

First Baptist Communiqué

St. Johns, Michigan

May 2018



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8 Ways To Become More Humble



Jane Tooher serves on the faculty of Moore Theological College in Sydney, Australia, where she lectures in Ministry. Jane is also the Director of the Priscilla & Aquila Centre, a centre that aims to encourage women in ministry in partnership with men.

At every stage of our Christian development, and in every sphere of our Christian discipleship, pride is our greatest enemy and humility our greatest friend.¹

1. Thank God often and always

Thankfulness stops pride growing. We can thank people for things that they do and who they are, and that's important and encouraging for them. But we're to thank God for that person, for the way he has worked in them. Thankfulness is a sign of a believer. Whereas "ingratitude...[is] one of the distinguishing marks of non-believers".

If you're struggling with feeling thankful to God at this time, try and think of just one thing each day to be thankful for. It might be that you have enough food, or the weather, or something that happened at Bible study. Thank God for one thing after someone has visited you, or you have visited them. Thank God for one thing in your friend or your child, or in your spouse, your church or your local community.

In the constant act of thanksgiving, the relationship with God is nurtured. Through thanksgiving, the gracious acts are remembered and the life of a person is thereby changed.

God-centred thankfulness helps us grow in humility, as it stops pride growing.

2. Confess your sins regularly

Confession is a reality check as it reminds us who we are. Christian confession need not be overwhelming because the cross was sufficient for all our sins and we have been completely forgiven. It is at the cross that we understand most clearly that we are sinners, but it is also at the cross that we understand most clearly that we are deeply loved.

When we confess we gain a deeper appreciation of grace and what we have been saved from. God's forgiveness gives us peace and security, and therefore the freedom to grow in humility.

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3. Be ready to accept humiliations

"They can hurt terribly, but they help you to be humble".³ Humiliations can help us become more like Jesus, who was terribly humiliated. I'm not talking here of accepting domestic abuse. Not at all. I mean that we might fail at something, or we might get demoted at work. Be ready to accept humiliations, as we can learn a lot when we're at the bottom of the pecking order—which for many of us is out of our comfort zone.

4. Don't worry about status

Don't try and connect with people to elevate yourself. Is that person going to make me look good? Having that job, will that make me look good? Having that house? That spouse? Don't try and elevate yourself; rather, try to elevate others. Serve others. When people are speaking at our funeral, what do we want them to say about us? About our values? Will they testify that humility characterized our life? Will they say, "She had humility, she had what mattered"?⁴

People who are humble inspire trust and confidence from those around them, and therefore humility is key for leadership.⁵ Pride is anti-social behavior, whereas when we're humble, it's best for others and best for us, as it's who we were created and redeemed to be.

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5. Have a sense of humor

I think this one is really key, and not often talked about. Laugh at yourself and others. You have to be serious about some things, but don't take yourself *too* seriously.

When we're able to laugh at ourselves, we more quickly swallow our pride. It diffuses situations. It means we're not trying to keep up a facade that we're this person who has it altogether. It means we can more quickly admit we're wrong. It means we're more real. It means we're more in tune with grace. It means we're more in tune that other people will have similar struggles to us in the Christian walk. Being able to laugh at ourselves is really important. It can help prevent burnout. It helps us keep going in life and ministry.

6. Listen to others

Listening to others shows we're willing to learn from them, that we want to learn from them, whether they're adults or children, whatever the persons' background, Christian or not.

The people that made the biggest impact on me when I was a child, outside of my immediate family, were an uncle and aunt. Each school holidays we used to go visit them on their farm. There were six kids in my family and ten in theirs, so there was potential for much chaos! I was a very shy child but I always loved going to their home as I felt loved and welcomed, and the reason they made me feel like that was they made a point of asking me questions and they listened to me, and that made a lasting impression on me.

When we listen to others, it's a sign of us loving them.

When we feel listened to, we feel loved. And when we listen to others, it's a sign of us loving them and an acknowledgement that we can learn from them. And it's also recognition that God in his sovereignty and goodness has put this person in my life.

