



First Baptist CROSSINGS

February 2018

Pastor's Page

I know winter can be a dreary time, but we have lots of exciting things going on to keep you active and energized. We have recently begun a new adult

Sunday School series on *The Truth*. In a world where some believe that truth is what you want to believe or something that we create, it is good to know where to find real, unchanging truth. Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 to learn more about the truth our faith is built on. We are working our way through a sermon series on the gospel of Luke. It is intricately woven into our Mission Quest journey as we explore the mission of Jesus and our role in partnering with Him to fulfil that mission. I want to say THANKS to everyone who donated to support me once again sleeping on the streets of Champaign as a part of One Winter Night on February 2nd. Thanks to your generous support I far exceeded my goal. This event is the primary source of funding for CU at Home, our local homeless ministry in Champaign County. On Sunday, February 4th, we will have some guests from the University of Illinois and Restoration Urban Ministries partnership called "Grounds for Growth." They will be selling their soap products to support the residents at Restoration. Please support them by buying some soap for a good cause.

Following our worship service on February 11th, we will have a business meeting and potluck dinner. We will be approving our 2018–2019 budget and our new church officers at that time. If you have not yet received a proposed budget, please see Tom Weiss or me. Plan to stay for the dinner after the meeting and, if you are able, bring a dish to share.

I will be taking a couple of weeks of vacation this month. Ann Kafer and Christopher Albin will be bringing the message during worship on those Sundays. Ann is Vice President of Human Resources & Strategy at Growmark, Inc. She graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in communications and has a Masters in Bible

from Lincoln Christian Seminary. Christopher is a graduate of Greenville University and a recent graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, with a Master of Divinity degree. Please welcome them in my absence.

With the Love of Christ,
Brian

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."
—Luke 19:10 NIV

Pastor Jacob and the youth saw God moving in powerful ways this January, especially on their trip to the SKWIM conference in Green Lake, Wisconsin. SKWIM is a weekend retreat where students ages middle school through college are invited to worship and experience God in new ways while also enjoying time to ski at Cascade Mountain and swim at the Kalahari water park. This year's theme was "Parables." The conference itself was a successful time of learning and fun for the six students from FBCM who attended, but it was on the journeys to and from SKWIM that the youth group saw God really moving and protecting them.

On the way up to Green Lake, the group stopped briefly at a gas station. While they were there, a group of police officers raided the gas station, surrounding a vehicle at a gas pump. There were several tense minutes during which half of the leaders were stuck inside with the students while the other half was stuck out by the van as the police apprehended the suspect. The group later found out that the man had earlier robbed a store at gunpoint. Thankfully, the arrest went over without any violence, and God protected the group from what could have been an even tenser, and possibly dangerous, situation.

On the way back from Green Lake, the weather was dangerous and the roads were slick. At one point, the van skidded off the road and into the median. It slid for a few yards towards the opposite lane before bumping

into the guardrail and skidding back toward the correct lane. Through God's protective hand and the driver's steady hands on the wheel, they were able to escape with damage only to the van, and God then provided again by making it possible for them to get into a repair shop right away to get the van checked out.

Although the trip would have been easier without these unexpected situations, God used them to show His power as He provided for and protected our youth, and that may be something that stays in their memories even more strongly than the fun they had skiing and swimming. The youth meet for Sunday School at 9:30 and on Wednesdays from 6–8 p.m. There are usually three to six youth in Sunday school, and the class has been going through the Gospels chronologically. On Wednesday nights, there are six to ten students who attend regularly. The Wednesday night youth group has just started a new series about "Mission Quest," reflecting the focus of the church as a whole for this year.
Jacob Chase - Youth Pastor



Wednesday nights & Youth Activities

6:00 pizza for Youth dinner and then 6:30 starts the Youth group. There is youth worship, game time, prayer time, and various Bible studies from 6:30 to 8:00PM.

Jacob Chase, Fran Street, Bruce Swartz, Abby Heckman, Bob Haley, and Brian Romanowski provide adult leadership.

Wednesday Nights:

Kid's Club (K–5th): "One Room Curriculum"

Youth Group: Romans

Sunday Mornings:

Kid's Club (K–5th): "One Room Curriculum"

Youth Study: "The Gospel Project "

Adult Study: *The Truth*

Nursery & Children's Church: Childcare is provided during the worship service. Immediately following the children's sermon, the children, ages 5–10, will be dismissed for children's church.



First Baptist Church of Mahomet currently has three small groups meeting, all of which are open to new members. The dates and times are as follows:

Sundays @6 p.m. (Meets every other week)

This small group is currently studying Romans. It is normally led by Bruce Swartz, with Dan Theobald and Phil Labno subbing in as necessary, and meets at the Swartz's house. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bruce at (217) 369-0912 or at bswartz105@sbcglobal.net.

Tuesdays @7 p.m. (Meets weekly)

This (mostly young adult) small group is currently studying Francis Chan's book *Forgotten God*, which is a study on the Holy Spirit. It is led by Jacob Chase and switches between meeting at the Chases's house and meeting at the Krauses's house. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jacob at (217) 213-4626 or at jacobmarkchase@gmail.com.

