

FELLOWSHIP BUILDER



“Growing Spiritually as Individuals and as a Church”
February 2012

First Baptist Church
of Beloit, WI

From the Pastor’s Desk

Ensuring the success of interim ministry- A paraphrase of Titus 1:5-2:1

Most of you know we are working our way through the apostle Paul's letter to Titus as we prepare for the next pastor of First Baptist Church--Beloit. On a recent Sunday I shared the following paraphrase of Titus 1:5-2:1 as a way for us to distill the counsel of scripture for this important work that is in front of you. Here it is, produced for your use. I'd like to suggest keeping it nearby and reading it from time to time, especially when the candidating weekend finally comes. You can even use it as a guide for your prayers.

So, you have a responsibility to give someone the responsibility for this congregation!

Make sure the pastor you call is without blame and that their spouse and children (if they have them) share a commitment to Christ and are without blame themselves. This frees them to focus on ministering among you.

The person you call takes care of the congregation on God’s behalf, so they should not put themselves in the way of the work. Nor should they quickly lose their temper or be under the influence of alcohol or be given to fighting. Neither should they be greedy for money. Instead, they should be welcoming, a lover of God, easily reasoned with, fair, serious about their faith and in control of themselves.

They need to have a firm grip on the word—not losing track of what they were taught so that they can teach accurately, effectively, and even correctively when needed.

This is important because there are many who rebel against these things, who love to hear the sound of their own voice and act deceitfully—even though they seem very religious when you first meet them. You need to keep them silent because they only upset the households of our congregation when they teach their errors, and then only because they are in it for the money.

Old Ben Franklin is not the first to have said, “God helps those who help themselves,” but it was good advice he gave us. Prove people like this wrong and put them in their place so that the faith God gave us may be soundly in them and in everyone else.

That way they will stop placing so much importance on celebrity and pop-culture which only leads them further astray. Mature people might be able to discern truth from fiction, but for those already given to rebellion, this junk only worsens the problem.

These people profess to know God, but you would not know it from watching them. They are an affront, the antithesis of a minister and worthless for service to Christ and his kingdom.

You who are now responsible to call people into ministry need to get these matters right!

-mark I vincent



Rev. Larry Greene, Bill Johnson,
Gail Ludlum, Kathleen Marsden.

Our prayers for Chris Cox
and all people serving in the military

Our heartfelt prayers and sympathy go out to Jonnie Egleston and family on the loss her mother, Sharon Knie, who passed away December 29. May they feel the love of the Lord and friends during this difficult time.

Our heartfelt prayers and sympathy go out Connie and Gene Van Galder and family on the loss of Connie's mother, Phyllis Seymour, who passed away January 16. May they feel the love the Lord and friends curing this difficult time.

Congratulations to Barb and Curtis Lansbery on the birth of their new granddaughter, Noelle Rose. Noelle was born on December 31 to Barb's daughter and son-in-law, Hilary and Charlie Krieger.

Here to Serve in Ministry

Pastor Mark L. Vincent,
Interim Minister
Kathie Barnhart,
Office Administrator
Kathy Mentele, Choir Director
Peggy Pleasant, Organist

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Worship Service: 10:15 AM
Wednesday Bible
Study 6:45 PM

Contact Information

Telephone: 608.365.8455
E-mail: firstbaptistchurch@
firstbaptistbeloit.org

Dear First Baptist Church, Please find enclosed our check for the Scholarship Fund. Following my mother's death this past August, some of our fellow employees at the National Federation of the Blind in Baltimore took up a small collection to be donated per her wishes to the Scholarship Fund. We have added some to the collection and herewith deliver it to you.

Artis Cheadle requested donations to the Scholarship Fund perhaps because some of her children benefited from. I was one of those who did. It is my belief that her wishes were more complex than simply payback. She was a strong believer in education as well as Christ and the impact of the Church in our lives; she wished to continue this ministry.

The church our family grew up in has been a steadfast pillar of guidance in our lives and we were touched again by its outreach surrounding her death. With open arms and loving hearts you came to our need at this difficult time. Rest assured that the ministries we all received for nearly seventy years have multiplied many times over as we all continue our lives in Christ.

You have been a significant force in raising eight of us. You have buried one of us and both of our parents. You have seen us through the wonderful formative years of our lives. This Church has donated scholarships to help us get through college. The scholarship, for me, was a statement of your confidence and faith in a wandering young man. Thank you.

Yours in Christ, John A. Cheadle

Midweek Manna - If you would like to receive *Midweek Manna*, please contact the church office. It is available on our website www.firstbaptistbeloit.org and there are printed copies on the narthex table.

2012 Worship Bulletin Recognition

To purchase a Sunday bulletin(s) in memory or honor of a loved one or a special occasion. Please fill out the white form that is on the narthex table and leave it in the office with your check for \$15 in the tray on the back counter labeled Office Administrator. Kathie will notify you the date(s) you have chosen are taken.

