

# First Baptist Communiqué

Volume 239

St. Johns, Michigan

APRIL 2015

## April Events



Good Friday, April 3rd

Church Offices Close at 12 noon

*Good Friday Service*  
6:30 pm



Easter Sunday, April 5th

NO Evening Service



MISSIONARY SPEAKER

Sunday, April 12th

Jeff Totten

SCORE Ministries--AM & PM Services



Wednesday, April 15th

Quarterly Business Meeting

6:30 pm



MISSIONARY SPEAKER

Sunday, April 19th

Don Long

Shepherds Ministries--PM Service



Wednesday, April 22nd

Awana Awards Night

(No Prayer Meeting)

6:30 pm



MISSIONARY SPEAKER

Sunday, April 26th

Abraham Thomas

Agape Royal Ministries--PM Service

Wednesday, April 29th

Awana Fun Night

6:30 pm



**Friday, April 3rd**  
**Church Offices**  
**will close at**  
**12 noon**



**Mighty O.A.K.S.**

The Mighty O.A.K.S. will be meeting in the church gym on April 14th, at 12 noon. This is a "Bring your Hobbie to Lunch" potluck. We will have tables set up for you to display your hobbies or crafts. Steve Bricker will be our guest. He will be demonstrating his inventions, giving his testimony and sharing some songs with us. Bring a dish or two to pass. Table service and beverages will be provided. Sign up at the Information Area.



**Home Plate 2015**  
**Detroit Tigers Baseball Game**  
**Saturday, May 9, 2015**



First Baptist Men's & Youth Ministries will once again be going to HomePlate. HomePlate 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 outfielders **Rajai Davis**, **Steven Moya**, and **Donnie Kelly**; Detroit Tigers' catcher **James McCann**, and former Detroit Tigers', **Frank Tanana** and **Willie Horton**. There will also be a special musical guest this year. HomePlate 2015 will begin at 9:30AM at Comerica Park. An on-the-field baseball clinic, sponsored by the Detroit Tigers, is scheduled from 11:00AM - 12:15PM; then the Detroit Tigers will face the Kansas City Royals at 1:05PM.

The Cost for the HomePlate Ticket is \$32/person - this includes the program, souvenirs, food coupon, and ticket to the game. First Baptist will again be providing transportation (coach bus - and yes, it will be here) for an additional \$6/person; so your total cost would be \$38/person. We will be leaving the Church parking lot at 6:45AM on May 9th (arriving back @ 7PM). We only have 52 tickets available for HomePlate 2015, (this event is already sold out & the game is close to a sellout), so you might want to reserve your place as soon as possible. Sign up sheet will be at the Information Area. Any questions, contact Tim Fair (517) 202-9605; email: [tdfair@msn.com](mailto:tdfair@msn.com) or Pastor Chad Konieczny (989) 224-3110; email: [chadk9@stjohnsfbcc.com](mailto:chadk9@stjohnsfbcc.com).

**Sauder Village Trip - May 12th**

There will be brochures about the Historical Village at the Information Area. We will travel by motorcoach, leaving the church at 9am and returning at 8pm. The cost for the trip is \$15 per person for the bus and \$26.25 per person for supper and entrance into the village (this includes tax and tips). You will need to provide your own lunch. Sauder Village is near Archbold, Ohio. Any questions contact Kay Schmidtman or Dennis & Fran Whitlock. Sign up begins April 12th. Deadline to sign up and pay will be Wednesday, April 29th.





## Beacon of Hope Update

### Critical Need for Volunteers

**Women Advisors:** Advisors meet one-to-one with participants to develop relationships with them, discuss their Bible study lessons, and help them understand God's plan of salvation.

- You **DO NOT** need to be: a Bible scholar, perfect, a trained counselor.
- You **DO** need to be: a member of FBC, a sinner saved by grace, and someone who cares about people.

If the Lord has been working on your heart about becoming an Advisor, please feel free to stop by Beacon any Tuesday evening to learn more or contact Karen Leif.

