



THE LINK

FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH,
MOLINE

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8:15—9:30 am
Chatterbox Cafe
9:00 AM
Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
English Language
11:45 AM
Karen Sunday School
12 Noon
Karen Worship Service

ATTENDANCE

DECEMBER 15
ENGLISH 91
KARENS 149

DECEMBER 22
ENGLISH 28
KARENS 110

CHRISTMAS EVE—57

DECEMBER 29
ENGLISH 79
KARENS 141

JANUARY 5
ENGLISH 61
KARENS 126

JANUARY 12
ENGLISH 68
KARENS 120

JANUARY 19
ENGLISH 77
KARENS 113

2014—A YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY



On January 5th, the first Sunday of 2014, I shared the message, "A Year of Opportunity". This focus seems to resonate with many as a theme in 2014. The self-evident fact is that every day God gives us breath is an opportunity. The question is, "Will we take it?" Have you heard about the "Dead Ahead" clock? It's a chronometer that supposedly tells how much time you have to live. It calculates an average life span of 75 years for men and 80 years for women. You program your sex and age into the clock, and from then on it will tell you how much time you have left.

When I heard about that clock I figured that if I lived to be 75 years old, I had just about 7,300 days left to live. That's all, just 7,300 days. But wait a minute. Actually, neither you nor I have a guarantee of even one day more to live. In fact the Bible tells us not to count on tomorrow because tomorrow may not come for you or for me. All we have is right now. Our time on this earth is precious because it is very limited.

Our problem is, we forget this. We are lulled asleep by the routine – even the routine of good things. Jesus went to the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He sat down to teach, and Mary was sitting at His feet just soaking in every word. Meanwhile, Martha was out in the kitchen preparing dinner. Now, you know the story. Martha gets upset because Mary is not in the kitchen, too. She complains to Jesus, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," Jesus answers, "You are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her" [Luke 10:40 42].

Now was Martha committing a sin by fixing a meal in the kitchen? No, of course not! But here's the problem. She was so preoccupied with what she was doing that she didn't realize that God was in her living room. That's the same mistake you and I make almost every day. We get so caught up in the here and now that we fail to deal with the eternal, the things that will last forever and ever. And so that leads us to the matter of priorities

How can you make 2014 a year of opportunity and not one wasted? It comes down to living your priorities. Ask yourself, "Who or what is most important in my life?" I'm hoping that your answer will be, "My relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, is most important to me." If so, then put that at the top of your list of priorities, and say, "This will affect my decisions, my scheduling, my relationships with others, and my whole outlook on life." Therefore, when Sunday rolls around neither rain nor shine will interfere with my being in church, because He comes first in my life. I'll worship the Lord and nothing will interfere with that." Furthermore, if God is a priority, then when there's opportunity to serve – one that fits your talents and abilities – take it! No need for debate – God designed you with a purpose, and if the right opportunity comes along, rest assured he wants you to take it! So here we are – 2014, the year of opportunity. We've already used 552 hours of this year – only 8,208 hours left. Let's make each moment before us count!

Blessings,

Pastor Flint



NOTES FROM YOUR PARISH NURSES SANDY CLAERHOUT & BARB MILLER



The Mystery of Health - Salutogenesis (excerpts from Health Letter, Mayo Clinic)



Salutogenesis comes from the Latin - "salus" meaning health and "genesis" meaning origin - literally meaning the origin of health. This shifts attention to what supports health and well-being rather than what causes disease. The World Health Organization (WHO) defined health in a new way - "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". Aaron Antonovsky, a medical sociologist who studied the narratives of Holocaust survivors, founded the salutogenesis theory. Rather than focus on risks and disease, he began exploring what factors keep people healthy, especially people who find themselves in difficult circumstances. For example some people have more than their share of stressful situations and hardships, yet they've managed to remain well, while others in those same situations fare far worse. What accounts for the difference?

- ☛ Having resources that help you understand and structure your life, such as life experience, intelligence, social support and traditions.
- ☛ Being able to make sense of the world, allowing you to use your resources to manage stresses that you encounter in life.
- ☛ He also identified three life experiences that occur during childhood and contribute to a sense of coherence. Recognizing that:
 - * Life has a certain predictability - it can be understood.
 - * You have sufficient resources to manage personal challenges.
 - * It's worth your energy to address life's challenges, because your life makes sense and has meaning.
- ☛ A fourth was added later by others - * Emotional closeness, having a sense of connection to others is critical.

