

FIRST BAPTIST NEWS

MARCH 5, 2019



First Baptist Church

OPERATION RESCUE

By Rob Collins

We carry around many different images of God. Some people view God as a ruler, others as an observer. Some view God as a righteous judge or caring father. Some people experience God as a strong mother or a powerful creative Spirit. We receive these various views from scripture, life experiences, and tradition. In this season of Lent as we travel toward the cross and prepare for Easter, we shall explore the vision of God as Rescuer.

The Old Testament (as we tend to call it) drives toward this idea from the beginning. The calling of Abraham, the escape from Egypt, the words of the prophets, all of it leads to a grand rescue culminating in the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. God sets out to rescue that which God created and loves dearly. It's like a thread of connection found throughout scripture, all of it hinting at the real mission and intention of scripture. "Operation Rescue" is like the grand plan of God for all of creation.

March 6th will kick off the season of lent with an Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. Lenten dinners will take place the following four Wednesdays, also at 6:30 p.m. We will be exploring the calling of "Radical Hospitality" and how we can live it out in our church and community and, of course, we will have incredible worship throughout the Lenten season leading to Easter. You can find the Lenten / Easter schedule below.

March 6	Ash Wednesday Service
March 10	Sunday Sermon: Soul Selling and Test Beating
March 13	Lenten Dinner
March 17	Sunday Sermon: They Appeared in Glory
March 20	Lenten Dinner
March 24	Sunday Sermon: Reclaiming Repentance
March 27	Lenten Dinner
March 31	Sunday Sermon: We Had to Celebrate
April 3	Lenten Dinner
April 7	Sunday Sermon: A Perfume of Great Cost
April 14	Palm Sunday
April 19	Good Friday Service
April 21	Easter

It is going to be an incredible season, and I'm looking forward to worshipping with all of you.

Serving Together,

Rob Collins
Senior Pastor

Contact Us:

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DEACON FAMILY MINISTRY PLAN

The Diaconate is in the process of implementing a Family Ministry Plan (DFMP). which is a systematic means for reaching family units in the church through an ongoing, interaction program. Our goal is to have regular (monthly or every two months) connections with all of our church families. The more communication we have with our church families, with our deacons and with our church leadership, the better we will be prepared to understand and address needs/concerns and minister to and care for our congregation.

You may have already received an initial communication from a deacon—super—but if not, it should be coming shortly. The Diaconate Board is also in a learning phase with regards to getting things going, what and how best to communicate and so forth, so we ask for your patience and feedback as we progress.

We look forward to getting this program underway with you and ask for your prayers for our implementation and the well-being of First Baptist Church of Peoria as we move forward in our faith and our community.

If you have any questions, please reach out to one of our deacons.

Stay tuned!

Doug Miller
Diaconate Board Chair

PRAYER CONCERNS

Tom Maulding	Vicky Stewart	Char Austin
Sharon Stanard	Rose Kimpling	Helen Nicol
Mark Stanard	Jim Ashton	June Fredell
Rosemary Walk	Mary Hinch	Jerry Edwards
Deb McGlothlen	Pam Orrill	Alyssa Russell
John Posth	Leon Vickerman	Jacquelyn Kellogg

Ted Osborn (Dr. Osborn's brother)

Rachael Klaus (frequent visitor to FBC)

THANK YOU

The family of Wally Webber wishes to thank the church members for their prayers, cards, and visits. We especially thank everyone involved in her memorial service from planning, pastor, music, set-up, food preparation, serving and clean-up.

All of this helped our family through Wally's long journey home to her Heavenly Father and rejoining loved ones who preceded her.

—Cal Webber

MEDITATION CLASS

The Health & Wellness Committee will be hosting a meditation class starting Friday, March 22nd. at 9:00 a.m. We will meet in the chapel for four consecutive weeks.

The instructor for the class is Mugdha Pattekar. She presently teaches meditation to students at Trewyn School. Mugdha attends our exercise class and is a long-time friend of Sally Tiessen.

The class will focus on breathing and relaxation technics. Each class will last approximately 30 minutes. Please let any member of the Health & Wellness Committee — Lurene Ladd, Vicki Weatherington, Debbie McGlothlen, Sally Tiessen, Bonnie Connett, Sharon Polakow or Bonna Zimmerman — know if you are interested in attending the meditation classes.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

It is that time of year for all seniors in high school and current college students to apply for the FBC Scholarship. The updated form can be found on our Website. Copies are also available in the church office.