7. Ask questions

This is closely related to the point above about listening to others. When we ask questions in a right attitude and manner it shows we recognize we don't have all the answers, that maybe our preconceived ideas about something were in fact wrong. It can also show that we recognize the person's authority over us (if that is the case) and we are submitting to them. It can show we assume trust in them. There are many varied and different situations in life when it would be good for us to ask questions, aren't there?

If you're not in the habit of asking questions, it might be embarrassing at first, but it becomes easier. For example, when you're chatting with someone and they use a word you don't know, ask them the definition. If you don't understand other things they're saying, ask them to clarify. It's often our pride that stops us asking questions of clarification.

Ask questions of someone also because you assume they're interesting to get to know. They have something worthwhile to say, whatever their age or background. They have something we can learn from, Christian or not. Ask questions of someone because they are created by God and it's a sign of us recognizing their worth in God's eyes and therefore our love for them.

There are many situations where we can ask questions of others that help us grow in humility, but one of the greatest ways is to ask God questions in prayer and when we read his word the Bible.

8. Consider others before yourself

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less”.⁷ Humility is not thinking that others are more godly or kind than you, more intelligent or nicer, better at cooking or cricket than you. They may be, they may not be. Humility is when you consider other people's interests before your own, thinking what is best for the other person and acting on that.

Humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.

Thus we're being humble when we think of others before ourselves. You may have a greater status than someone. You may have authority over someone. You don't pretend you don't have authority over them, but you think of what will benefit the people under you. What do they need? What is best for them? It doesn't mean you don't look after yourself. When we don't look after ourselves we soon can't help anyone else.

John Stott was by many accounts a humble man, and so it's no surprise this was said of him after he passed away:

“When I was nineteen I attended a day conference in Newcastle at which John Stott was the speaker. When we arrived, the friend with whom I'd come went off to the toilet and I was left alone, feeling out of place. An older man came over and began talking to me, asking me about

myself. After a few moments my friend returned and the man introduced himself, “Hello, I’m John Stott.”

My jaw nearly hit the floor.

I’d been speaking to the great John Stott without realizing it. That moment made a big impression on me. John—who was the only speaker that day—had seen an awkward looking teenager on his own and taken it upon himself to make him feel welcome. I met him a few times subsequently and he always remembered my name.

The private John Stott was just as impressive as the public persona: gracious, humble, without affectation. I’m sure it was this humility that meant God could entrust him with the influence and success he received. It is hard to underestimate the impact he has had across the world.”⁸

The post [8 Ways To Be More Humble](#) first appeared on the Moore College [Think Tank Blog](#).

Photo: Pablo.com.

Footnotes

1. John Stott, ‘Pride, Humility, and God’ in *Alive to God*, eds. JI Packer & Loren Wilkinson, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, 1992, p, 119.
2. David Pao, *Thanksgiving*, Apollos, Leicester, 2002, p. 21.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 37.
4. Michael Ramsey, *The Christian Priest Today*, Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, London, 1972, p. 80.
5. CJ Mahaney, *Humility*, Multnomah, Colorado Springs, 2005, p. 24.
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 17-19.
7. Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 2012, p. 190.
8. Tim Chester, ‘[The first time I met John Stott](#)’, *Tim Chester*, 28 July 2011 (accessed 16/11/2017).



