



# 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

October 18  
English 67  
Karen 175

October 25  
English 100  
Karen 147

November 1  
English 81  
Karen 163

November 8  
English 89  
Karen 178

November 15  
English 91  
Karen ??



*<sup>15</sup> Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, <sup>16</sup> I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly. Ephesians 1:15-16 NLT*

A few years ago Dr. Nick Stinnett of the University of Nebraska conducted a group of studies called the "Family Strengths Research Project". Stinnett and his researchers identified six qualities that make for strong families. The first quality and one of the most important to be found in strong families was the quality of appreciation. Families that are strong are strong in part, Dr. Stinnett concludes, because family members express to each other their appreciation for what the other members DO and for who they ARE.

In a similar study another researcher looked into the effect of praise in the workplace. His study showed that the ratio of praise to criticism in the workplace needs to be four to one before employees feel that there is a **balance** - that there must be four times as much praise as there is criticism before they feel good about their work and about the environment they work in.

That is pretty staggering information - information that tells us that if we want to do something good, that if we want to have a healthy family, a strong workplace, or any other effective group that we need to be sure that appreciation, praise, and thanksgiving are heard at least four times as often as is criticism.

In Hebrew, the word for gratitude - hoda'ah - is the same as the word for confession. To offer thanks is to confess dependence, to acknowledge that others have the power to benefit you, to admit that your life is better because of their efforts. As we approach thanksgiving, may be especially aware of our debt to each other. Our lives are beautifully enriched by the gift of our friends, our family, our church and our fellow citizens. This Thanksgiving, take time to intentionally express your debt of appreciation to those who bless your life.

Pastor Flint



**NOTES FROM YOUR  
PARISH NURSES  
SANDY CLAERHOUT & BARB MILLER**



**WINNING WALKERS**

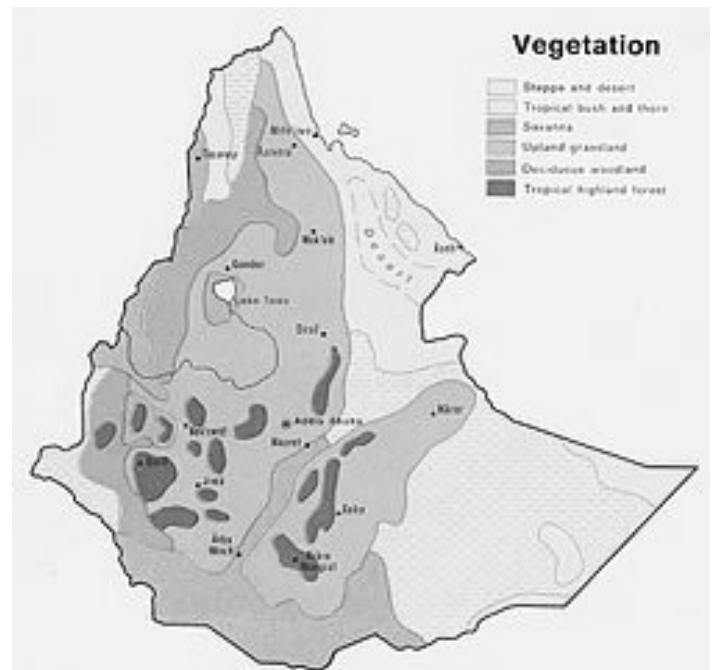
Walk to Ethiopia finished on October 31, and we got almost half-way there. It is 7565 miles from Moline and we walked 3340.5 miles. We started out with 27 walkers, but 4 dropped out. Our **BIG WINNER** is **JACKIE SHATTUCK** with 349.68 miles. We should all live on a farm and work there.



**CONGRATULATION'S JACKIE !!!**

Cathy Capps	341 miles	Bev Nelson	130 miles
Flint Miller	242.3 miles	Bob Moody	120 miles
Tom VanDeventer	195 miles	Sandy Claerhout	114 miles
Barb Miller	171.77 miles	Deb Miller	106 miles
Matt Nelson	163 miles	Carol Lear	105 miles
Melba Moody	161 miles	Willie Phillis	94 miles
Mulu Zerihoun	157 miles	Jo Ann Parmley	72 miles
Sharon Farral	149 miles	Nancy Crawford	64 miles
Lucy Anderson	148.4 miles	Cathy Jarvis	54miles
Paula Newell	146 miles	Terry Jarvis	40 miles
Ann Watkins	135 miles		
Mary Anderson	133.4 miles		

Congratulations to all of our Walkers, you have done a good job of taking a big step to improve your health. You can continue to get in practice for 2016 fall when we will complete our journey.



