

# FIRST BAPTIST NEWS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019



First Baptist Church

## FROM THE PASTOR

Good Morning Church,

It has been a wonderful summer season at First Baptist. The music festival was a blast and we had a ton of people attend! I am very thankful for all of the volunteers and leaders that helped to put it together. As we continue through these last sunny days of summer, we're gearing up for an exciting fall fellowship event called "Concerts in the Courtyard." Starting on September 18 we will have a small meal in the fellowship hall, followed by a concert in our beautiful courtyard. These fellowship gatherings will be a great way to spend time together as a congregation, invite the community, and enjoy some of our local musicians. Dinner will start at 5:30 with the concerts starting around 6:00 p.m. Check out the concert schedule here.

September 18 - Vocal Quartet: Russel & Emma Boulton, Mark & Leigh Grizzard

September 25 - Jasmine Blancaflor, solo piano

October 2 - River City String Quartet

October 9 - Leigh Grizzard, soprano

It's going to be a great time of fellowship and music. So I hope to see you there.

Serving Together,  
Rob Collins  
Senior Pastor

## WORSHIP

10 AM Worship & Children's Sunday School ■ 11 AM Fellowship Time

Sunday, September 15, 2019  
**"Love Can Save the World"**  
Luke 15:1-10

Jesus teaches us to care about the one lost sheep and to search for the one lost coin. But what happens when we stop caring or stop searching? When that happens the world starts to fall apart. That's why it's so important to remember that love can save the world.

**Music:** *"Lord, from Sorrows Deep I Call"* —Chancel Choir

**Welcome Center:** Mike Huddle

Sunday, September 22, 2019  
**"Unlikely Discoveries In  
The Desperate Search for Healing"**  
Psalm 113:1-9

Scripture teaches us that God lifts the poor up out of the dust, and that healing can come from the most unlikely of places. We'll explore the power of God's healing and the search for a balm in Gilead!

**Music:** *"Mercy is a Song"* —Higher Ground

**Welcome Center:** Gay Barton

### Contact Us:

Dr. Robert Collins, Sr. Pastor

(309) 682-5491

rob@fbcpeoria.org

Mark Grizzard, Music Dir./Youth. Leader

(309) 310-9927

markg@fbcpeoria.org

Dr. Joshua Russell, Organist

(319) 400-8920

joshua@fbcpeoria.org

Leigh Grizzard, Bell Choir Director

(309) 682-5491

leigh@fbcpeoria.org

Sandy Johansen, Church Secretary

(309) 682-5491

office@fbcpeoria.org

First Baptist Church of Peoria

411 West Lake Avenue

Peoria, IL 61614-6093

Phone: (309) 682-5491

Fax: (309) 682-5450

E-mail: [office@fbcpeoria.org](mailto:office@fbcpeoria.org)

Website: [www.fbcpeoria.org](http://www.fbcpeoria.org)





## SHIRLEY SMITH

By Gay Barton

Writing about Shirley Smith is both easy and difficult. She has so much to tell; that's the easy part. But it is also difficult to include everything in the space we have!

Shirley was born in Peoria to parents who both worked full-time -- unusual for the 1930's. Her father was a mechanic, and her mother worked at Caterpillar and then at Hiram Walker. She was an only child and remembers wanting badly to have a sibling. She doesn't have many happy childhood memories.

Shirley attended high school at what is now Manual Academy (then Manual Training High School). She recalls working the summer between her junior and senior years as a detasseler in El Paso, Illinois. Unfortunately, she suffered a heat stroke. Since outside work didn't seem to be a fit for her, after graduation she opted to pursue a clerical position. Her first job was in the x-ray department at Peoria State Hospital. She then moved to the administrative records department there.

A few short years after beginning her career, she married Kermith Mullis. Her marriage to him included both highs and lows—including the highs of raising horses for a time in Peoria. She and Kerm also had a standard poodle, Pixie, who gave birth to 13 purebred puppies—resulting in a congratulatory letter from Congressman Robert Michel. But when the lows got too low after 11 years, she and Kerm were divorced.

Shirley met her second husband, Jim Smith, at the YMCA in downtown Peoria. She had been living there when Jim arrived from California, and the two hit it off quickly. After their first date—breakfast at Hunter's Restaurant downtown—they continued dating for a few months until they married.