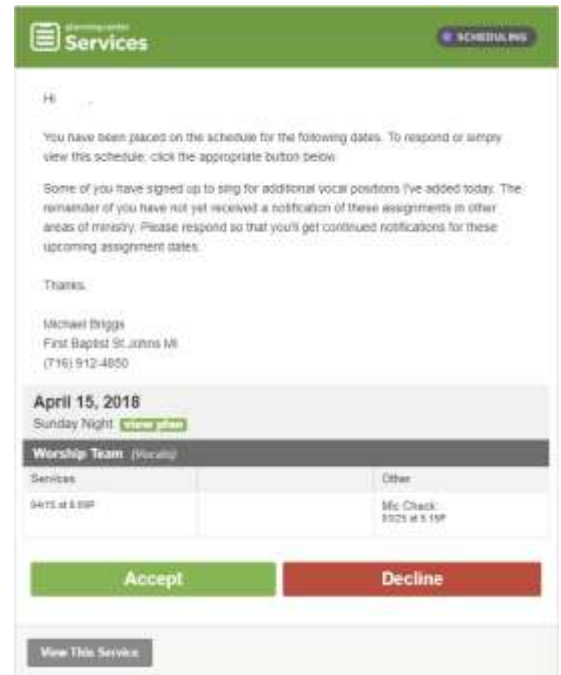
By Pastor Mike Briggs

So... you may be asking yourself the question “What’s this whole Planning Center Online (PCO) thing about?”. Planning Center Online has been a service that I have utilized for years as a scheduling tool for communication with my musicians. After I began here in St Johns I felt it would continue to be invaluable to help with scheduling and communication.

We began expanding the scope of its use to include almost every scheduled ministry here at FBC. This helps keep us from scheduling conflicts. Planning center is a major communication tool that allows the persons being scheduled to also put in their preferences for being scheduled. If Amy Briggs does not want to be scheduled when Pastor Briggs is scheduled that can be requested, or if she prefers to be scheduled when I’m scheduled she can edit her preferences to reflect that too. Each user can also tell us (the schedulers) how often you wish to be scheduled.

Don’t Miss This!

Here is the critical thing that I’d like to make certain that each person being scheduled through planning center understands. Each time you receive an email telling you that you’ve been scheduled for a date, we ask that you respond to those emails by accepting assignment. Here is the reason why. When you accept the assignment, the system will remind you just days before the service for which you are scheduled about that assignment. Without accepting the assignment, not only will you be blocked from receiving the automatic reminders, but you will also leave the schedulers wondering if you are even aware that you have been scheduled. You’ll also notice in the example here that there are times listed for the service assigned and there may be additional times, specific to your assignment, that will clarify when you need to be present, like the mic check listed for this vocalist. Not all teams may



have that currently but as the system continues to expand, that information will continue to develop and become more informative.

What do I do if...

I have had people ask me, “What do I do if there’s a date I am unable to serve?”. The best thing to do is follow the procedure for your team. There are some ministry leaders that require each individual with a conflict find a replacement for themselves. There are others, like me, that will find replacements for some of the teams I oversee. Either way, it is important that you notify your team leader so that we can have the schedule corrected. This way the system will remind the appropriate people.

If you are in the planning center services system, you should have received an email welcoming you to the program. Through that email you should be able to log in to you your account and create for yourself a password. If there is a better email address for us to use, please [email us](#) with your preferred address, and we can change that. If you find it difficult to log into planning center, [let me know](#) and we can send an email for resetting your password. There is even an app for planning center for either [IOS](#) or [Android](#) so that you can manage all of this on your device(s). If you are not part of the PCO system yet, please see one of the pastors about finding a ministry in which you can serve.

Our High School Graduates

Rachel Becker graduates from Becker's Academy on May 18th. Her Open House is Sunday, May 20th, 4-7pm, at her home, 4977 N. Wacousta Rd., Fowler.

Zeke Ely graduates from St. Johns High School on June 1st. His Open House is Friday, June 8th, 5-8pm, at The Emeral Golf Course, 2300 W. Maple Rapids Rd., St. Johns.

Noah lung graduates from Fulton High School on May 20th. His Open House is Saturday, June 9th, 2-6pm, at his home, 1880 W. Taft Rd., Perrinton.

Ellen Kresge graduates from her Home School Education. No Open House is planned.

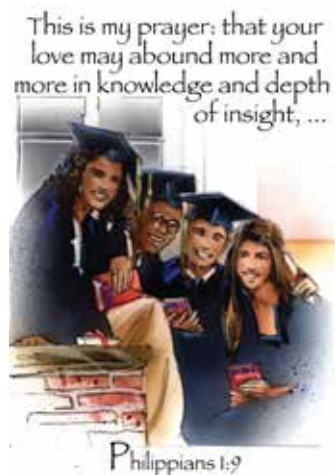
Christian Mead graduates from St. Johns High School on June 1st. His Open House is Saturday, May 19th, 4-7pm ,at his home, 4559 E. Wilson Road, Ashley.