**Play room helpers:** Supervise and play with children in the play area. Must meet requirements of First Baptist Child Protection Policy.

**Learn & Earn Store:** Volunteers are needed on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Older teens are welcome for this job.

### Bibles Needed

If you have copies of the NIV 1984 version of the Bible that you don't need any more, Beacon of Hope will take them. All Beacon Bible studies are based on this version and it is getting harder to get them. Also, Large and Giant Print NIV 1984 Bibles would be especially appreciated.



## Church Officers for 2015

### Non-Vocational Elders

David Castner      Ron Keilen      John Kresge

### Deacons

Jeff Ely – Chairman  
Darrell Painter – Vice Chairman  
Craig Simon – Secretary  
Nick Bancroft  
Lynn Dutcher  
Davey Fore  
Doug Gudbrandson  
Tom Moldenhauer  
Chris Ordway

### Missions Committee

Joe Bodarko - Chairman  
John Kresge - Vice Chairman (Elder Rep.)  
Mary Simon - Secretary  
Nancy Arnst  
Jim Ashenfelter  
Alison Keilen  
Tom Moldenhauer - Deacon Representative  
Laurie Ordway  
Brent Sheen

### Church Treasurer

Tim Becker

### Church Clerk

Margaret Castner

## Areas of Special Emphasis for Our Three Non-Vocational Elders

Our three non-vocational elders are Dave Castner, Ron Keilen, and John Kresge. While all three men will continue to work with the pastors in the overall leadership and care of the church, we have assigned an area of special emphasis to each elder based upon their spiritual giftedness and past/current involvement.

Below is the area of special emphasis for each elder:

Dave Castner      Children's Sunday school – kindergarten through 6th grade

Ron Keilen      Shepherding care/visitation

John Kresge      World missions

Please feel free to interact with, and offer suggestions to, each elder.



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

## GUIDELINES FOR BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP FOR CHILDREN/STUDENTS (Revised and Updated January 2010)

One of the difficult questions that churches such as ours face is: “When is a child ready to be baptized and become a member of the church?” For churches that practice believer’s baptism this question has resulted in different churches coming to different conclusions.

The Bible does not state a specific age. Therefore the spiritual leadership of each local congregation must take the responsibility of developing some kind of general guidelines that protect the integrity and seriousness of the important biblical steps of baptism and entrance into the fellowship of the church. A child should not be rushed into this time of examining their heart and purposefully choosing to publicly articulate their faith before the body of believers.

In an article dealing with the question of the “age of accountability,” Timothy George, dean of Beeson Divinity School (Christianity Today, 3/1/99) offered some helpful thoughts. He said that throughout church history there have been differing opinions on the “accountable age.” He writes, “Some Christians have based their teaching about the age of accountability on Jesus’ encounter with the teachers of the Law when he was 12 years old. Doubtless, this was an important moment in Jesus’ development, perhaps his bar mitzvah when, as a Jewish young man, he would be recognized as fully responsible to participate in the worship of the community.” George goes on to state that the Puritans “generally forbade admitting children to Communion before the age of 14.”

While George makes it clear in the article that the Bible gives us no specific age of accountability he offers this stern warning to Baptist Churches: “Historically, most churches that practice believers’ baptism have emphasized the adult character of this decision, making baptism a post-puberty rite. In some baptistic circles, however, the age of baptism has steadily declined so that many churches are practicing a kind of ‘toddler baptism’ with little theological or biblical warrant.”

With these thoughts in mind, in the year 2009 the pastors and deacons came up with the following guidelines for baptizing children. Some of the guidelines had actually been in place for many years, but we thought it would be helpful to refine them and put them in writing for the benefit of parents of younger children. We recognize that no man-made guidelines are perfect, but hopefully these will offer some help to our parents as they direct their children in these matters.

