

Bridge Builders Newsletter

Issue 514

2018 October

Search Committee Update

Interim Pastor
Claudia McCain

Director of
Christian Education
Gee Min Glaue

Administrative Assistant
Leann Walters

Custodian
Lisa Barker

For the month of September, the search committee has selected a final candidate from our current round of searching. We conducted further discussions, and worked with the church board to discuss with the candidate a verbal contract. The candidate has asked for extended time to discern their calling to our church. We expect to receive an answer by the end of September, and will provide an update during worship service.

Should the candidate accept the calling, we will be scheduling a candidate weekend to present the person to the congregation for your consideration and vote to install. Should the candidate decline the calling, the committee will immediately begin a new search with our Regional Area Minister, Rev. Dr. Rex Rogers.

During this time, please be in prayer over the candidates we are reviewing. Please pray for your future pastor. Pray for your church. And let us come together in purpose and vision during this time as we do ministry together. You have all been an encouragement to the committee, showing us your support, and being patient with us as we do the work you have charged us to do. It is your prayers that lead us in our work.

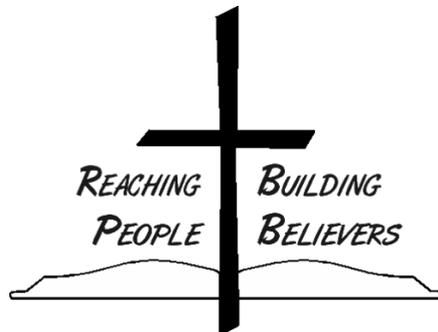
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In Christ, working together,
Russell Glaue, Pastoral Search Committee Chair



Interim Pastor's Article

Opening Prayer Leaders

October 7

Jim Richardson

October 14

Christina Harman

October 21

Gerald Jones

October 28

Bob Babcock



The Season

In Ecclesiastes 3, A Time for Everything, Israel's third king Solomon writes: "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." (3:1)

When we think of seasons, we often think of spring, summer, fall and winter. As I write this, the weatherman predicts that today may very well be the end of summer temperatures. (I hope he is right!)

We're expecting it to be 95 degrees or above today, but tomorrow and the days that follow should be in the mid-70s. Ahh!

Fall is my favorite season. I gripe about winter, I'm thankful for spring, I gripe about summer, but I love fall. I love the smell of the harvest. I love the fall colors. I love the beautiful sunsets. I love the angle of the sun. The air somehow seems crisper, cleaner, clearer.

Candle Lighters

October 7

Deena Mangalaraj

October 14

Celena Mangalaraj

October 21

Abigail Wallace

October 28

Taylor Richardson

But, we also have seasons in life. Some seasons bring great joy like births, birthdays, graduations, love, marriage, anniversaries, grandparenting. Other seasons bring great pain: illness, death, loss, war. Solomon writes that there is "a time to be born and a time to die," "a time to weep and a time to laugh," "A time to mourn and a time to dance," (3:1,4) We have little control over our lives, whether we view events as favorable or not. But God in His mighty power makes "everything beautiful in its time." (3:11)

I was reminded of a recent Our Daily Bread devotion that in seasons of heartache, we can trust that in time God will bring something good from them. Our comforts and joys may come and go, but God's work "will endure forever." (3:14) We may not appreciate every season – some are quite painful – yet He, God, can bring beauty to them all.

Regardless of the season in which you find yourself, look around. Look for the beauty. Look for the blessings. Look for the presence of God. He is there.

To God be the Glory!

Claudia McCain
Interim Pastor

Sermon Series

In Awe of God

Have you ever been in awe of something? Watching the sun rise over a lake? Standing on the ocean's edge watching the waves roll in? Watching a child sleep? These are just a few things that inspire us. But the Psalmist writes of something much greater than any mountain majesty. He writes of the majesty that created the mountain. He shares, "The LORD merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born. He assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs." (Psalm 33:6-7 NLT) His conclusion was, "Let the whole world fear the LORD, and let everyone stand in awe of him." Join us this month as we too stand In Awe of God and observe His Handiwork and His Holiness.