**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER  
2015 SUNDAY GREETERS AT WELCOME CENTER**

9:15—10:00 am & 20 minutes after worship

November 22 Julie & Gary Rodell

November 29 JoAnn Parmley

December 6 Bettelou & Ron Shipley

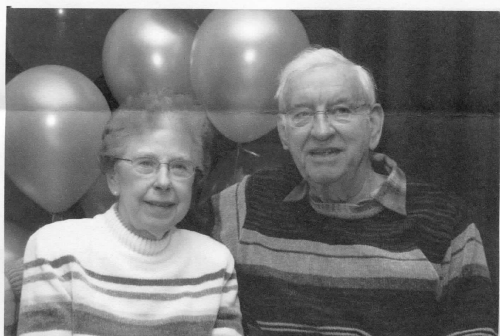
December 13 Melba & Bob Moody

December 20 Bev Nelson & Jackie Shattuck

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

**WEEKLY BUDGET NEED  
FOR 2015 \$4,185.48**

October 25	\$4,458.00
November 1	3,981.00
November 8	4,127.00
November 15	2,300.00



**ATTENTION:** The family of Mary and Dale Rousey (dear and faithful members for many years) invites you to participate in a card shower to help celebrate their 95th birthdays. Mary's birthday is December 6th and Dale's is December 20th. Please help us give them a birthday to remember by filling their mailboxes with birthday wishes!. Cards can be sent to their home at:

1900 Ballington Blvd, NW #210  
Rochester, MN 55901

What an achievement—95 years young! Happy Birthday to both.



**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in this year's Christmas Child Boxes. From those who made items, those who bought items, and those who donated money. We filled 48 boxes, and a **VERY BIG** thank you to all who helped fill the boxes. Forty eight children in some foreign country will always thank you. The boxes now go to several central distribution places. In the year of 2013, a total of 7,541,468 boxes were sent from the United States primarily to South and Central America, Africa,

China, Philippines, Mexico and 68 countries. Other countries participating by donating to the Christmas Child Box Program include : Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Finland, Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, Japan, Spain, and the United Kingdom, for a total of nearly 10 million boxes, sent to help spread the Good News to children who have never heard the life-changing story of Jesus.



*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

*Philippians 4:6-7 NIV*



**PLEASE NOTE: UPDATE ON PRAYER LIST**

If you have a name that you wish to put on the prayer list, (someone with illness or other needs), please call the church office, and we will be glad to add them. The names will be left on for about two weeks, unless the office is informed otherwise.

Nancy Lee (TW RI)

Wanda Mitchell (Hope Creek - stroke)

Robert Lofgren (Heartland)

Fontella (Katy) Dodds

Sharon Angelo

Cathy McGill

Mary Ann Schmidt

*I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. <sup>2</sup> Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is good and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. <sup>5</sup> For,*

*There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. <sup>6</sup> He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone.*

*This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time.*

*1 Timothy 2:1-6 NLT*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR EXTENDED FAMILY**

Patricia Ostrand (The Fountain)  
 Pearl Curser (Park Vista)  
 Karl Pearson (Marigold Rehab & Health Care Center)  
 Kaye Duncan (Friendship Manor)  
 Virginia Anderson (Lighthouse)  
 Dee Bertelsen (Hope Creek)  
 Wanda Mitchell (Hope Creek)  
 Gladys Reamy (Hope Creek)  
 Norma Strandlund (Hope Creek)  
 Cathy McGill (Home)  
 Grace Orton (Home)  
 Bob Lofgren (Heartland)  
 June Irwin (Home)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY**

Anthony Mathis	D.J. Gladfelter
Dannie O'Neill	Lauren Hugel
Galen Ryan	Nick Uzelac
Wm. Robert Crouch	Zakris Sotirin-Miller
	I

**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 Missionary

**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

**First Baptist Church of Moline  
Church Council Meeting  
November 16, 2015**

**Pastoral: Pastor Flint Miller  
Karen Ministry: Absent  
Human Resources: Absent  
Moderator: Martin Newell  
Clerk: Mary Anderson  
Mission: Barb Miller**

**Treasurer: Absent  
Financial Secretary: Paula Newell  
Education: Absent  
Diaconate: Wally Lofgren  
Stewardship: Tim O'Neill  
Worship & Prayer: Cathy Jarvis**

Also present were Terry Jarvis and Bettelou Shipley.