1. A child will not be considered for baptism until he/she is at least 10 years of age.
2. Reaching the age of 10 does not mean that a child will automatically be accepted as a candidate for baptism. The parents of the child and the pastors of the church must be in full agreement in their belief that the child has truly repented and embraced Christ in wholehearted discipleship and is prepared to clearly articulate his/her profession of faith before the church body.
3. Upon the agreement of the parents and pastors that the child is ready for baptism, the child will then meet with the deacons of the church to share his/her testimony of personal faith in Christ.
4. The final step is the actual baptism service in which the child will publicly share his/her testimony with the congregation and then be baptized by immersion.

(Continued on next page)





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

## GUIDELINES FOR BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP FOR CHILDREN/STUDENTS

### REVISED GUIDELINES – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2010

- Children under the age of 18 will continue to be considered as candidates for baptism according to the above guidelines.
- However, children under the age of 18 will no longer be granted full membership in the church upon their baptism. Instead, they will be classified as student members. Student membership will allow them limited participation in church ministries, but they will not have the voting rights and privileges that adult members do.
- When a student member turns 18 years of age they will be notified that they are eligible for adult membership. However, they will not be granted adult membership until they meet with the deacons and share a brief testimony about their current spiritual walk with Christ. If a student member chooses not to meet with the deacons their name will automatically be removed from the membership roll of First Baptist Church.
- It is our prayer that, by the grace of God, the “Revised Guidelines” will allow the Biblical Church Body to play an important role in assisting the Biblical Family Unit in the spiritual development of young men and women at a crucial time in their spiritual lives.

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## Looking Ahead . . .



### Graduation Sunday, June 7th



**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 Communiq   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 21st**. Senior picture and/or Open House information (wallet or proof size) by **Tuesday, May 5th**.

**College Graduates** - - date of graduation, college or university graduating from and the degree they are receiving by **Tuesday, April 21st**.

Please drop off/mail your information to the church office or Secretary's box in the Office Work Room.



# FIRST BAPTIST THIS 'N' THAT

Please make these changes to  
your FBC Phone Directory:

- Doug & Dawn Gudbrandson  
Phone Numbers:  
Doug: 517-749-3049  
Dawn: 989-620-5268



Births in the Church Family

*Congratulations to Duane & Paula Breining on the birth of their daughter, Natalya Jo. Natalya was born on Saturday, February 14th. She weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces. Grandma is Patti Nichols.*

*Congratulations to Keith & Michelle Cornell on the birth of their son, Matthew Allen. Matthew was born on Friday, February 20th. He weighed 8 pounds 10 ounces.*

*Congratulations to Ryan & Jill Shackelford on the birth of their daughter, Emma Grace. Emma was born on Wednesday, February 25th. She weighed 6 pounds 4 ounces.*



## Thank You Notes

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers and visits to Nellie Ryan these past years when her health started to fail. Thank you to all who came to the visitation and funeral. To Pastor Tim, thank you for the wonderful message and help with the funeral service. Jill Keilen, thank you for sharing your memories of Nellie at the service. I know Nellie would have been pleased.

Thank you to Pam Snyder and all who helped with the funeral dinner and provided the delicious food. It was appreciated.

You were all special to Nellie. May God richly bless you all.

In Christian Love, Holly Merignac

Dear FBC Family,

Thank you for the Gideon Bibles given in memory of mom. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and encouragement. A huge thank you to everyone who sent cards. We were so blessed by ALL who sent such encouraging words during a difficult time.

Jeff & Becky Kay

The Missions Committee would like to thank everyone who took part in our International Potluck! What a mouth-watering variety of dishes that were shared! We had 253 people sign up. Set up 264 chairs. Served 315. Special thanks goes to Brian & Krista Mead for all of their efforts in meal preparation; thanks also to those who helped set up, helped serve and assisted with clean up.

Joe Bodarko, Missions Committee Chairman

We have so enjoyed the many cards we have received from St. Johns, we have so many fond memories of our time spent with you folks, but most of all, the prayers that we have felt since (Pastor) Tom's surgery. We are doing fine; the adjustment will be difficult, but God is good - all the time. We love you all and thank you for the many cards we have received.