Aging is an ongoing and ever-changing process, and it's generally not helpful to dwell only on possible future pitfalls. Instead, living life in the present moment can be very helpful in navigating through the storm of a sudden health crisis or living well with a chronic condition. Moving forward despite a new or ongoing challenge also can be helped by your social supports - family, friends, caregivers, or religious community. Multiple things help support health. Multigenerational relationships, study, counseling and support groups can all make a difference, and each has the potential to add perspective and depth to your understanding of health.

**WONDERFUL WORLD
OF WEDNESDAY UPDATE!**

**WINTER BREAK FOR SUPPERS UNTIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19. BIBLE STUDIES
RESUME ON MARCH 19 WITH "IF YOU WANT
TO WALK ON WATER, YOU'VE GOT TO GET
OUT OF THE BOAT!"**

**ATTENTION ALL HANDBELL AND
ADULT CHOIR MEMBERS:**

**Please note the new rehearsal times for music
on Wednesday evenings from January 22nd un-
til March 19th. Handbell Practice will be at 4:00
pm and Adult Choir will be at 4:45 pm.**

**AMERICAN BAPTIST
WOMEN'S MINISTRIES**

**Our next ABWM (Eleanor Smith
Circle) meeting will be Monday,
February 10th at 9:30 a.m. in
the G.A. room. Our Nancy
Crawford will be doing the pro-
gram. It is entitled
"Transactions and Transgres-
sions in God's Kingdom."
Sounds interesting! Come and
hear what this is all about. Re-
freshments will be served and
everyone is wel-**



JANUARY & FEBRUARY SUNDAY GREETERS AT WELCOME CENTER

**8:30-9:30 am
9:30-10:00 am & 20 minutes
after worship**

January 26	Donna & Mike O'Neill
February 2	Lucy Anderson & Jess Gradel
February 9	Jane & Tom Olmsted
February 16	Donna & Mike O'Neill
February 23	Donna O'Neill & Ann Watkins

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED TO CHANGE THE TIME OR DATE,
PLEASE CALL DONNA O'NEILL AT 762-9572.**



Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.



James 5:16 (NIV)

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Betty McBride
- JoAnn Parmley
- Glenda Bunton
- Barb Miller
- David Miller
- Donna Wilson (C. Jarvis Sis)
- Tim Jarvis
- Janet Jarvis
- Adam Jarvis
- Ellen Lowery
- Danny Lowery
- Jan & Dean Harmon
- Dorose & Roy Harrington
- Mu Kya
- Lar Ma Htoo
- Glen Hanfron
- Sharon Angelo
- Brad Dykeman
- Cathy McGill
- June Manrique
- Darlene Lomax
- Michelle Strader
- Connie Neill
- Jamie Boucher
- Jack Thorman
- Carrie Staniger Hauzenradar
- Gene Burrows
- Fred Leroy Scott (Scotty)
- Jim Cutler
- John Barrett
- Kathy Linquist
- Chastity Lentz
- Dana Smith
- Jacqueline Lake
- Russ Reynolds
- Nathan Reed (Belinda Jones' Friend)

Condolences to Bev Nelson and her family upon the death of Bev's brother, Dick Brooks, who passed away Tuesday, January 21. He resided in Clarmont, Florida. May God's great strength and support be with the entire family during this sad time.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

- Betty McBride (Park Vista)
- Dorothy Foster (Park Vista)
- Pearl Cruser (Park Vista)
- Kaye Duncan (Friendship Manor)
- Myrta George (Texas)
- Virginia Anderson (Lighthouse)
- Dee Bertelsen (Hope Creek)
- Gladys Reamy (Hope Creek)
- Norma Strandlund (Hope Creek)
- Cathy McGill (Home)
- Esther Fields (Home)
- Grace Orton (Home)
- Bob Lofgren (Home)
- Wanda Mitchell (Home)
- Elaine Kruckenberg (Home)
- June Irwin (Home)
- Karl Pearson (Heartland Park)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Anthony Mathis | D.J. Gladfelter |
| Tyler Mathis | Lauren Hugel |
| Galen Ryan | Nick Uzelac |
| Wm. Robert Crouch | |

REMEMBER ALL OUR MISSIONARIES IN PRAYER, ESPECIALLY THESE WITH WHOM WE HAVE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