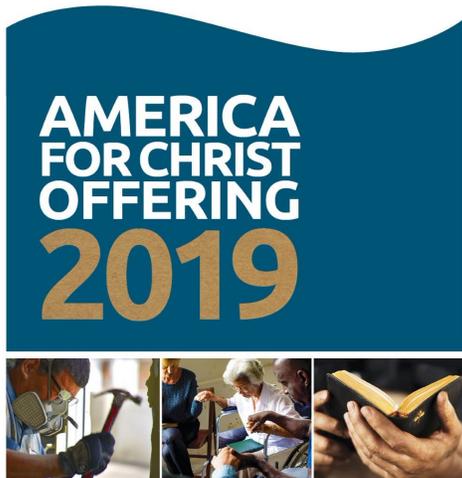
Please download the form and fill it out and mail it or hand it in to the Church office. The Board of Ed will look at all applications. The due date for these forms is April 30th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Board of Christian Education wanted to update the church on the Sunday School Program. The Nursery will hold children up to 3 years old. Then the children will go to the next level, which is 3-to-5-year-olds. The 3-to-5-year-olds will be dropped off in the room across from the Pastor's office. They will have a lesson, and then the last 15 minutes or so of church they will go to the room next to the nursery for play time. Parents may pick up their child from the nursery after worship. We have name tags now for the children. When the parents drop off their child, they will fill out a name tag with the parent's info and the name of the child. The tags are numbered so the parent gets the top half, and the bottom half will be placed on the back of the child. When the parent picks up the child, they will turn in their number tag so we can make sure the child gets sent with the correct parent.

Children 6 and older will be sitting in the service with their parents. As we grow we will be adding to our Sunday School program. Right now we have 16 volunteers to man the 3-5-year-old room on a rotating basis with groups of 2 each Sunday. I want to sincerely thank all the volunteers. Thank you for your continued support of our Children's ministry.

Karen Pilgrim
Chair, Board of Christian Ed.



CULTIVATING
LEADERS
EQUIPPING
DISCIPLES

HEALING COMMUNITIES

Galatians 6:9-10

Dear FBC Members and Friends,

The Lord Jesus Christ intends every member of the church to do the work of the ministry. The intention of ministry is to build up each other's faith and love. God's design is to use human support and encouragement to sustain the faith of God's children and to lighten the burdens they bear in the service of love for their community. We are motivated and inspired by American Baptist Home Mission Societies' (ABHMS) America for Christ (AFC) 2019 "Healing Communities" theme, based on Galatians 6:9-10: Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunities, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers (NIV). The "Healing Communities" theme is a passionate reminder to join with diverse communities in engaging existing resources, expanding our understanding, and nurturing community healing that encourages mutual transformation. Your generous AFC gifts supported the following ministries last year:

- "Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico" — rebuilding the island one church and one building at a time.
- Scholarships and Emerging Leaders — providing scholarships to students to help ease the debilitating effects of excessive student loan debt.
- Immigration and Refugee Resettlement — partnering with organizations that have resettled more than 100,000 displaced persons from across the world.
- Rizpah's Children — partnering with agencies that provide support to children living in poverty.

Additional supported ministries include Disaster Response, Volunteer Mobilization, Prisoner Re-Entry and Community Outreach Ministries. AFC 2019 encourages us to engage in service to the church and the community. For many, that may be the way they experience the love of Christ in us. I am asking you to join us in giving generously to this year's AFC offering and help us to reach our goal as we partner with ABHMS in healing communities.

God Bless,

Thelma Hopwood

FBC Mission Board Chair

Dr. Rob Collins

Dr. Rob Collins, Sr. Pastor

DID YOU KNOW?

FBC Music Director and Youth Leader, Mark Grizzard, received the Outstanding University Teaching Award, Non-Tenure Track from Illinois State University.

Mark joined the faculty of ISU in 2015. He conducts the auditioned women's chorus, Belle Voix, and the auditioned mixed chorus Chamber singers. He teaches courses in music theory, musicianship, and conducting. Mark has also composed and arranged music for many campus ensembles, including Concert Choir and Symphony Orchestra, and co-produces Illinois State's Music for the Holidays concerts.

In addition to teaching and contributing to First Baptist Church's worship services, music and youth programs, Mark has written an article, "Castle of Light: A Snapshot of Latvian Choral Music as the Nation Turns 100" that is slated for publication in the American Choral Directors Association's main publication, The Choral Journal.