Fridays @7 p.m. (Meets every other week)

This small group is currently studying *Practicing the Presence of God* by Brother Lawrence, which looks at developing a relationship with God. The group is led by Pastor Brian Romanowski and meets at Pat and Helen Murphy's house. If you are interested in joining, please contact Brian at (309) 826-8116 or at bs.romanowski@gmail.com.



Ministries

Mission Opportunity --We will again be collecting items for Peoria Friendship House of Christian Service. This ministry reaches out in Christian caring to those who are socially, spiritually, physically and economically depressed in the Peoria area. There is a list of needed items on the bulletin board in the Fellowship area, which also includes more information about this ministry. Please pull off the strip listing the item you are willing to supply and return the items by Sunday, February 11. Thank you for your part in supporting this vital ministry.



Each month, Helping Hands provides food and other items for people in need in Mahomet. Our church participates by providing sugar. Our goal each month is 100 lbs. of sugar, dish soap, and shampoo. We collected 93 lbs. of sugar, shampoo, and dish liquid and served 53 families. God bless you for giving.

Volunteers Needed!

This time of year brings on a bit of a campaign to try to get volunteers to help. Many times it is the same volunteers due to the lack of new ones. It's ok if you aren't talented in one area as there are several other areas that need your help. Don't let fear override your compassion to do what is in your heart. FBC needs your help. What will you volunteer for today?

New Commandment Ministry is a group of volunteers who help with projects within the church family as well as outside the church. This is an outreach ministry. If you are interested in helping, have a need, or know someone with a need, please contact Jeremy Rexroad at (217) 649-9810 or Brian Romanowski at the church for information.

Sunday Morning Prayer Schedule

February 4	June Warren
February 11	Bob Haley
February 18	Brian Romanowski
February 25	Steve Street

Volunteers needed!

Fellowship Servers

February 4	Phil & Kathy Wilson
February 11	Business Meeting and Potluck
February 18	Phil Labno & Carla Shadley
February 25	Tom & Jenny Weiss

Communion Servers

**Pat & Helen Murphy
#Adam & Amy Krause
** Set up # Clean up



February 4	Judy McDowell & Amy Krause
February 11	Valerie Brooks & Carol Welch
February 18	Helen & Pat Murphy
February 25	Ann Paul & Katie Chase



Blood Pressure Check
with Jeanny Douglas

February 4th



- 3 Rebekah Street
- 5 Brian Romanowski
- 7 Steve Ziegler
- 10 Phyllis Rippy
- 10 Joan Yecney
- 16 Bob Haley
- 22 Abby Weiss
- 23 Kenyon Wagner
- 24 Linda Mills

Happy Anniversary!

- 19 Pat & Helen Murphy



Pray for Our Church Family,
Praise & Thanksgiving
1.28.2018

- ...Olivia T.--For family of her sister-in-law who died from the flu.
- ...Judy--For the nominating committee who are choosing candidates for the slate of board members.
- ...Pastor Jacob--Praise that the youth and leaders made it home safely from WI.
- ...Praise that the Swartz's house sold.
- ...Pat M.--Those grieving.
- ...Sue H.--Praise for the helping hands of this congregation in time of sorrow and crisis.
- ...Cheri W.--Had Gall Bladder surgery in hospital in Chicago on 1/22.
- ...Pastor Brian--Those assisting in disaster relief in Puerto Rico.
- ...Please be in prayer for Julie's brother Rusty. Had leg amputated 1/23.
- ...Bob H.--For MLK remembrance and the significance in our country.
- ...Pastor Brian--Praise that our youth and leaders survived accident unharmed on return from Green Lake.

- ...Olivia T.--Had cataract surgery 1/22, did well. Second eye will be done in 2 weeks.
- ...Pat M.--For those who have lost loved ones, comfort and love.
- ...Ann P.--For Jane D., who is being treated with chemo, son is in hospital with flu.
- ...Roger L.--For issues in the Korean peninsula, that there may be a peaceful solution.
- ...Fran--Those with flu, and health care workers caring for them.
- ...June W.--For daughter Joan, having surgery for breast mass.
- ...Friend of Roger Lake, Jim Rusk has pneumonia and is very ill.
- ...Pat T.--Maxine L. had a medical procedure on 1/9, did well.
- ...Roger L.--for Dan J., a retired vet with health issues, please pray for him and speak to him by name, giving him respect and kindness.
- ...Pastor Brian.--Pray for volunteers and residents at the Phoenix, daycare center for the homeless.
- ...Debbie's sister Rayla and husband Tim are fostering children. The kids are doing well and Rayla and Tim may get to adopt them.