Rebekah Painter graduates from her Home School Education. Her Open House is Friday, May 25th, 4-7pm at her home, 7553 E. Alward Rd., Laingsburg.

Kaleb Jay Peterson graduates from Peterson's Academy. No Open House is planned.

Hannah Robbe graduates from Lifetech Academy, 2018. No Open House is planned.

Ashton Sheen graduates from her Home School Education. Her Open House is Saturday, May 19th, 3-7pm at her home, 3102 S. DeWitt Rd., St. Johns.



Our College Graduates

Adam Gudbrandson graduated in December 2017 from Central Michigan University with a B.S. Degree in Chemistry and Math minor.

Madison Schmidtman graduated April 28th, from Grand Valley State University with a B.S. Degree in Cell and Molecular Biology.

David Snyder graduates May 4th, from Frontier School of the Bible with a Bachelor Degree in Biblical Studies with a missions emphasis.

Rebekah Snyder graduates May 4th, from Frontier School of the Bible with an Associates Degree in Biblical Studies with a missions emphasis.

Nathan Whitelock graduates June 16th, from Kettering University with a B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Business minor.

Graduation Sunday June 3rd

Parents and Graduates -

If you missed the *Communiqué* deadline, you can still submit your information for the display board in the foyer and June 3rd bulletin.

-- High School graduates, we need your picture (wallet or proof size), graduation and open house information by Tuesday, May 8th, for the display board.

-- College graduates, we need the date of graduation, college or university graduating from and the degree you are receiving by Tuesday, May 29th, if it was not put in this *Communiqué*.

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

**Next
Month**



COMING IN JUNE



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**UP Down & Out
On the Go with the Gospel**



June 18-22

9am - 12 noon

Mark your calendars

Start inviting family & friends.

Join us for VBS at First Baptist Church!

Debbie Price from Rural Bible Mission will be leading our VBS this year. This summer we are looking at the book of Acts with all the exciting stories about the early church and the first missionaries. Jesus goes up into Heaven, then the Holy Spirit comes down to dwell in the believers, and the disciples go out spreading the Gospel everywhere they go. They are persecuted, but they keep on going telling others the good news about Jesus.

VBS is for any child who finished Kindergarten through Sixth grade.

We need your help!

Prizes are needed for both Boys and Girls!! We will be collecting them throughout May until Wednesday, June 6. Cost for prizes should be \$1-\$10. Please drop off your donations in the large box marked "Vacation Bible School" by the church offices. If you cannot purchase items, you may give a monetary gift. Please choose "VBS Prizes" for your online giving or mark your giving envelope "VBS Prizes" and place in the offering.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of areas including teaching, game time, and snacks. If you are interested in helping out, or if you would like more information, please call Laurie Ordway (989) 834-6119 or Pastor Chad (989) 224-3110.

“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)

- 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.



Beacon of Hope Update

Legal Assistance at Beacon of Hope

On the first Tuesday evening and first Thursday afternoon of each month a staff attorney from Legal Services of South Central Michigan meets with people at Beacon. This attorney is able to help prepare wills. If you are under 60 you must meet LSSCM income guidelines but if you are over 60 then the service is free. Call the Beacon number (224-0328) to set up an appointment.

Critical Need for Women Advisors!

If you know how to carry on a conversation with another person you can be an Advisor! Advisors listen, share, pray, and develop relationships with participants. If you are interested in learning more, just stop in to Beacon on a Tuesday evening and sit in with an Advisor to see what it's like or contact Karen Leif to learn more.

April Showers for Beacon of Hope

Thank you for "showering" the Learn & Earn store with donations! The store is where participants spend the credits they have earned for doing their Bible studies, working, church attendance, and other activities.