Pastor Flint opened the meeting with prayer.

The council discussed updating our church's pamphlet that we hand out to visitors. Pastor Flint will follow up on this project, and work with Mary Anderson to produce new pamphlets. Council members were encouraged to talk with their teams and make plans for goals to achieve for 2016. This information will be needed for our Annual Meeting in January. Pastor Flint would like each Ministry Coordinator to take a turn doing a two-minute talk during church services to inform the congregation about what each team does. We need more people interested in participating in teams.

The date for the Annual Meeting was proposed by Martin to be moved from January 17, 2016 to January 24, 2016. This would give the congregation more time to look over the reports ahead of the meeting. Cathy made a motion that the date be changed, Wally seconded it, the council voted, and the motion passed.

Tim O'Neill reported that our new electronic sign is in production. The sign will be delivered and installed by mid-December.

Wally reported that the ABW group has offered to donate \$1,000 for the purchase of new chairs for Fellowship Hall, if it is decided by the council that new chairs will be purchased. Wally has fixed a few chairs himself.

Paula Newell reported that as of November 15th, 35 written pledges have been received. We had 44 pledges last year. Paula is expecting that a few more pledges will still come in. The council reviewed the budget which is still being fine-tuned. The monthly Treasurer's Report is on display on the bulletin board on the wall across from the side of the Welcome Center.

Pastor Flint gave a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anderson, Church Clerk

**NOTES FROM THE CHURCH MODERATOR**

A key point in a recent sermon - "the best use of our money is to use it to get people into heaven" - reminded me about the Growth Fund account that was setup last year.

We all understand the significant cost in keeping any church operational, especially with having less income than we have received in the past. It is important to note is that this special growth fund has enabled the church council to seek ways to grow our church without using funds pledged to the general budget. Things like ...

- ☛ **Spiritual:** The church council approved purchasing the materials for the very successful 50 days of Transformation. This campaign would not have happened without these funds.
- ☛ **Advertising/Out Reach:** We are in the process of purchasing a new outdoor digital sign to use to promote our church events. Research shows that this modern form of advertising is the second most effective way to reach out to potential members. The most effective is still, "bring a friend to church"!

If you would like to support these types of growth initiatives please specify "Growth Fund 881" on any additional contribution. Only through additional, "above and beyond", donations to this fund can we continue to seek ways to support growth in our church. Martin Newell

**HAPPENINGS AT FBC - MOLINE**

I always love the way our church is decorated for the seasons. I'm sure you've noticed our altar this Fall. A big "Thank You" to the ladies who always make sure our church looks beautiful.

Rick Warren's "50 Days of Transformation" has been a wonderful experience. I've looked forward to Pastor Flint's sermons and the small-group gathering. I think it's brought our church closer together....if that's possible!

As I write this I haven't yet watched the documentary, "Karen Kids," on WKQC-TV, Channel Six. Really looking forward to watching it Tuesday afternoon, November 17, at 5:00 PM.

The ladies of our congregation visited the ladies of Calvary Lutheran across the street. They displayed both our handmade items and theirs. There's a lot of talent between our two churches. They also had a table full of good eats. We had them share in our arts and crafts show recently. Working together. It's a good thing!!

**PARIS**

We've all watched the news of the terrorist attacks on Paris. A journalist said, "The City of Light" is now dark." One feels so helpless and wishes there was something we could do as world citizens. Immediately I thought of prayer and prayer is powerful. But there's something else. We can be kind and respectful to everyone...our family, our friends, people we see in the grocery store...even those we don't particularly care for. I know you can think of other ways to help others directly.

**A BLESSING**

*Here's a prayer I found in one of my devotionals: "I wish you love and strength and faith and wisdom, goods enough to help some needy one. I wish you songs, but also blessed silence and God's sweet peace when every day is done. - Dorothy Nell McDonald -*

**WHEN GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS:** I found the following in a gift catalog on a plaque:

When God Answers Prayers,  
 Sometimes He says "Yes"  
 Sometimes He says "No"  
 And sometimes He says,  
 You've got to be kidding!"

Blessings, Barb Chaney

**LOVE GIFT SUNDAY IS**

**NOVEMBER 29.**

Thanksgiving and LOVE GIFT go hand-in-hand. As we celebrate the Thanksgiving Season this year, let us not forget to give thanks to God for each little blessing large or small by giving to LOVE GIFT on November 29.