Pastor Tom & Jean Dolph (Former Pastor at FBC)





# MISSIONS UPDATE:

## BUSY HANDS FOR MISSIONS

On March 2nd there were 6 ladies present, and we filled 75 ditty bags for Youth Haven Ranch and tied one quilt. We are still in need of washcloths and toothbrushes for the ditty bags. If you have been filling your **dime bank**, it **should be turned in by April 12th to the office**. This year it will go to the Lansing Rescue Mission.

On March 11 we packed and mailed three 30 pound boxes of pillowcase dresses and shorts to Brandon and Rachel Buser. Each one cost \$144.80 to send. We still have a 15 pound box to mail that will cost \$91.00 to send. If you wish to help us defray this cost you may contribute by placing it in an envelope marked "Busy Hands" and place it in the offering plate. We thank those who have already given toward this: a total of \$186.00 thus far.

Our next meeting will be April 7th, at 9:30 AM. Hope to see you there! In His service, Dee Chapman

## MISSIONS CLOSET

The new Missions Closet is located on the lower level-classroom #10 in the storage room (formerly for AWANA). There is a dropped ceiling with new lighting, a wall with peg board and hangers for displaying and hanging items, shelves with plastic bins to store things and an area to hang clothing. In the center is an island cupboard where we can package and store items in the drawers. The walls and floor have been painted. All your gifts are moved in. Thanks to Beacon of Hope for storing everything for the past few years and to our Youth Group for moving them to the church.

The items most needed in the closet are: twin and queen-size mattress pads, queen-size sheets, dish towels (part of the Birthday gift items sent to our ladies), SOCKS (all sizes), and various tools are such a delightful gift for Missionary men.

Our visiting Speakers were encouraged to take items from the Tool Shower Table. The ladies were given a handmade bag with various items such as dishcloths and matching towels, toiletry items, note cards, a candle, and an afghan. David was given some items he might use in traveling: handkerchiefs, flashlight, socks, a couple books he chose from the Book Table, and lots of snack items.

## MAILINGS IN FEBRUARY

Craig and Shelly had a list of items that were mailed: school books, vitamins for the whole family, seasoning and salad dressing packets, and fruit-flavored gummie snacks.

## MISC. ITEMS

The collection of pop tabs were taken to the Church Ministry conference and given to Jody at Christian Rest Home to be used for a free dialysis program. We are collecting unopened *Happy Meal* toys from various fast food restaurants. Thank you for the lovely items given during Missions Month and for the children's magazines.

## CITY RESCUE MISSION OF LANSING

Here are a few items they are in need of: styrofoam 8 oz. cups, fabric softener sheets, women's T-shirts, L, XL, XXL, men's underwear and T-shirts. Place items in the yellow container located in the lower level in classroom #12.



# Missionaries of the Month

## Bill & Nan Mosher (Retired)

**Address:** 2454 Red Maple Dr. SE • Grand Rapids, MI • 49512-9095

**Telephone number:** 616.258.8266      **E-mail:** moshergems@hotmail.com

**Birthdays:** Bill (Kenneth William Jr.): 9/23/35    Nan (Nanette): 4/30/38    **Anniversary:** 8/1/59

**Children:** Benjamin: 5/20/61 (married to Lisa) • Charles: 3/30/64 (married to Ann)

• Melinda: 10/2/65 (married to Ken Crouse)

Nan grew up in Indiana. Her family attended liberal churches until her Dad was convicted about getting the family under clear Scriptural teaching. He took the family to a Baptist church in Fort Wayne. On Easter Sunday six months later (shortly before her tenth birthday), Nan trusted Christ as her Savior.