Mobile Soup Kitchen at Beacon

On the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, His Cup Runneth Over mobile soup kitchen serves a hot meal from 5:30 – 7:00. They also serve lunch at the Salvation Army Produce Distribution on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month (near the Beacon Service Entrance on the north side of the building). Anyone is invited to come and enjoy some homemade soup!



Library News! Check it Out!

For quite a few years, Pastor Tim has been recommending a book each month. Many of them from previous years are available in Your Church Library. Starting in January, Pastor Tim has been ordering a copy of his recommendations for the congregation to borrow from the library. You can type in "recommendation," and they will come up in Your Church Library Catalog. You can get to the Catalog from any Internet-connected device by going to: <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FBCSaintJohns>. Please bookmark it, and use it often!

A recent recommendation was Rankin Wilburne's book, *Union with Christ*. I was concerned it would be filled with tough theological terms and concepts. I was mistaken. Wilburne takes this wonderously big idea and uses all the beautiful word-pictures in the Bible, plus many other examples to illustrate and explain what it means to be "in Christ" and for Christ to be in us. This book is easy as well as delightful to read. You will find it amazingly encouraging to have a deeper grasp of what you already have in Christ. *Union With Christ* is available in print and on all 3 Kindles in large print.

— Kendel Darragh

Catalogers are working up a storm and have moved nearly all the old catalog records into the new catalog. There are now 2451 library items to be searched and found at:

<https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FBCSaintJohns>.



College & Career Bible Study & Fellowship **May Schedule**

If you're post high school, 20's- 30's and desire to grow with a community of believers, College & Career Ministry is for you!

May Bible Study Nights/Fellowship Time

May Study: Bible teacher Matt Chandler brings the life giving Word of God to important aspects of our lives.

- 7:00 pm
- 2141 W. Centerline Rd (Davis home)
- Thurs. May 10th
- Thurs. May 24th

Come be challenged/encouraged as we sing, pray & study God's Word together. Followed by fellowship, food, and a game or 2!

Mark your calendars for...

Summer Bonfire/ Games night!

Come hungry for supper on the bonfire, outdoor & indoor games!

Invite friends home from college for the summer!

- Thursday, May 31st
- 7-? PM
- 2141 W. Centerline Rd. (Davises)

???'s: Call or text:

Jim: 517.515.7042,

Debi: 517.974.7648,

or Elizabeth: 517.974.7649.



Mighty O.A.K.S.

The Mighty O.A.K.S. will meet in the gym Tuesday, May 8th, at noon for lunch. Pastor Chad will be with us to share his work with the Youth.

A book table will be set up for used books that you would like to give away or trade.

Bring a dish to pass and sign up at the Information Area. Beverages and Tableware are provided.

On Sunday, May 27th, 3PM - Church service at Hazel Findlay County Manor.

June Meeting -- Tuesday, June 12th, at 12 noon in the gym. Mark Criss, Executive Director of Lansing City Rescue Mission will be sharing about the work at the Mission on Michigan Avenue, Men's Division. Mark joined the Mission in February 2003, after serving as a board member and accepted the position of Executive Director a year later. Mark is the second longest service Executive Director outside of the Missions founding family.

Looking Ahead

July 10th -- Carry-in Luncheon at the home of Nick & Andrea Bancroft. Paul Bancroft will give the devotion.

August 14th -- Picnic at the Whitlock's. Rain or shine.

September 11 -- Tour of Jiffy Mix Factory



Missionary of the Month Brad & Beth Buser

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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, daughters Ruby and Sadi) • **Natalie:** 12/22/80 (married to Joshua James), son Joshua Jr. • **Buzz:** 9/27/90 (married to Sammy), son Bradley Robert

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 2010, 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 went back to PNG and have lived among two separate tribal groups (Brooks among the Yembiyembi and Brandon among the Biem people). Brooks and family now work at Radius International. Their daughter Natalie is a nurse in San Diego. Buzz and Sammy are completing their time as students at Radius and have committed to serving with E360 in PNG.