HAITI

Kihomi & Mabudiga Nzunga - Partner Missionaries

COSTA RICA

Lillian Solt - Partner Missionaries

OKLAHOMA

MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN'S HOME,
Betty Martin

USA & THAILAND

Duane & Marsha Binkley

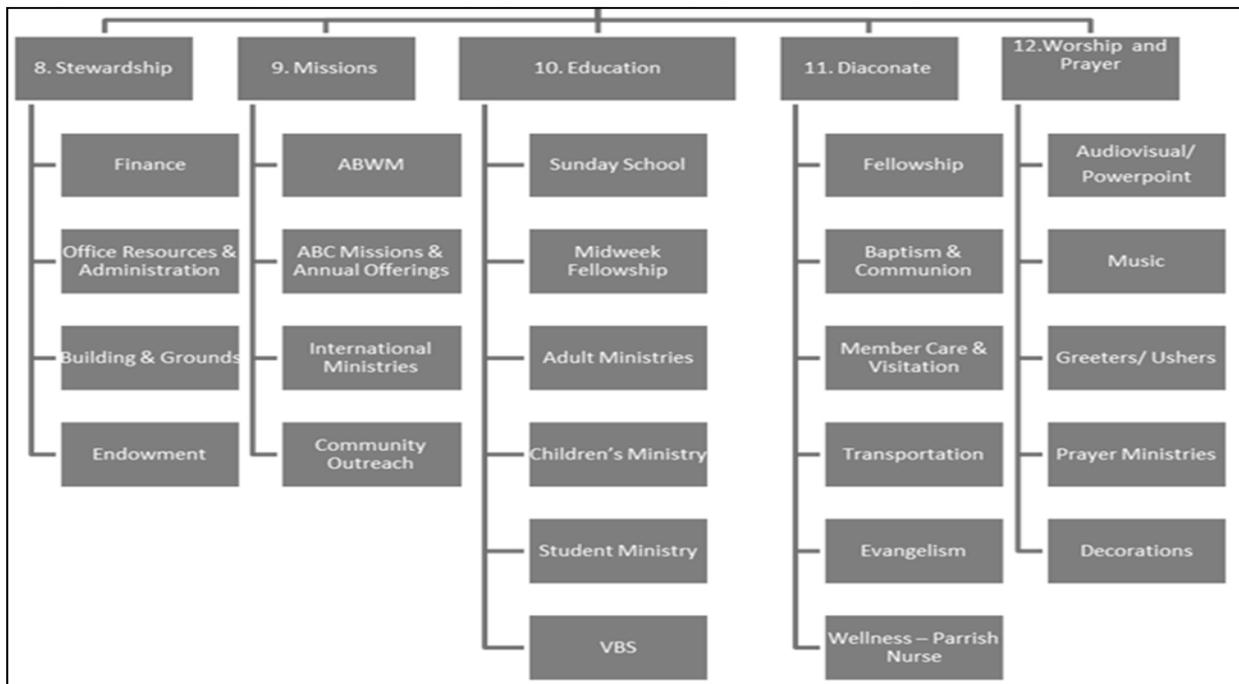
Special Interest Missionaries

Taku and Katie Longkumer
Kristy Engel
Scott and Tan Coats

There's a Place for You to Serve at First Baptist Moline!

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10 NLT

Did you know you were designed with a purpose? God created each of us and then created us anew in Christ Jesus, not for our own sakes, but to glorify him with our lives – "so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (Ephesians 2:10 NLT). 2014 is a year of opportunity for each of us to fulfill the purpose for which God designed us by doing "good things" for his honor and glory. How does God want you to serve Him? Below is a chart of the teams that provide opportunities to serve through our church. Many are already serving, but others are looking for the right opportunity. Let our ministry coordinators (highlighted in the first row) know of your interest. Explore the opportunities with them. Let's get busy doing "the good things he planned for us long ago!"





THANK YOU!
Dear First Baptist
Church

I would like to thank you for the lovely reception you gave me to celebrate my ministry as co-pastor at FBC. Thank you for the beautiful cake, corsage, and the Lladro figurine which will always remind me of you.

I especially want to thank the Fellowship Committee for leading out to make the reception a memorable farewell.

Finally, to all of you who spoke words of affirmation, wrote notes, and sent cards. They meant so much to me. I wish you God's very best.