Bill moved often as his Dad was a pilot in the Army Air Corps. The family moved to Northville, MI in 1952. Peter Nieuwkoop was the pastor of the Baptist church in town. The Nieuwkoop's son, Roger was in the same grade as two of Bill's brothers. He invited them to the young people's meetings. The faithful gospel witness given was rewarded by Bill's three younger brothers' positive response. They witnessed to Bill when he was home from college. He argued with their words but was convinced by the testimony of their changed lives. Coming out of church one Sunday morning Bill learned that two of his drinking buddies had been killed in an accident. Except for God's directing otherwise, Bill would've been with them. He realized then the peril of living unsaved. He went home to his room and yielded his heart to the Lord asking Christ to save him. This was his senior year at the University of Michigan. About 6 months after receiving the Lord, Bill sensed God's call at a Bible conference to career ministry and submitted to Him.

Nan entered the Nursing College at University of Michigan when Bill was a senior. After they were married Bill completed his seminary education at Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary. He entered the Air Force in 1966 and served as chaplain for nine years. He and Nan joined Baptist Mid-Missions in July 1975. They served in England from 1976 until 1992 when Bill began serving in the position of Asian Field Administrator for Asia, the Pacific, the British Isles, and the English speaking Caribbean. At the time, Baptist Mid-Missions' personnel were in 17 countries in the vast area - a diverse group ranging from India, Bangladesh, Micronesia in the Pacific and Jamaica to Japan, Britain, Australia, and Hawaii. Bill pastored these missionaries and served as a link to resources in the States. He was involved in opening new fields for gospel outreach, assisting the missionaries in their ministry, meeting government officials, working with field councils to develop strategies for ministry, and counseling troubled missionaries. Nan often traveled with Bill and did a valuable job relating to the women. She took note of the things to be done or to obtain back in the States for the missionaries and compiled useful lists of prayer requests. She also worked in the medical department at the Home Office a couple days a week. Additionally, she was very active as a Biblical counselor at Berea Baptist Church. She received her MA in Biblical Counseling in May of 2003.

They retired from Baptist Mid-Missions in 2006. As a retiree, Bill's ministry has included a position as assistant pastor at Berea Baptist Church in Berea, Ohio, retiring a second time in December 2013. Nan has ministered in the church by counseling, discipling women, and has worked at Baptist Mid-Missions' inner city Cleveland ministry. They have strived to build relationships with Arabic people in the Cleveland area and served in an outreach to international students at the local college. In 2010, they traveled to Asia to interact with national believers and missionaries in four countries. They spent a year in Tucson, AZ to assist with their son's family, get acquainted with their three granddaughters, and work with a Christian organization to help refugee families settle in Tucson. They returned to Ohio in June 2012 and resumed the assistant pastor role and counseling at Berea Baptist Church.

They sold their house in Ohio in November 2014 and have moved to Breton Homes in Grand Rapids. Two of their children, Ben and Melinda, live within an hour of them. Their other son Charles and his family live outside Omaha, Nebraska. This enables them to attend activities of their grandchildren. They have joined West Cannon Baptist Church.

Recently Bibles International has invited Bill to work part time to research languages for future translation projects. His focus will mainly be in Asia and the Pacific region where he has many contacts from his years as Baptist Mid-Missions Field Administrator for that area. Nan has been prominent in developing prayer ministry in recent years. Rejoice that God has work yet for them in their retirement. Pray that the Lord keeps them healthy and gives them strength for each new task.



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



## 4 Things God Says to Singles

By Vaughan Roberts

*Vaughan Roberts serves as rector of St. Ebbe's Church in Oxford.*

About 35 percent of adult church members in Britain are single, so clearly the subject of singleness has considerable personal interest to many people in our churches. Each single person will have a different experience. There are age differences. Being single at 20 is very different from being single at 30, 40, or 70. There are circumstantial differences: some have never married, while others are divorcees, widows, or widowers. And there are experiential differences: some have chosen to be single and are basically content; others long to be married and feel frustrated.

What does the Bible say to all these people?

### 1. Singleness is a gift from God.

So much in our society is structured around couples. It's often just assumed that adults will have a partner and that there's something rather odd about them if they don't for any period of time. Oscar Wilde summed up the view of many: "Celibacy is the only known sexual perversion."