Congratulations, Mark, on your many achievements, and thank you for sharing your time, faith and talent with our First Baptist family.

Rob Collins
Sr. Pastor



HEALTH TIPS: MEDITATION — A SIMPLE, INEXPENSIVE WAY TO REDUCE STRESS.

Meditation has been practiced for thousands of years. Meditation originally was meant to deepen understanding of the sacred and mystical forces of life. These days, meditation is commonly used for relaxation and stress reduction.

Anyone can practice meditation. It's simple and inexpensive, and it doesn't require any special equipment. You can practice meditation wherever you are — whether you're out for a walk, riding a bus, or waiting in the doctor's office.

Meditation is considered a type of mind-body complimentary medicine. Meditation can produce a deep state of relaxation and stress reduction. During meditation, you can produce a deep state of relaxation and a tranquil mind.

During meditation, you focus your attention and eliminate the stream of jumbled thoughts that may be crowding your mind and causing stress. This process may result in enhanced physical and emotional well-being.

Lurene Ladd
Parish Nurse

DINING OUT GROUP

On Friday, March 29th, at 6:30 p.m., the Dining Out Group will be at Donnelly's Irish Pub, 4501 N Rockwood Dr., Peoria. We invite you to join us to enjoy some good food and fellowship.

Please let John or Jen Dusek know if you will be attending. We can be reached by phone at 309-231-6389 by or e-mail to the_j_family@yahoo.com.

Thank you and God Bless!!
Jennifer & John Dusek

FBC WELCOMES A NEW MEMBER

On Sunday, February 24th, First Baptist welcomed our newest member, Chris Frauenhoffer. Chris transferred to FBC from First Christian Church. Even before becoming a member, as a welcome visitor, Chris has shared his musical talents with us through the choir and also a solo during worship services.

Please take the time one Sunday to seek out Chris and welcome him to our church family.

ABW MARCH MEETINGS

Ladies, you are invited to our **ABW Brunch** on Saturday, March 9th, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Our speaker will be Tim Pletkovich with the program "Nuns, Nazis & Notre Dame." I'm wondering what these three have to do with each other, aren't you?" Come join us for the answer.

The cost is \$4. You may invite friends, but be sure you make a reservation for them. Please make a reservation by calling Carolyn Ihnken at 685-1388 or email to csimk@comcast.net.

Love Gift boxes will be on the tables for your contributions. We also will have small baskets for a contribution to Kristy Engel.

We have Apricots and Spicy Party Mix available!! This is it.

See you March 9th!
Carolyn

Circle of Friends will meet on Tuesday, March 19th, at 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Evening Literature Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the home of Karen Stroemer, 9011 N. Picture Ridge Rd., Peoria. The book to be reviewed is Eiger Obsession by John Harlin, III.





First Baptist Church

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THE MISSION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IS TO MINISTER TO OUR CONGREGATION, THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD, SO THAT ALL MAY EXPERIENCE THE LOVE AND GRACE OF GOD.

WISE UP! WITH SENIORNET COMPUTER CLASSES

During their Open House on March 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, you can hear a short presentation on SeniorNet and the classes it offers. You can also participate in a question-and-answer session to get answers to questions about PC's, laptops, smart phones, SeniorNet, cameras and more.

From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. that same day, you can sign up for SeniorNet's Spring classes held here at First Baptist starting the first week in April. Most classes meet once a week and run three to six weeks. Classes will include: Computer Basics for Beginners; Windows 10 Introduction and Advanced classes; Introduction to Scanners; Computer Maintenance and Security; E-mail Basics; eBay Buying and Selling; Facebook-Social Networking; Microsoft Excel Basics; Microsoft Word Introduction; Apple iPhone, iPad & Camera; and Android Phones & Cameras. In addition 12 one-session seminars on technology and other topics of interest to seniors will be offered on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

For more information and registration forms, check out the SeniorNet website at www.PeoriaAreaSeniorNet.org. Some registration forms are available in the church office for those unable to attend the open house and registration or access them on-line.

Best of all, for First Baptist Members, the classes are free of any charge for the class or class material.

RUMMAGE
SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH
8:00 AM—2:00 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Items donated for the sale may be left at the church anytime before the sale. Contact Deb McGlothlen (635-3666) or the church office (682-5491) to arrange drop-off time and date.