person and work of Christ, I am bearing witness to Christ. But that is not the same thing as preaching the gospel.

More than thirty years ago, I learned the evangelism technique taught by Evangelism Explosion, and I trained more than 250 people in that program and led them through evangelism efforts in Ohio. One of the finest aspects of that program is that everyone who goes through it must write out and memorize his or her testimony. Your testimony is your story of how you became a Christian. I think it’s very important that Christians are able to articulate to other people how and why they became believers. We all should have a prepared testimony, and we should be willing to share it at the drop of a hat.

But we shouldn’t confuse our personal testimonies with the gospel. Sharing our personal testimonies is not evangelism. It’s merely pre-evangelism, sort of a warm-up for evangelism. Our testimonies may or may not be significant or meaningful to those with whom we are speaking. There are lots of folks who can relate to my story; they say, “Yeah, I know what he’s talking about because I used to live like that too.” But not everyone can relate to my story. In any case, the gospel is not what happened to R.C. Sproul. God makes no promise that He will use my story as His power unto salvation. The gospel is not about me. The gospel is about Jesus. It is the proclamation of the person and work of Christ, and of how a person can appropriate the benefits of the work of Christ by faith alone.

## Food for Thought...A Challenge to be Thinking Christians (Cont.)

We see this from our passage in John's Gospel. The healed man could say, "I once was blind, but now I see," and that was a wonderful testimony. But it was not the gospel. The man could not tell the Pharisees about Jesus' saving work and about how they could be delivered from their sins by faith in Him. So we need to learn not only our testimonies but the concrete elements and content of the biblical gospel. Evangelism takes place when the evangel is proclaimed and announced to people—that is the gospel.

*This excerpt is taken from R.C. Sproul's commentary on [John](#).*



# APRIL CALENDAR

- Wed., Apr. 2**            **24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30 pm**  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)
- Sun., Apr. 6**            **Adult Small Groups and Sunday School Classes Resume -- 9:15 am**  
**Guest Speaker, David Zimmerman-Operation Christmas Child -- PM Service**
- Tues., Apr. 8**            Senior Saints Luncheon -- 12:00 noon (Gym)  
**Wed., Apr. 9**            Elders Meeting -- 9:30 am (Conference Room)  
**NO 24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30 pm**  
**NO High School Bible Study -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 10**        Missions Committee -- 6:30 pm (Youth Wing)  
Mentoring Moms -- 6:30 pm (?)
- Sat., Apr. 12**            Lisa Schafer/Mike Barrett Wedding/Reception -- 1:00 pm
- Sun., Apr. 13**            **Communion -- PM Service**  
**World Missions Prayer Meeting -- After the PM Service** (John Kresge's Class)
- Wed., Apr. 16**            **24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Quarterly Business/ Prayer Meeting -- 6:30 pm**  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 17**        Deacons Meeting -- 6:00 pm (Classroom #1)  
**Fri., Apr. 18**            **Good Friday Service -- 6:30 pm**
- Sun. Apr. 20**            **Easter Sunday - Sunday School, AM Service, NO PM Service**
- Wed., Apr. 23**            **24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30 pm**  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)
- Sun., Apr. 27**            **Communion -- AM Service**  
**(Deacons Fund Offering for Lane & Emily Barger)**
- Wed., Apr. 30**            **Last Night of 24/7 Jr. High (Resumes in Sept.) -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30 pm**  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30 pm** (Youth Wing)





# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

|    |   |    |  |    |   |
|----|---|----|--|----|---|
| 01 | Christopher Lounds<br>Anna Showers<br>Yvonne Sischo                                       | 11 | Russ Benson<br>Jeff Ely<br>Kim Painter                                     | 23 | Jim Culp<br>Dustin Everts<br>Julie Konieczny<br>Ellen Kresge                      |
| 02 | Rebekah Becker<br>Richie Galloway<br>Angie Keilen<br>April Mullikin<br>Cassie Sischo      | 12 | Courtney Schneider<br>Ralph Zamarron                                       | 24 | Peyton Everts<br>Glenn Hills<br>Holly Merignac                                    |
| 03 | Brody Dush  | 13 | Sheri Menard   | 25 | Greg Knaus<br>Courtney Miller<br>Lisa Motz<br>Dave Mullikin<br>Pamarie Nichols    |
| 04 | Gabe Carpenter<br>David Hufnagel  | 14 | Betty Barks<br>Tim Fair<br>Jill Shackelford<br>Kalle Tahvonon              | 26 | Joseph Simon  |
| 05 | Jason Crandall<br>Lexie Sheen   | 15 | Tim Moinet<br>Benjamin Rosendale<br>Joshua Wood                            | 27 | Lydia Burkhart<br>Scott Darragh   |
| 06 | Dave Halfman<br>Trisha Hufnagel<br>Joshua Lounds<br>Dorothy Merignac<br>Samuel Richardson | 16 | Jacob Blink<br>Randy Craven<br>Andrew Davis<br>Carol Dush<br>Rosemary Read | 28 | Margaret Castner<br>Grace Peterson<br>Pam Sischo                                  |
| 07 | Sarah Thomas  | 18 | Stephen Fair   | 29 | Gregory Deemer<br>Carter Everts<br>Todd Pagels<br>Becky Peterson<br>Chuck Sherman |
| 08 | Bob Smith   | 19 | Nick Bancroft  | 30 | Janet Alexander<br>Gerty Lamb<br>Rachel Robbe<br>Jared Walter                     |
| 09 | Pat Lutz  | 20 | Trent McCune<br>Aubrey Reava   |    |   |
| 10 | Sarah Bouck<br>Zachary Bouck<br>Sean Dush   | 21 | Monica Perez<br>Sean Walter  |    |   |
|    |   | 22 | Dianne Glerum  |    |   |