- October 7** *In Awe of God* Jane Coplan speaking
October 14 *The Handiwork of God*
October 21 *The Holiness of God*
October 28 **Tim and Kathy Rice**, GRR Missionaries
Democratic Republic of the Congo

Missionaries from the Congo to Speak

Sunday, October 28

9:30 am - Tim and Kathy Rice will speak during worship. Medical Missionaries from the Dominican Republic of the Congo, Africa. A love offering will be collected

10:45 am - Tim & Kathy will share during combined adult and youth Sunday school classes

11:45 am - potluck lunch, meat will be provided by the ABW. (Bring a dish to share)

Tim and Kathy Rice are associate missionaries jointly appointed by both International Ministries and New City Fellowship in St. Louis to serve as medical missionaries at the Vanga Evangelical Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Rices are from Saint Louis, Missouri, where Tim is a doctor on the faculty of the School of Medicine at Saint Louis University. Kathy is a registered nurse. They got involved in the DRC through the ministry of their church, New City Fellowship and also through their acquaintance with the late Dr. Dan Fountain and many other International Ministries missionaries in the DRC. Both Kathy and Tim had previously served short-term at Vanga Evangelical Hospital. They are now learning French so they can serve long-term contributing to the training of nursing and medical students for Christ-centered, whole person care. The Rice's vision is to train the next generation of Congolese doctors and nurses in Christ-centered, whole-person care, empowering them to use the limited resources available to restore life and health across the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Their desire is to facilitate worldwide partnerships, enabling health professionals to participate in mutual exchange of expertise at the Vanga Evangelical Hospital and elsewhere in the world.

General Income & Expense Summary

| Month | Income* | Expenses |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| January | \$12,914.66 | \$15,841.83 |
| February | \$14,441.77 | \$18,646.26 |
| March | \$16,747.44 | \$12,713.81 |
| April | \$14,557.30 | \$10,424.13 |
| May | \$15,777.72 | \$11,434.62 |
| June | \$10,675.87 | \$10,776.93 |
| July | \$14,008.16 | \$13,318.83 |
| August | \$16,744.75 | \$13,619.59 |
| September | \$12,802.34 | \$12,069.36 |

- Includes Tithes, Offerings, Gifts, & Interest



6—Carolyn Tomlinson

8—Laura Fisher

Brandon Wheeler

15—Marshal Jordan

16—Allen & Paula Black (a)

18—Bob Babcock

George Mangalaraj

19—Kenzie Derry

20—Ruth Anne Ceder

22—Bronson Royer

23—Mike Geltmacher

27—Johnsy Mangalaraj

30—Virgil Henderson

Mary Hoff

Gerald Jones

31—Ron Smith

November

4—Donna McMahon

5—Alice Bishop

8—Richard Hainline

11—Donna Marlowe

12—Kirstin Thomas

13—Ginny Doxstader

18—Allen Black

20—Ian Molina

26—Ozden Cale

29—Eli Foulk

30—Isa Molina

Building Update

We are now entering the last month of our 2015 New Beginnings Capital Campaign \$298,167.09 has been donated as of September 30, 2018. Our pledge total was \$317,350.00. You can contribute to the building fund by putting the amount of your donation on the line "Building Fund" on an offering envelope. Money designated there will go to our monthly loan payment of \$6640.12 and toward completing Phase I of the project

The commitment phase of our 2018 *Vision 4 Tomorrow* campaign is also in progress. If you have not received a commitment card, contact Leann at the church office and she will get one to you. This commitment will be for the next three years. Be in prayer about what you can give.

Volunteers continue to be welcome as we work toward completing Phase 1 of the building project. The rest of the hallway has been painted and more drywall mudding and sanding have been completed. Ceiling tile will soon be put up in the hallway. The Saturday morning volunteers also put together two beautiful benches in memory of Angie Green.

"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share . . . "
1 Timothy 6:18

Judy Hurt
Capital Campaign Follow-up Director

Church Board Summary

This past month The Board met on August 14th. Items discussed/completed this month were:

- Normal financial and church business
- The Board reviewed the form used for background checks for nursery workers from the State and the Great Rivers Region. It was agreed that background checks should be conducted on anyone involved in children's and youth ministries at FBC, whether they are currently serving in that role or are new to the role. This will include workers and volunteers for The Outlet. The Great Rivers Region will be used for the background checks.
- The policy for teachers and leaders of the church was approved.
- Procedures for Sunday School attendance and offering was discussed.

