

FIRST BAPTIST NEWS

MARCH 3, 2020



First Baptist Church

SIGNS OF REVOLUTION

The snow is not yet melted, nonetheless Lent comes. While I would gladly say goodbye to the snow early, I do enjoy that the season of Easter brings with it the thawing of the land and blooming of the flowers that dot its terrain. The winter has been a joyous season for First Baptist. We have had wonderful worship, a worship series exploring the divine calling of justice, family game nights, and some great pancakes! I offer thanks to God for those many blessings.

As we enter this new season of Lent, let us pause to remember, reflect, and prepare for the stories of Jesus, the mission of Jesus, the death of Jesus, and the resurrection of Jesus. There is both much to give thanks for and much to do yet in the world. Our season of Lent will be guided by our worship series entitled, "Signs of Revolution." These signs are foreshadowed from the very start of John's story.

At the beginning of John's gospel, Jesus astounds Nathanael with the simplest of miracles. Jesus tells Nathanael where he was before they met. Not much to it other than that. But Nathanael is absolutely amazed. Jesus responds to this amazement by saying, "You will see greater things than these!" What follows are the seven signs in John, but they are not signs of direction as one might expect on a street corner. They are more akin to signs of healing or new life. Just as lilies popping up from the soil and birds chirping in sunlight let us know that spring is coming, so the signs of John warn us of the coming revolutionary, all-loving, death-destroying Son of God.

Each Sunday of worship will explore one of these seven signs of John, each leading us closer to the ultimate sign of Jesus' revolutionary divine character: the resurrection on Easter Sunday. It will be a worship series of self reflection, encouragement, and challenge. I hope that you'll look around your life for those searching for a faith home; First Baptist might be just the place for them. Invite some friends and neighbors. Share your story with them and tell them why First Baptist has meant so much to you. And together we will all journey to the cross, to the empty tomb, and to the healing community of Christ.

Serving Together,
Dr. Rob Collins
Senior Pastor

Contact Us:

Dr. Robert Collins, Sr. Pastor
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LENTEN & EASTER WORSHIP

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

Feb 26	Ash Wednesday	John 1:1-14
March 1	"Saving the Best for Last"	John 2:1-11
March 8	"The Giver of Life"	John 4:46-54
March 15	"The Seer of the Forgotten"	John 5:1-15
March 22	"Enough Food to Feed an Army"	John 6:5-14
March 29	"Calming the Waters of Chaos"	John 6:16-24
April 5	"Palm Sunday"	John 9:1-7; 12:12-19
April 10	"Good Friday"	John 19:16-30
April 11	"Easter Sunday"	John 11:1-45; 20:1-10

Lenten Dinner Schedule (Wednesdays @ 6:30)

March 4	Lenten Dinner
March 11	Lenten Dinner
March 18	Lenten Dinner
March 25	Lenten Dinner

WELCOME CENTER SCHEDULE

Mar. 8—Barb Petroski	Mar. 15—Diane Brown
Mar. 22—April Jacob	Mar. 29—Beulah Bobbitt

PRAYER CONCERNS

Tom Maulding	Char Austin	Helen Nicol
Sharon Stanard	Rose Kimpling	Mark Stanard
Jim Ashton	Rosemary Walk	Mary Hinch
Jerry Edwards	Alyssa Russell	John Hart
Jacquelyn Kellogg	Deb Houser	Traci Nielsen
Leon Vickerman	Karen Vickerman	
Don Middleton (Rev. Middleton's son)		

Congratulations

John & Jennifer Dusek on the birth of their granddaughter, Lila Rose Lewis, born Feb 19 at 9:07a.m., 7lbs 3oz, 19 3/4 inches! The proud father is Jonathan Lewis, and great-grandparents are Jay and Judy Tellier.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

On March 22nd, April Foster of Prairie State Legal Services will talk about the work the non-profit does to make sure people have lawyers to use even if they have no money to pay them – and why local people need this help.

Barb and Bernie Drake
Co-Chairs

KID'S CONNECTION

March 22nd during the Contemporary Issues class children from birth-5th grade will meet for Kid's Connection! During Kid's Connection, we will dive into a Bible study followed by a snack and fun activity. This time also serves as child care for adult Sunday School time. We look forward to this time together!

America for CHRIST OFFERING 2020

"You shall
LOVE your
NEIGHBOR
as **YOURSELF**."
MATTHEW 22:39



We will be receiving the America for Christ Offering (AFC) on March 22, 2020. We are mandated by the Bible in Matthew 22:39 "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." One way to do this is through your gift to AFC.

How will your gifts make a difference? Your gifts to the AFC support our American Baptist mission and ministry across the United States and Puerto Rico. Your caring can bring healing to the broken-hearted and those suffering amid disasters and devastation. They will support programs that connect our partners to cultivate leaders and equip disciples who bring healing and transformation.