There's nothing new in this negative view of celibacy. In the first century, Rabbi Eleazar said, "Any man who has no wife is no proper man." The Talmud went even further: "The man who is not married at 20 is living in sin." Given that background, it is astonishing how positive the New Testament is about singleness. Paul speaks of it as a "gift" (1 Cor. 7:7), and Jesus says it is good "for those to whom it has been given" (Matt. 19:11).

A friend of mine once belonged to a young adult church group called "Pairs and Spares." Single people can be made to feel like spare parts in their families, social groups, and churches. One man was so fed up with being asked "Are you still single?" that he began to respond, "Are you still married?" We must resist the implication that singleness is second best. The Bible doesn't say so. Marriage is good, but so is singleness: it has been "given" to some.

But what if I don't think I have the "gift" of singleness? I don't find it easy being on my own, and I long to marry; does that mean I'm experiencing "second best"? No. When Paul speaks of singleness as a gift, he isn't speaking of a particular ability some people have to be contentedly single. Rather, he's speaking of the state of being single. As long as you have it, it's a gift from God, just as marriage will be God's gift if you ever receive it. We should receive our situation in life, whether it is singleness or marriage, as a gift of God's grace to us.

### 2. Singleness has advantages.

Paul mentions two advantages of singleness in 1 Corinthians 7:

- Single people are spared the "troubles" of marriage. There are many great blessings in marriage, but there are difficulties too. Understandably, Christian couples don't often talk openly about the hard things they face, which can give singles a rose-tinted view of marriage. But there's a down side even when a married couple's relationship is good: life is more complicated. There's more than one person to consider in decisions about use of time, accommodation, holidays, even the

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

daily menu. And there's more than one person to worry about. Children bring great pleasure but plenty of anxiety as well. Marriage does bring "many troubles in this life" and, Paul says, "I want to spare you this" (1 Cor. 7:28). He mentions these troubles here chiefly because of the bearing they have on the next point.

- Single people can devote themselves more fully to God's work: "An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—and his interests are divided" (1 Cor. 7:32-34). A vital part of the Christian responsibility of married persons is to care for their spouse and children. That should take time, time that cannot therefore be spent in witnessing to people, helping out at a camp, doing the church finances, or leading a Bible study. Single people have more time to give to such things. It's no coincidence that many activities in church life depend to a large extent on those who aren't married. A few consciously choose to stay single to devote themselves to Christian work. Most single people haven't chosen singleness in that way and yet they have the same advantages as those who have. Instead of focusing on the difficulties of being single, as some do, we should all make the most of the advantages of God's gift of singleness while we have it.

### 3. Singleness is hard.

When God saw Adam on his own in the Garden of Eden, he said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him" (Gen. 2:18). So Eve was created to meet Adam's need for companionship, and the two came together in the lifelong, sexual relationship of marriage. Although the New Testament is positive about singleness, there's no doubt marriage is regarded as the norm. It is God's loving gift to humanity and the chief context in which our desire for intimacy is met. Single people are therefore likely to struggle with loneliness and sexual temptation. Those struggles are certainly not exclusive to the unmarried, but they are very much a part of the single condition. Some will seek to lessen them by getting married. Others will either choose not to marry or will feel unable to because of their circumstances, personality, or sexual attraction. They are likely to face a lifelong battle with loneliness and sexual temptation.

Those two battles are closely related. The lonelier we are, the more likely we are to struggle with sexual fantasy and fall into sin. We need to be proactive in seeking help in these areas. We aren't designed to be on our own, and if we aren't to be married, whether in the short or long term, we should seek to satisfy our need for intimacy in other relationships. That will mean taking the initiative in keeping in close contact with friends and family. And we must be self-disciplined in "fleeing from sexual immorality" (1 Cor. 6:18). It often helps to have one or two close friends to whom we are accountable in this area.