LOVE GIFT is a spiritual discipline of American Baptists that makes a difference daily in the lives of many others. Because of the sacrificial giving by American Baptists through LOVE GIFT, "Making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19)" becomes a life-changing reality every day.

**POINSETTIAS ON SALE!**

We need your help to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. We will be taking orders for poinsettias this Sunday, November 22nd, and also on the 29th.

The price this year is \$8.00 per poinsettia. (we apologize for the error in the bulletin quoting the wrong price.) Please make checks payable to First Baptist Church with the word poinsettias on the memo line. You may place an order in honor or memory of a loved one. Please see Dorose Harrington or JoAnn Parmley to place your order. Thank you!



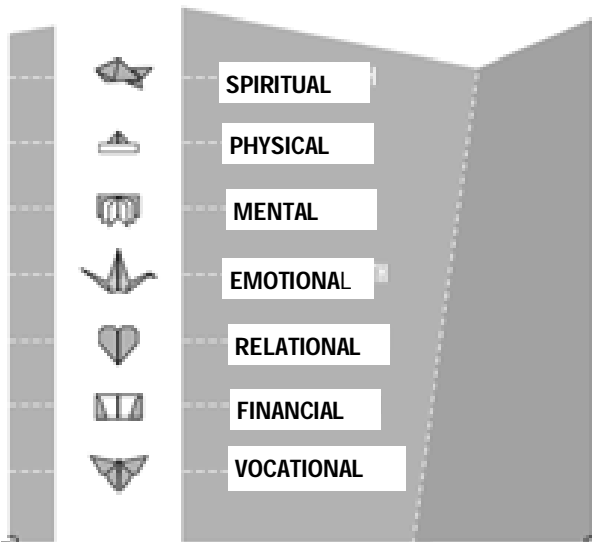
**Hanging of the Green**

We will kick off the Advent and Christmas season on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29, with Hanging of the Green. This special worship service allows us to focus on the spiritual meaning of the symbols of Christmas. We'll decorate the sanctuary and sing favorite Christmas carols. This is a PARTICIPATORY event. Please sign up to take part at the Welcome Center and please note, our rehearsal for this service will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 28.



Any questions, contact Pastor Flint.

Please note: The next FBC Blood Drive will be Tuesday, January 19th from 3:00—6:30 pm here at First Baptist Church. The last day to donate to be eligible for this drive is Tuesday, November 24th. To sign up or if you have questions, please contact Paula Newell. Thank you in advance!



**TRANSFORMED**

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2

During the past fifty days we have experienced the Transformed Campaign—it has been an exciting adventure both personally and as a church. Many individuals have indicated this to be a personal renewing of their faith and relationship with God the Father, through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Intimacy with the Godhead is what we desire in a closer walk with Christ.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the host of each small group for their faithful guidance of the small groups, as well as the small group participation. Thanks to all of you for the prayers and love as we have grown along the way and will

continue to grow as a church being led by Christ himself. Pray without ceasing that we may follow in Christ's leading.

In Christian love, Willie Phillis  
Director of the Transformed Spiritual Growth Campaign.

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*Pastor*  
Dr. Flint Miller  
*Parish Nurses*  
Sandy Claerhout Barb Miller  
*Church Musician*  
Jen Hays  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Joan Holmes  
*Custodian*  
Cathy McWade

First Baptist Church  
1901—29th Street  
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Barb Chaney, Editor  
Joan Holmes, Publisher

**"2015 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 2015  
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE—DECEMBER 14  
MAIL—DECEMBER 17  
(ONE ISSUE MONTHLY)**



**We're on the web!**

**www.fbc-  
moline.org**



Everyone (men and women) is invited to our  
**HOLIDAY POTLUCK LUNCHEON**

Monday, December 14th at 11:30 am

**SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN BAPTIST  
WOMEN'S MINISTRIES AND UPPER CLASS  
(White Elephant Exchange)**

Please bring a salad, or casserole to share.

Table service, dessert, and drinks will be provided

Gifts for Christian Friendliness will again be collected starting now and  
can be placed on the table provided in the Fellowship Hall.

Suggested items needed for Christian Friendliness: Toys, dolls, stuffed animals, games, stocking caps, gloves, scarves, socks, mittens, etc. Personal hygiene products (toothbrushes, toothpaste), cleaning products and nonperishable items such as canned goods and soups are also needed.

**COME AND ENJOY A FEW HOURS OF CHRISTIAN  
FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP  
CHRISTMAS SONGS LED BY NANCY CRAWFORD**