By then Shirley was working at Central Fire House. She was the first woman to be employed there, doing clerical work and also setting up a new alarm system. Unfortunately, Jim's job at the Brass Foundry was cut short when, in his efforts to become a higher-paid moulder, he suffered an extremely painful and debilitating back injury. Surgery failed to correct the problem, and his health continued to deteriorate after that. Shirley eventually became his caregiver and, at one time, was providing care for her mother as well. Jim died of lung disease in 2007.

Though Shirley has had many challenges in her life journey, she has had a life of fun as well. She loves reading and writing and has enjoyed bicycling, skating (both ice and roller), horseback riding and bowling. Her quieter pursuits have included yoga, gardening (she claims a "green thumb"), fishing and camping. And let's not forget Rocky, the ocelot house cat she had for 13 years.

Shirley also mentions as a hobby "making new friends;" and when you meet her, you will understand how she does that easily. She says, "There is a big world out there. I just want to live each day as it comes."

Shirley became interested in First Baptist Church after meeting Janet Middleton at Petco. She became a member in October 2018.

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*This profile is part of a series of First Baptist Church members. The series is the work off a committee headed by Barb Drake. Please let her know if anyone has been overlooked.*



world  
mission  
offering  
2019

September 10, 2019

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ;

Every September and October congregations come together for a time of awareness, advocacy and action for global mission. Churches across the country celebrate and support the ministries that God is using to transform the world. This is the World Mission Offering.

This year's theme is "Let Living Water Flow." It is based around Jesus' words to the woman at the well, "Whoever drinks of the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:14)

Jesus spoke of living water, available to any who would ask, that satisfies fully and completely. Its supply is endless. It originates as a gift from God himself (Ephesians 2:8-10). When a person accepts this gift, living water rushes in-and soon overflows, pouring outward like "a spring of water welling up" from within. In this way, the gift of living water is sufficient not only for the spiritual nourishment of the person who has received the gift, but also for sharing with others who are still thirsty.

I invite you to come alongside IM's global servants and partners to give generously to the World Mission Offering. In God's hands, your gift impacts communities around the world, and I pray that you are inspired, knowing that you are a part of these stories.

During the month of September, you will learn more about International Ministries program of World Mission through word, video clips, and inserts in your Sunday bulletin. Our collection day for the World Mission Offering is set for the last Sunday of the month, September 29th. Please give generously. Our goal is \$3,000.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bev Searcy". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Bev Searcy  
Board of Missions



## First Baptist Church

411 W Lake Avenue  
Peoria IL 61614

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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.**

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Tom Maulding	Char Austin	Helen Nicol
Sharon Stanard	Rose Kimpling	Mark Stanard
Jim Ashton	Rosemary Walk	Mary Hinch
Jerry Edwards	Alyssa Russell	Karen Vickerman
Jacquelyn Kellogg	Deb Houser	Sharon Polakow
Leon Vickerman		

Ted Osborn (Dr. Osborn's brother)

### THANK YOU

A big thank you to all who donated school supplies for Hines School. All the items will help the students & the teachers have a better start to the new school year. You were very generous & the Mission Board is grateful!

Judy Ryan, Mission Board

### ABW SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

**ABW Brunch:** Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The program will be "Stories About Elmwood" by Karl Taylor. Karl was to do his program in January, but the weather had other ideas. The cost is \$4 at the door. Offerings are for Love Gift and Missionary Jae Stockton.

You can invite friends or husbands. Just make sure you let me know— [csimk@comcast.net](mailto:csimk@comcast.net), 309-685-1388—so we have a seat for you.

Carolyn Ihnken

**Circle of Friends:** Our first meeting will be September 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**Evening Literature Circle:** The Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the home of Lynnelle Ryan, 825 Anne St., Washington, Ill. We will be choosing the books for the upcoming year.

### MUGS 2

We are back from summer break and meet at Panera's on North Knoxville each Monday at 10:00 am. We started a new book on September 9<sup>th</sup> — Fearless by Max Lucado. We hope you will join us for a time of coffee and discussion. If you would like more information, please contact Marti Atwater at 309-231-4948.