### 4. Singleness is not permanent.

Many who are presently single will one day marry. Others will remain single throughout their lives. But no Christian is single forever. Human marriage reflects the marriage God wants to enjoy with his people forever. The Bible speaks of Jesus as the bridegroom who will one day return to take his bride, the church, to be with him in the perfect new creation. On that day all pain will disappear, including the pain of a difficult marriage or singleness. God will wipe away every tear from our eyes and a great shout will be heard: "Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready" (Rev. 7:17; 19:7).

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

After we had spoken about heaven, an elderly single lady said to me, "I can't wait for my wedding day!" We should all share the same hope. And we can already experience something of that intimate marriage with Christ here on earth by the work of the Spirit in our lives. Human relationships do matter, but none is nearly as important as our eternal relationship with Jesus.

A final word to those who are single:

- **Thank God for the gift of singleness.** Whatever your experience of singleness, recognize it as a gift from God and make the most of it for as long as you have it.
- **Do all you can to be godly.** It's easy for those who are single to lapse into a selfish, self-centred lifestyle and into sexual sin, whether in thought or deed. Be self-disciplined and accountable to others.
- **Keep your eyes fixed on heaven.** It is our eternal relationship with Christ that ultimately matters.

A final word to those who are married:

- **Don't think of singleness as second best.** Christian preacher and author John Chapman spoke of friends taking him for long walks and telling him he should be married. He commented: "It would have been a great help if they had read the Bible, wouldn't it?"
- **Remember that your family is the whole church.** There should be no lonely people in our church. We need to be opening up our homes to one another and relating to one another not just in the nuclear family, but in the church family.
- **Keep your eyes fixed on heaven.** Human marriage matters, but it will not last forever (Mark 12:25). Our relationship with Christ must come first.

**Editors' note:** This article originally appeared at *Living Out*.

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# APRIL CALENDAR

- Wed., Apr. 1**      **AWANA -- 6:30pm** (Lower Level-Children's Wing)  
**24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm** (Office Level-Classroom #1)  
**Bible Institute Classes -- 6:30pm** (Lower Level - Adult Wing)  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)
- Fri., Apr. 3**      **Good Friday -- Church Offices close at 12noon**  
**Good Friday Service -- 6:30pm**
- Sun., Apr. 5**      **Easter Sunday -- NO PM Service**
- Mon., Apr. 6**      **Shuffelboard -- 10:00am** (Gym)  
**Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm** (Gym)
- Tues., Apr. 7**      **Busy Hands for Missions -- 9:30am** (Lower Level-Classroom #15)
- Wed., Apr. 8**      **Elders Meeting -- 9:30am** (Conference Room)  
**NO AWANA or 24/7 Jr. High**  
**Bible Institute Classes -- 6:30pm** (Lower Level - Adult Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm** (Office Level-Classroom #1)  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 9**      **Missions Committee -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Mentoring Moms -- 6:30pm** (Conference Room)
- Sun., Apr. 12**      **Missionary Speaker, Jeff Totten, SCORE Ministries -- AM & PM Services**  
**World Missions Prayer Meeting -- After PM Service** (Lower Level-Classroom #13)
- Mon., Apr. 13**      **Shuffelboard -- 10:00am** (Gym)  
**Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm** (Gym)
- Tues., Apr. 14**      **Mighty O.A.K.S. Potluck Luncheon -- 12noon** (Gym)
- Wed., Apr. 15**      **AWANA -- 6:30pm** (Lower Level-Children's Wing)  
**24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Quarterly Business/Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm** (Office Level-Classroom #1)  
**Bible Institute Classes -- 6:30pm** (Lower Level - Adult Wing)  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 16**      **Deacons Meeting -- 6:00pm** (Lower Level-Classroom #8)
- Fri., Apr. 17**      **Released Time Class -- 1:00pm** (Youth Wing) Last meeting of the School Year
- Sun. Apr. 19**      **Missionary Speaker, Don Long, Shepherds Ministries -- PM Service**
- Mon., Apr. 20**      **Shuffelboard -- 10:00am** (Gym)  
**Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm** (Gym)
- Wed., Apr. 22**      **AWANA Awards Night -- 6:30pm** (Auditorium)  
**NO 24/7 Jr. High**  
**NO Prayer Meeting**  
**NO High School Bible Study**
- Sun., Apr. 26**      **Missionary Speaker, Abraham Thomas, Agape Royal Ministries -- PM Service**
- Mon., Apr. 27**      **Shuffelboard -- 10:00am** (Gym)  
**Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm** (Gym)
- Wed., Apr. 29**      **AWANA Fun Night -- 6:30pm** (Lower Level-Children's Wing)  
**24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)  
**Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm** (Office Level-Classroom #1)  
**High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing)







# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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



# SCHEDULES FOR APRIL

## NURSERY

- 01 Awana Carolyn Henning, Sue Bishop, Lori Knaus
- 03 Good Fri. Combine with Toddlers
- 05 SS Helen Kresge, Sarah Thomas  
AM Julie Kresge, Bethany Marcotte, Carrie Miller, Linda Kresge
- NO PM
- 08 NO Awana
- 12 SS Patti Nichols, Sarah Thomas  
AM Annette & Sarah Wood, Pat Lutz, Linda Kresge  
PM Combine with Toddlers
- 15 Awana Carolyn Henning, Lori Knaus, SuAnn Prince
- 19 SS Becky Becker, Bernadette Richardson  
AM Michelle Hyzer, Debi Davis, Morgan Morse, Linda Kresge  
PM Combine with Toddlers
- 22 Awana Carolyn Henning, Jen Simon, Eileen Feldpausch
- 26 SS Lori Knaus, Trisha Feldpausch  
AM Emily Brun, Leah Deemer, Natalie Feldpausch, Linda Kresge  
PM Combine with Toddlers
- 29 Awana Carolyn Henning, Trisha Feldpausch, Sue Bishop

## TODDLERS

- 03 Good Fri. Liz Davis, Lisa Crandall, Holly Merignac
- 05 AM Katie Sawyer, Valorie lung, Ellen Kresge
- NO PM
- 12 AM Lori Knaus, Michelle Rosendale, Michelle Richardson
- PM Grace Kresge, Darlene Dutcher, Sarah Snyder
- 19 AM Grace King, Eileen Feldpausch, Hannah Marcotte
- PM Andrea Bancroft, Yvonne Sischo, Pearl Nichols
- 27 AM Sarah Bouck, Marcia Feldpausch, April Mullikin
- PM Grace Kresge, Annette Peterson, Rebekah Painter

## TODDLER COOKIES

- 05 Laurie Ordway
- 12 Karen Leif
- 19 Leah Deemer
- 26 Lori Ely

## USHERS

- 05 AM \*Julius Motz, Mark Lutz, Shane Kidd, Norm Moinet, Rick Davis, Billy Gillean
- PM \*Louie Simon, Dean Feldpausch
- 12 AM \*Tim Fair, Chris Bouck, Harold Lichte, Carl Hyzer, William Kidd, Ryan Shackelford
- PM \*Dell Schmidtman, Doug Merignac, Dave Halfman
- 19 AM \*John Leif, Jeremy Thomas, Jason Holben, Austin Davis, Jimmie Harps, Jim Cyrus
- PM \*John Glerum, Walt Knaus, Ted Loznak, Aaron Davis
- 26 AM \*Scott McCorvie, Derrick Ostrander, Andrew Davis, Phil Burkhart, Duane Schafer, Dennis Eilert
- PM \*Jim Ashenfelter, Nick Bancroft

\*Captain

## GREETERS

- 05 Foyer Mike & Tammy Underwood  
Office Bill & Sharon Kidd
- 12 Foyer Bryan & Trisha Feldpausch  
Office Joe & Vicky Ondrusek
- 19 Foyer Roger & Rosanne Schafer  
Office Todd & Mishelle Pagels
- 26 Foyer Ron & Jill Keilen  
Office Jay & Becky Peterson

**\*Foyer-Stay until Sermon**

**\*AM Greeters please be at your door by 10am.**

**\*Everyone Greets in the PM Service Unless otherwise stated.**