Serving in February

WORSHIP LEADERS

February 5 Mark Maxted
February 12 Debbie Bridges
February 19 Jim Clowes
February 26 Janice Egleston

GREETERS

February 5 Jonnie Egleston
February 12 Curtis & Shu Cha West
February 19 Lois Strothman
February 26 Lorie Vincent

TRUSTEES

February 5 Tim Huffman
February 12 Ron Mixon
February 19 Norvain Pleasant
February 26 Dan Wright

Trustee Area Assignments

Each Trustee has been assigned an area of the church to be responsible for, please contact the appropriate Trustee with your concerns. A list of the Trustee Area Assignments is posted on the Narthex and office bulletin boards.

COFFEE HOUR SERVERS

February 5
February 12
February 19
February 26

Church Office

February Fellowship Builder information needs to be in the church office by Sunday, January 22. Thank you for your cooperation.

Recycle your Inkjet Cartridges

Please save your empty inkjet cartridges. We will turn them in for credit towards office supplies for our church. You may put your empty inkjet cartridges in the "Deposit" box under the hall table by the office door. Thank you.



February Meetings

Wednesday Bible Study at 6:45 PM

Board Meetings:

All Meetings at Church unless otherwise noted

Christian Education Board –

Monday, Feb. 6, 6:30 PM

Church Council – Monday, Feb. 12, 7:00 PM

Diaconate – Monday, Feb. 21, 7:00 PM

Missions Board – Sunday, Feb. 12, 8:30 AM

Music Board – will not meet

Trustee Board – Sunday, Feb. 12, 8:30 AM



American Baptist Women's Ministry will meet on Wednesday, February 15 at **11:30 AM** (please note the earlier start time) in the Gathering Room. Bring a Box Lunch in an interesting and beautiful container for auction. Don't forget to include dessert. Coffee will be furnished. We will start bidding at 11:30 promptly and enjoy our newly purchased lunches after that. A very interesting program will follow by Jody (Willmer) Hopper on the "SHARE" program. We hope many will come, especially if you have never attended an ABWM meeting. Host circle is Martha Circle

ABW Ministry Circle Meetings

Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, February 1, 9:30 AM at Denny's Restaurant, 16049 Willow Brook Road (by Flying J gas station).
Hostess and Devotions: Arlene Masear.

Martha Circle will meet Wednesday, February 1 at 1:30 PM at church
Hostess is Lois Maxted..

Rachel Circle will meet Tuesday, February 7 at 7:15 PM. Hostess is Jonnie Egleston, 1153 Hinsdale Ave.

Hands of Faith – Our next rotation is the week of February 5-11, 2012. Please contact Janice Egleston for more information.

First Baptist Church Sunday Sermon can be heard on our website
<http://www.firstbaptistbeloit.org> click on Weekly Sermon.

Youth Group Meeting for February – We will meet at church on Saturday, February 17 beginning at 6:30 p.m. We will watch the movie *Courageous* and discuss the 30 Hour Famine and other events we are looking at doing in the future. We will be done by 9:00 p.m. Please bring your own beverage, Snacks will be provided. Please let a youth leader know if you cannot attend.

The Youth Group continues to collect cans. If have cans to donate, please bring them to church on the 2nd Sunday of each month, there will be a truck to deposit them in.

Note from Bert, the Belfry Bat
Thoughts of a SPECIAL MAN
now gone!



The church in 1975 had a special committee called “SOCIAL CONCERNS”. They met monthly concerned with church and community mission projects they could help. So this church, I fly around in, became a haven for Kien Duong and his family. I watched as the family was cared for with clothing, food, doctor’s appointments, tutoring and love.

You know the corner of College and Bushnell wasn’t always a parking lot. Before 2000 there was a large two story yellow house just the right size to house a family of four. Well that is what the church people thought they could handle BUT along came Kien, wife Da Le and four of their five children along with three brothers! They were welcomed, loved and so the journey with this family began.

There was so much for the family to learn especially with the cold, wearing shoes and mittens all the time. So different than the warm homeland of Vietnam they came from. Then came the language, jobs for the men, transportation and all that goes into helping this family. But the hugs and smiles covered many barriers and life began with no fear for the first Vietnamese family the church would sponsor with many more to come!

I see there is the story on the church bulletin board for all to read. It is so interesting to have all these memories coming back to this church. Bert, your friendly Bat



*Everything I need to know about life,
I learned from Noah’s Ark . . .*

- 1) *Don’t miss the boat.*
- 2) *Remember that we are all in the same boat.*
- 3) *Plan ahead. It wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark.*
- 4) *Stay fit. When you’re 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.*
- 5) *Don’t listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.*
- 6) *Build your future on high ground.*
- 7) *For safety’s sake, travel in pairs.*
- 8) *Speed isn’t always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.*
- 9) *When you’re stressed, float a while.*
- 10) *Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.*
- 11) *No matter the storm, when you are with God, there’s always a rainbow waiting.*