MISSIONS UPDATE

BUSY HANDS FOR MISSIONS

On April 21st there were 8 ladies present. We filled 57 ditty bags for Youth Haven Ranch, tied one quilt, put together one finger puppet kit for Rowena Barnes, and prepared 4 pillow kits for Youth Haven Ranch and Rowena.

We delivered 250 ditty bags and 5 pillow kits to Youth Haven on April 26th. We need toothbrushes, combs, and washcloths for our next meeting on **May 15th at 9:30 AM**. Come join us and bring your lunch if you can stay for the fellowship.

Any questions... call Dee Chapman at 989-640-2704.

SOME EXCITING MISSIONS CONFERENCE RESULTS

Your response to the book purchases for Chaplin's Larry and Carl for the Clinton county jail ministry was Huge. There were 47 books purchased (all the age appropriate ones that were on the book table) with \$589.25 extra donated. A check was presented to them for that amount. They plan to purchase workbooks (\$7 ea.) for the Basic Anger Resolutions workshop they teach at the jail. Thank you!

The "Eye Glass Story": Brad Buser mentioned that there was a need for reading glasses for the Iteri People. Brooks was going in April and could deliver them. Word was out "we need your unused reading glasses." You all responded, with one man bringing in 2 large boxes full. These were sorted and 30 pairs with cases plus 20 more glasses were mailed to Brandon Buser for Brooks to take to the Iteri People. Dr. Jason Peters also took enough glasses he could put into one of the donated suitcases to take to his Hope Haven ministry in Rwanda. Dr. Peters also placed in the suitcase gifts for the staff at Hope Haven from the missions closet which included: towels, washcloths, a set of Tupperware glasses with tops, a large children's book, 3 packages of work gloves, small pretty cloth bags, and 36 of the beautiful hot pads. They also took handmade bags with travel snacks for their travels.

PACKAGES MAILED OUT THIS MONTH

Rachel Buser: In the box with the reading glasses were items for Rachel's birthday which included: body cream, a box of almonds, kid's game, and candy.

MOST Ministries in Ann Arbor, MI: A box full of the remaining bifocals, cases, and sunglasses were mailed for their international eye glasses ministry in the Lord's name.

Radius International (Buser's): We mailed 23 black recycled tablecloths.

Patty Zemmer: A birthday box of dishtowels/dish cloths, hanging towel, candle, body lotion, socks, hand sanitizer, toothbrush, and a hand-crafted bag were mailed.

MISC. ITEMS GIVEN OUT LAST MONTH

St. Louis Children's Home picked up 6 recycled tablecloths, 3 single bath towel sets, wash cloths, a set of single sheets, a set of dishtowels, large used Tupperware, and a laptop travel case.

Reava's at Life Action Ranch: a set of queen size sheets, a blue afghan, socks, a set of recycled silverware, and a set of dishcloths.

Morse's at Life Action Ranch: Ellen received for her birthday; a set of towels, note cards, candle, body lotion, paint brushes, socks, a recycled tablecloth, an extension cord, and some food products from Beacon.

Lansing City Rescue Mission: We took a quilt, travel shampoo/conditioners/body cream, socks, empty ink cartridges, and many boxes of donated clothing.

Youth Haven Ranch: We took a 79 piece set of recycled silverware.

Life Action Ranch: We sent 11 cream and 3 navy recycled tablecloths.

MISSION CLOSET NEEDS

We need **Twin size sheets** (boy colors) and towel sets as our Closet is empty.

REQUEST FROM ROWENA BARNES

Rowena Barnes is looking for flannelgraph background. If you have any you are willing to give to her, please place them in the Missions Box located in the Lost & Found Closet in the Foyer.