We would like the continued prayers from all of you as we conduct the business of our church.

Rich Sample
FBC Board Chairperson

World Mission Offering

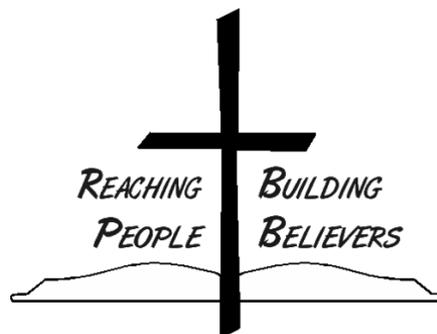
October Special Offering

You are the salt of the earth. Matthew 5:13

Salt, as ordinary and plentiful as it is, possesses a very special and unique power when added to foods. Unlike any other seasoning, salt unlocks the subtle flavors, enhancing and bringing new sensations to our taste buds. When our Lord says to his followers, “you are the salt of the earth,” he is urging them to go into the whole world and enhance the good that he is doing so others can be touched by the power of the saving grace of God. As followers of Christ, our congregation is the salt of the earth, seasoned with the love of the gospel and called to carry that love to all the earth.

This World Mission Offering season, International Ministries is focusing on three Ministry Priorities: Health and Wellness, Abolishing Global Slavery and Economic and Community Development. While this does not include all the ministries of International Ministries, these serve to illustrate some of what God is doing worldwide through our 120 global missionaries, 900+ volunteers, 43 home staff and 240+ global Christian partners. Our gifts to the World Mission Offering powerfully connect us to all of the global servants and ministries of the Lord through International Ministries.

Please pray for our global servants and ask God how He wants you to participate in the World Mission Offering.



Alan & Whitney Brown

Dear friend and prayer partner,

We are thankful for so many things the past month! Here are just a few:

- We arrived back to Greece safely and with all our luggage, albeit exhausted. It took us longer than usual to recover from jet-lag, but we did!
- Our house was in very good shape and friends stocked our refrigerator with plenty of groceries to last us while we recovered from the jet-lag!
- After sitting unused for 10 months, our car still runs!
- Although Whitney got a fever the second week after we arrived, she recovered in three days with antibiotics and no other issues.
- Soon after Whitney recovered, we were asked to speak to a group of students from Moody Bible (Chicago) who are in a study abroad program. We loved sharing our journey and life lessons with them and it touched many of them. One of the student leaders came to us asking for help, believing he was burning out in all areas and felt that God was calling him to spend time with us. It happened that there was a break in the studies and he came and stayed with us for 6 days, resting, reading, meditating on God's Word and journaling. He asked many questions and we prayed for wisdom and direction to point Him to the only One who could give him true rest in his heart, mind and soul. He is on a wonderful journey and we believe God will continue to heal him and use him to help others find healing too.

We continue to wait on God to show us the right time to move. The house we are believing and praying for is on "hold" for the time being due to a court case the owner is going through (unrelated to the house, but it affects all her properties). Please pray for the case to be decided and process by the end of October. Legally, it could take from 2 months to 2 years. The owner agrees with us and desires to see the house used to minister to Kingdom workers, but God has to give us the "green light." We are looking into alternatives, but feel a peace to wait until the end of October before we start pursuing them. Until then, we are asking God to lead those who need rest and we can host them in our apartment. We believe it should be one person (singles) at time due to the limitation of space. In a way only God works, we came to that peace and decision two days before we spoke to the students and were approached by the student who came to stay with us. We want to see Him do that again and again :-)

Whitney got sick again this week, same thing, fever and drained. We had lab work done again and will get the results later today. She started a new antibiotic right away and we believe the fever broke last night. The doctor (and us) still wants to know what this is and why she got hit twice in 3 weeks, after being completely healthy for the past year in the US. We are thankful God has provided a caring and intelligent doctor who is always available. We believe God is working on his heart too! Please pray for complete healing over this fever in Whitney and for our Doctor's heart to be opened to Jesus. His name is Harris. Thanks!