Love, Deb Miller

Dear Friends of FB Church:

Thank you for your support in the Christmas gifts for pastors and wives. It is always a nice surprise when it arrives. Since I have 10 grandchildren and 5 greats, it helps to remember them at Christmas.

I'm doing well except my left shoulder decided to hurt. I'm hoping some therapy will help.

Sincerely, Jean Wylie

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE NEW BABY!

Congratulations and best wishes to Mary & Jim Anderson upon the birth of their new grandson, Kaiden David Franzen, born January 2, 2014, at 9:40 pm, and weighing 8lbs and 3 ozs. We also congratulate his parents, Stacy & Duane Franzen and his big brother, Elijah.



kaiden David Franzen

REMINDER TO ALL OF OUR YOUTH

If you would like to be a part of our Young Adult Worship service on Sunday, March 9th—please sign up at the Welcome Center or call the Church Office. We need you!



CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Ku Ku Dah and Pah Si upon their marriage, on Saturday, January 18th at 10:00 am here at First Baptist Church. Ku Ku Dah, is the daughter of Ka Lay & Na Pre, and Pah Si is the son of Ka Su and Ma Myint. May God's blessings be upon this couple throughout their whole lives.



JANUARY 2014 LINK



A STORY OF AMAZING FORGIVENESS:

Claire Davis, a student at Arapahoe High School in Colorado, was recently shot in the face by another student, Karl Pierson. She died 8 days later in the hospital. At a memorial service for Claire her father, Michael, gave a moving and emotional tribute to his daughter. He said Claire was loved and respected by everyone and was not judgmental. She loved to laugh. She was on her way to becoming "a person of grace and beauty." By "beauty" he meant she had a beautiful heart. He said Karl was filled with "anger, rage and hatred" and it "blinded" him. He asked that everyone there honor Claire by forgiving Karl and by "keeping love and compassion alive." I've always believed that love encourages love and hate breeds more hate. It's true that in the case of war, etc., we defend our country and our loved ones. As loving human beings, that's what we do. But we can endeavor to leave hate out of it. As children in Sunday School at our church, we sang the song that said Jesus loves the little children, ALL the children of the world. He loves ALL "grown-ups" too! Wish I could find in the Bible where it says that God's love rains on the just AND the unjust.

(To listen to Michael honor his daughter, go to KDVR.com. When you locate the article, scroll down to the 2nd video entitled, "Raw Video: Parents Remember Claire Davis.")

MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION:

For some time now, I've been thinking about worship on Sunday mornings and how I can give God my whole self in worship. I've decided that when I walk through the double doors of our sanctuary, it's all about worshipping God through Christ, not visiting or taking care of church business. The reason for Sunday mornings at church is to WORSHIP. It is only ONE HOUR out of an ENTIRE week. We worship in prayer, in song, in listening to Pastor Flint's message, some church's worship in dance, etc. Fellowship and friendliness IS an important and necessary part of being a Christian, but we can fellowship before and after the service and at other church events during the week. We can also meet each other during the week in other ways. We Baptists do enjoy a good time! So I'm not ignoring you or attempting to be "holier than thou" during the Sunday morning service, but instead seeking the presence of the Holy Spirit. Isn't that what worship on Sunday mornings is all about.

THE HOUSE: I just received in the snail mail, as I'm sure you did, an ad for a new church in the Quad Cities. I love our congregation, but it's always interesting to learn about a new House of God. You can learn more about it at www.thehouseqc.com.



Blessing, Barbara Chaney

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Custodian
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Barb Chaney, Editor
Joan Holmes, Publisher

*"2014 and Beyond:
Give to Live"*

Our Identity and Mission Statement:

*"We are a multi-cultural family
seeking to grow in love of God and
neighbor intent on sharing the Good
News of Jesus Christ."*

LOOK

LOOKING AHEAD
FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 17
MAILING: FEBRUARY 20
(ONE ISSUE MONTHLY)



We're on the web!

**www.fbc-
moline.org**

Computer Class!
Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m.,
January 27 - February 24
Judson Classroom

Emphasis will be on practical use.

Topics will include using email, Facebook, virus protection, ongoing maintenance, working with photos & videos, using YouTube, Pandora and Wikipedia, Bible study and devotional resources. This class will be driven by the needs and questions of students. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center. All are welcome!



Please note: Due to the ABWM Circle Meeting there will be no computer classes on Tuesday, February 10th.