Please pray for our mission work in 2020 and give generously to this year's America for Christ Offering.

Thank you,
Jean Brown



GAME NIGHT

WHEN: Saturday, March 14th, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

WHERE: First Baptist Church Peoria

WHO: Kids ages 3-12 & (at least one parent/grandparent)

WHAT: A night to enjoy playing inside.
Younger kids, bring electric cars, scooters etc. for fun in Fellowship Hall. Older kids, bring your favorite board games for some friendly competition.

FOOD: Pizza and drinks provided.

Children are free to bring a friend for this fun event.

Reserve your spot today by calling the church office at 309-682-5491 and telling them how many children and adults from your family will attend. If any child has a special dietary need, please let the office know when you call in your reservations.

If you have questions, please call Marti Atwater at 309-231-4948.

APRIL 2020



First Baptist Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>HELP DECORATE OUR SANCTUARY FOR EASTER</p> <p>GERANIUM PLANTS \$15 EACH</p> <p>ORDER IN THE THE CHURCH OFFICE OR SUNDAYS MORNINGS IN THE WARM ROOM., MARCH 8TH TO 29TH</p>  			<p>1</p> <p>Rehearsals: 5:15PM Guitar 5:45PM Bell 6:30PM Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8AM Men's Breakfast (Fell. Hall) & Church Yard Clean-up.</p>
<p>5 PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children's SS 11AM Fellowship Time</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel) 10AM MUGS (Parlor)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Rehearsals: 5:15PM Guitar 5:45PM Bell 6:30PM Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30PM Good Friday Service (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11AM Comm. Easter Egg Hunt (FH)</p>
<p>12 EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children's SS 11AM Fellowship Time & Easter Egg Hunt</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's 11AM Heart- warming Hats (Conn. Rm.)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel) 10AM MUGS (Parlor) 6:30PM Board Mtgs.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Rehearsals: 5:15PM Guitar 5:45PM Bell 6:30PM Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel) 4:30PM FRUT Meeting (Parlor)</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children's SS 11AM Fellowship Time 11:15AM Contemp. Issues Class (Sanc.) 11:20AM Executive Comm. Mtg. (Parlor)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel) 10AM MUGS (Parlor) 12:30PM Circle of Friends (Fell. Hall) 1PM Literature Circle</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Rehearsals: 5:15PM Guitar 5:45PM Bell 6:30PM Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30PM Dining Out Group</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9AM Music Rehrsl. 10AM Worship & Children's SS 11AM Fellowship Time</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10AM MUGS2 @ Panera's</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel) 10AM MUGS (Parlor)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Rehearsals: 5:15PM Guitar 5:45PM Bell 6:30PM Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30AM FBC Exercise (Chapel)</p>	 <p>Please bring your non-perishable food items on March 1st. Donations will continue to go to Friendship House.</p>	



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.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to Henry Lang and family on the death of his wife, Patricia Lang, on February 8, 2020. A memorial service was held at Lutheran Hillside Village on February 29th.

SAVE THE DATE

We will have our Spring church-yard clean-up on **Saturday, April 4th**. The trustees will welcome any and all help as we work to keep our church and grounds looking beautiful!

There are many jobs to be done—spreading mulch, raking and clearing brush, painting some doors, preparing flower beds to be planted, etc. Please bring your garden gloves and any garden tools you like and join us. If you don't have gloves or tools, we will be happy to provide them for you. The day will start with the men's breakfast at 8:00 a.m., Just come and join us when you can. Volunteers are welcome to attend the men's breakfast; just let the church office know so we have enough food.

Janet Middleton
Board of Trustees

ABW MARCH DATES

The **ABW Brunch** will be on Saturday, March 14th, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Carol Morrissey, has visited Africa many times, will take us on an African Adventure by showing pictures of the animals in Africa. There will be two offerings: Love Gift and missionary, Kristy Engel. Devotions will be given by Mary Little. Please bring friends or family, but make sure they are registered so they have a seat. Cost is \$4. Please contact Carolyn Ihnken at 685-1388 or email csimk@comcast.net.

The **Circle of Friends** will meet in Fellowship Hall at **1:00 p.m.** on St. Patrick's Day Tuesday, March 17th, so wear green. Bev Searcy is bringing treats, Mary Little has devotions, and Zene Baker will present a program on music.

The **Literature Circle** will meet on Tuesday, March 22nd, at 1:00 p.m. in the home of Mary Lou Russell, 2902 Kingston Court, Peoria. The book to be reviewed is The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

World Day of Prayer , Friday, March 6th, 9:00 a.m.
Glen Oak Christian Church, 1115 E. Republic St., Peoria
For more information contact Thelma Hopwood at (309) 699-6950.