CALENDAR

Wed., May 2	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)
Thurs., May 3	Mentoring Moms -- 6:30pm (Dawn Gudbrandson's Home)
Sun., May 6	Communion -- AM Service
Mon., May 7	Shuffleboard -- 10am (Gym) Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Tues., May 8	Mighty O.A.K.S. - 12 noon Carry-in Luncheon in church gym
Wed., May 9	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)
Thurs., May 10	Missions Committee Meeting--6:30pm (Office Level-Conference Room) College & Career Bible Study--7pm (Davis Home)
Fri., May 11	Elders Meeting -- 8:00am (Conference Room)
Sun., May 13	Mother's Day -- NO PM Service
Mon., May 14	Shuffleboard -- 10am (Gym) Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Tues., May 15	Busy Hands for Missions -- 9:30am (Lower Level-Classroom #15)
Wed., May 16	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)
Thurs., May 17	Deacons Meeting--6:00pm (Lower Level-Classroom #8)
Sat., May 19	Ashton Sheen's Open House -- 3-7pm (at her home) Christan Mead's Open House -- 4-7pm (at his home, bonfire following)
Sun., May 20	Rachel Beckers's Open House -- 4-7pm (at her home)
Mon., May 21	World Missions Prayer Meeting -- 7:15pm (Lower Level-Classroom #13) Shuffleboard -- 10am (Gym) Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Wed., May 23	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm
Thurs., May 24	College & Career Bible Study--7pm (Davis Home)
Fri., May 25	Rebekah Painter's Open House -- 4-7pm (at her home)
Sat., May 26	Widow & Singles Birthday Luncheon -- 11 am (Main Street Cafe, St. Johns) Sign Up at the Information Area.
Sun., May 27	Memorial Day Weekend Morning Service -- NO Sunday School, NO PM Service
Mon., May 28	Memorial Day NO Shuffleboard Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Wed., May 30	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)



MAY BIRTHDAYS

01	Felipa Garcia	11	Danielle Eilert Nell Torpey	23	David Purchase Clayton West
02	Joan Culp Nicole Everts Annette Peterson	12	Jacob Ely Caleb Painter	24	Ann Hufnagel
03	Luke Cyrus	13	Katie Morgan	25	Lindsey Stuart
04	Sue Bishop	14	Rick Davis	26	Eloise Bancroft Craig Schafer
05	Emily Bargeron Arlena Craven Darrell Painter	15	Jeremy Brun Ralph Iocco	27	Kathy Andersen Jill Bancroft Cathy McCune
06	Cortney Craven Megan Craven Brian Mead	17	Jazmine Harps	28	Lydia Darragh Silas Fore Jeremy Thomas
07	Elizabeth Davis Noah Iung Grace Kresge	18	Hali Schafer	29	Doug Gudbrandson
08	John Glerum Vicki Hinton	19	Ruby Dush Samuel Schafer Marie Showers	30	Linda Kresge Harold Lichte
09	Josie Mead	20	Marvin Arnst Bethany Konieczny	31	Benjamin Feldpausch Kayla Mead Ben Simon Colton Stuart
10	Hope Fleischer Diana Luckhardt	21	Kathryn Lowell Owen Morgan		
		22	Danny Simon		



FIRST BAPTIST THIS 'N' THAT

Please make these changes to your
FBC Phone Directory:

- Monte Ely
Email: elymonte@yahoo.com
 - Earl Rogers
New Address: (Clinton Commons)
APT 119
1103 S. Scott Road
St. Johns, MI 48879
-

Baptism/Membership

If you would like to be part of the next Baptism/Membership Service on Sunday evening, June 10, please let one of the pastors know. Your first step after contacting a pastor is to fill out a membership form.

The forms are located at the Information Center and on our Website.

We have both student forms (for those in high school or below) and adult forms.



To the Church Family,

Thank you for all the support you gave to me and Jerry through the time of his illness. We appreciated all the prayers, cards and food.

We also want to thank the AWANA Clubs for the wonderful gift basket given to us at Christmas time with all kinds of goodies.

When Jerry went home to be with his Lord and Savior, the outpouring of love to our family was so wonderful. Again your prayers, cards, and food were so appreciated. We were so encouraged by all those who came to the visitation and Memorial Service. Thank you to Pastor Tim for his message given at the service. Also thank you to the ladies who put together the delicious luncheon after the service. We know many helped in the kitchen and many provided the food.