# SCHEDULES FOR APRIL

## NURSERY

- 06 SS Sarah Thomas, Lori Knaus  
 AM Sarah Thomas, Jill  
 PM Shackelford, Linda Kresge  
 Annette Peterson, Sue  
 Bishop, Rebekah Snyder
- 13 SS Susan Marcotte, Bernadette  
 Richardson  
 AM Courtney Lutz, Pat Lutz,  
 Morgan Morse  
 PM Dawn Benson, Cheryl  
 Haviland, Ellen Kresge
- 18 Good Elizabeth Davis, combine  
 Friday with Toddlers
- 20 SS Emily Knaus, Pat Wright  
 AM Trisha Feldpausch, Debbie  
 Fair, Linda Kresge
- 27 SS Fran Whitlock, Monica  
 Perez  
 AM Debi Davis, Julie Kresge,  
 Linda Kresge  
 PM Andrea Bancroft, Dawn  
 Gudbrandson, Ashton  
 Sheen

## GREETERS

- 06 Foyer Tom & MB Moldenhauer  
 Office Chris & Sarah Bouck  
 West Todd & Mishelle Pagels
- 13 Foyer Ron & Jill Keilen  
 Office Bryan & Trisha Feldpausch  
 West Bill & Sharon Kidd
- 20 Easter-NO PM Service  
 Foyer Joe & Vicky Ondrusek  
 Office Tim & Debbie Fair  
 West Evelyn Peterson
- 27 Foyer Mike & Tammy Underwood  
 Office Diana VanOrsdol  
 West Sharon Ashenfelter

\*Everyone greets in the Evening Service

## TODDLERS

- 06 AM Michelle Rosendale, Sharon  
 Kidd, Michelle Richardson  
 PM Lori Knaus, Laurie & Anna  
 Ordway
- 13 AM Pamarie Nichols, Sarah  
 Bouck, Hannah Marcotte  
 PM Dennis & Annette Wood,  
 Sarah Snyder
- 18 Good Nicole & Erin Simon,  
 Friday combine with Nursery
- 20 AM **Seeking a volunteer,**  
 Yvonne & Cassie Sischo
- 27 AM Jane & Lydia Cyrus, Rachel  
 Robbe  
 PM Emily Knaus, Carrie Miller,  
 Hannah Robbe

## TODDLER COOKIES

- 06 Pam Sischo  
 13 Cheryl Haviland  
 20 Cindy Painter  
 27 Karen Leif

## USHERS

- 06 AM \*Julius Motz, Heath  
 Miller, Shane Kidd,  
 Mark Lutz, Rick Davis,  
 ••Bill Richards
- PM \*Louie Simon, Dean  
 Feldpausch
- 13 AM \*Tim Fair, David Cook,  
 Joel Seling, Harold  
 Lichte, William Kidd,  
 ••Ryan Shackelford
- PM Dell Schmidtman,  
 Doug Merignac, Jeff  
 Ely, Dave Halfman
- 20 Easter Sunday  
 AM \*John Leif, Jeremy  
 Thomas, Bryan  
 Feldpausch, Jim Cyrus,  
 Kyle Lounds, ••Roger  
 Crowell
- NO PM \*John Glerum, Walt  
 Knaus, Ted Loznak,  
 Chris Bouck
- 27 AM \*Scott McCorvie,  
 Derrick Ostrander,  
 Andrew Davis, Phil  
 Burkhart, Duane  
 Schafer, ••Brian Mead
- PM \*Jim Ashenfelter, Nick  
 Bancroft, Joe Ondrusek

\*Captain \*\*Alternate ••Should be available by the door until just after service starts