Thank you for taking time to read this and lifting us to PAPA. We are blessed by you and are increasingly thankful for your involvement in our lives and ministry!

With deep gratitude and by His grace,

Alan and Whitney

Mac N Cheese Bakeoff Winners

Adult Category

1st Prize and recipient of the Coveted Golden Spoon:

Pastor Claudia McCain



2nd Prize and recipient of adorable food pics:

Susan Rose



Kids Choice (the one the kids liked most) and recipient of a cute Mac n Cheese Charm:

Justin Derry



Child/Teen category



1st Prize and recipient of the Coveted Golden Spoon & Kids Choice :

Abigail Wallace



2nd Prize and recipient of an adorable golden "YUM" magnet:

Kyler Glaue

| October 2018 | | | | | | | Nov 2018 ▶ |
|--|-----|--|---|--|-----|----------------------------------|------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
| 1 | | 2 1:30 p.m. – American Baptist Women's Ministries Meeting at FBC. Hostess: Pam Sewell 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 3 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. – Crown Reunion Group Women's Emmaus Bible Study in Room 16 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 4 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) | 5 | 6 8:00 a.m. – Workday at FBC | |
| 7 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School class 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes | 8 | 9 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 6:30 p.m. – Meeting of the Church Board in Room 11 | 10 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 11 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) | 12 | 13 8:00 a.m. – Workday at FBC | |
| 14 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School class 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes 2:00 p.m. – Worship at Grand Prairie | 15 | 16 11:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 6:30 p.m. – CSC Commitment Callers Training Meeting in Room 11 7:00 p.m. – Creative Arts Ministry Meeting in Room11 | 17 11:30 a.m. – Lunch at Geisosomo's 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. – Crown Reunion Group Women's Emmaus Bible Study in Room 16 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 18 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) | 19 | 20 8:00 a.m. – Workday at FBC | |
| 21 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School class 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – CSC Celebration Worship 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes | 22 | 23 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 24 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 25 6:00 p.m. – FBC Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) | 26 | 27 8:00 a.m. – Workday at FBC | |
| 28 8:00 a.m. – Early Bird Sunday School class 9:00 a.m. – Prayer in Room 11 9:30 a.m. – Worship (Tim & Kathy Rice – Missionaries from the Congo) 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes 12:00 p.m. – Potluck for Tim & Kathy Rice | 29 | 30 11:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | 31 HALLOWEEN 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. – Small Group Study, Rm11 | CSC = Capital Stewardship Campaign | | | |

First Baptist Church

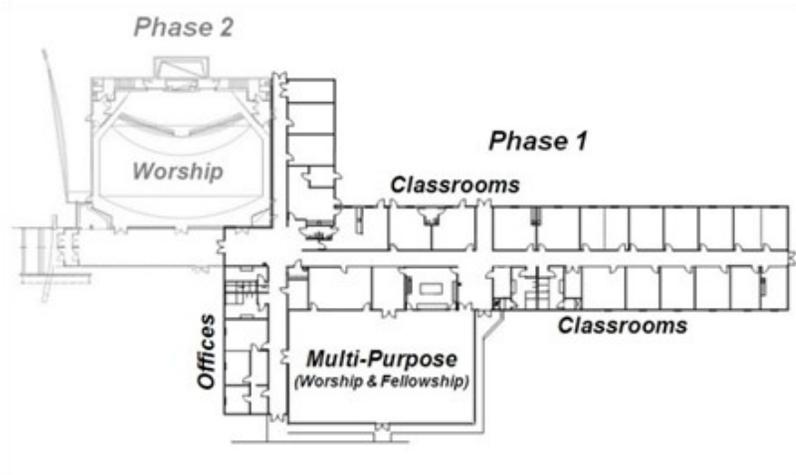
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Our New Worship Center

1515 S. Candy Lane, Macomb, IL



Our Mission

Reaching People—Building Believers

Our Vision and Purpose

*To encourage and empower changes within ourselves
to meet the needs of the congregation,
community and the world*

Philippians 4:13, James 2:26

Please Join Us!

Worship—Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School—Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

Find us on the web at www.fbcmacomb.com

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