The Gideon Bibles given in Jerry's memory and the donations made to Beacon of Hope meant so much to us. Jerry loved his Savior and this church.

Love in Christ,

Sue Bishop and Family

To All of You There at our Home Church,

We sure miss meeting together with you all! These past few months have been pretty crazy for our family. I can't lie! But we have seen God move and watched His ever powerful hand fulfill His plan! I know these "trials" have been allowed in our life so that we all could see His faithfulness! His will here in the Kora and all over the world will be accomplished! No one can stand in His way!

Thank you for holding us up in prayer during these last few months! We have felt your prayers as we have, and are still pressing forward! Thank you for all your encouraging notes and generous support of us! We are so blessed to be held up and supported by you!

Thank You,

Craig & Shelly Schafer, kids

SCHEDULES FOR MAY

NURSERY

06 SS Emily Knaus, *Holly Merignac
 Anna Ordway
 AM *Lisa Barrett, Mandi Briggs
 Paula Breining, Ashton Sheen,
 Linda Kresge
 PM *Katie Fore, Dawn Benson,
 Ellen Kresge
 13 SS Emily Knaus, *Denelle
 Merignac, Laurie Walters
 AM *Traci Brooke, Beth & Aylah
 Holben, Jazmine Harps, Linda
 Kresge
 PM No Service
 20 SS Lori Knaus, Becky Becker,
 *Bernadette Richardson
 AM *Lydia Burkhart, Alyssa
 Thompson, Sue & Kristy
 Mullikin, Linda Kresge
 PM *Sue Bishop, Annette Peterson,
 Leah Konieczny
 27 SS No Sunday School
 AM *Sarah & Sylvia Thomas,
 Pearl Nichols, **TBD**, Linda
 Kresge
 PM No Service

*Denotes Nursery Check-in

GREETERS

06 *Foyer Mike & Tammy Underwood
 **Office Todd & Mishelle Pagels
 13 Foyer Tom & MB Moldenhauer
 Office Joe & Vicky Ondrusek
 20 Foyer Roger & Rosanne Schafer
 Office Chris & Sarah Bouck
 27 Foyer Bryan & Trisha Feldpausch
 Office Sharon Ashenfelter

***Foyer-Stay until Sermon**

****AM Office Greeters** please be at your door by 9am.

AM Foyer Greeters please be at your door by 10am.

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

NO PM Service on the 13th & 27th.

TODDLERS

06 AM Cody & Aubrey Fleischer,
 Mindy Miller, Jessi Eilert
 PM Carrie Miller, Cindy & Isaac
 Painter
 13 AM Pamarie Nichols, Preston
 Nichols, Tori Harps, Chara
 Walters
 PM No Service
 20 AM Ted & Michelle Beck, Marcia
 Feldpausch, Sharon Kidd
 PM John & Karen Leif, Ashton
 Sheen
 27 AM Valori lung, Michelle & Ben
 Rosendale, Amanda Briggs
 PM No Service

TODDLERS COOKIES

06 Krista Mead
 13 Lori Knaus
 20 Rachel Harps
 27 Sherry Schultz

USHERS

06 AM *Rick Davis, Rick
 Robbe, Ryan
 Shackelford, Joe
 Ondrusek, Monte Ely,
 Harold Lichte
 PM *Dean Feldpausch,
 Ted Beck
 13 AM *John Leif, Scott
 Darragh, Chris Bouck,
 Ron Showers, Jimmie
 Harps, Jim Cyrus
 PM No Service
 20 AM *Scott McCorvie,
 Derrick Ostrander,
 Preston Nichols, Phil
 Burkhart, Duane
 Schafer, Dennis Eilert
 PM *John Glerum, Walt
 Knaus
 27 AM *Julius Motz, Shane
 Kidd, Norm Moinet,
 Doro Pena, Ted Beck,
 Leon Mills
 PM No Service

*Captain