- ...Praise that Jackie M. has returned from CA and has new home.
- ...Adam K.--Praise that his wife Amy is doing well after an illness with her heart one year ago.
- ...Pray for Board members and committees who are currently making important decisions regarding church leadership.
- ...Carol Welch--Louise Jackson, diagnosed with cancer
- ...Pray for our Brothers and Sisters in Egypt after the atrocities there.
- ...Pastor Brian--Petitions for those who have died, those in armed Services. For those traveling in the snow, those affected by storms, fires and disaster, and those less fortunate. Praise for those who give and for blessings that we don't deserve.
- ...Pastor Jacob--for worship through children and music.
- ...Steve S.--That God is in control in spite of our losses.

Pray for RETIREMENT, NURSING HOME RESIDENTS, the HOMEBOUND

Maxine Leffler, Judy Harris, Bob & Joan Yecny, Paul DeMoss (Jane's husband)

Pray for MISSIONS AND MISSIONARIES

Jon & Amanda Good and their four children, to Hungary
The staff at the CAC (Christian Activity Center) East St. Louis

NEW AND ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chip & Chari Kingsbury, Kenya, Africa
Larry & Becky Stanton, to Hungary
Scott and Tan Coats and family, serving the Lord in Thailand.

Ruth Mooney serving in San Jose, Costa Rica
Doug and Patti Magnuson, missionaries to Amman, Jordan.

Sharon G., serving in North Korea

Pray for College Students

Natalie Douglas, Andi Phelps, Chia-Ying Chan, Jason Gardner, Leah Bice, Josh Brooks, Hannah Douglas, Brette Dow, Katie Russell, Amber Smith, Lauren Weiss, Valerie Brooks, and Haley Bridgman.

US and International Prayer

... Lori & Matt Mann, development workers in Laos
...Rachel (Street)/ Jacob Way teaching for two years in China
...Unrest in Middle East, especially refugees fleeing persecution
...Our leaders--Federal, state and local, firemen and policemen, too.

The following have cancer:

Louise Jackson, Lora Thomas, Chris Alben, Julie's aunt, Patty, Carrie, Laura Bice, Michael Welch, Jane DeMoss, Robin Eslinger, Valerie Bloomberg, Susan Florentino, Robert, Erin, Pat Wodka, Jennifer, Shelly Fouss, Gina Hern, Bernadette, Bobi Goodpaster, Shelby Horn, Chris Stevens, Tim, Jeremy--boss' son-in-law, Aaron, Ann Reynolds, Tina, Carol Ware's nephew, Jim & Dennis, Bob Hayward, Tyrone Phillips, Jeremy's uncle John; Dawn, Melissa, Cheryl, Bob Gifford, Jim;

(PRAY for their families and caregivers, too)

Thank you! Thanks to the talented crew (Tom Weiss, Dan Theobald, Jeff Riddle) God brought together to repair our collapsing entryway floor. You guys did a fantastic job!



Newsletter Information: Chris is updating the contact list for the church's monthly newsletter. If you are not currently receiving the newsletter and would like to begin receiving the newsletter, please send your email or mailing address to Chris Ingersoll (cingersoll62@comcast.net) or Amy Krause (agaasrud@gmail.com). We would also love to be able to celebrate your birthdays and anniversaries with you, so please send in those dates so that we can include them in the appropriate newsletter.

Important Dates

Feb. 4: Grounds for Growth Soap Sale
Feb. 11: Business Meeting & Potluck
Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday
Feb. 14: Valentine's Day
Feb. 18: First Sunday in Lent
Feb. 19: Presidents Day
Feb. 25: Second Sunday in Lent



GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

We need God's forgiveness – Romans 3:23
 Salvation & Eternal Life – Romans 6:23
 God's Love & Salvation – Romans 5:8
 Calling Upon God – Romans 10:13
 Confess Jesus as Savior – Romans 10:9



First Baptist Church of
 Mahomet

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Recipe of the Month

Brownies



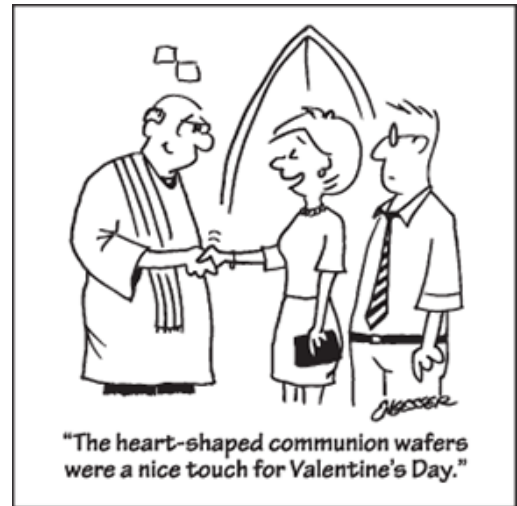
By

Neva Swartz

Pg. 163 from Taste of Heaven Cookbook

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1/2 c. butter | 2 oz. melted chocolate |
| 1 c. sugar | 1/2 c. flour |
| 2 eggs | 1/2 c. chopped nuts |
| 1/2 tsp. vanilla | |

Cream butter and sugar well. Add eggs, one at a time; add vanilla and stir well. Add other ingredients. Put in a 9" x 13" pan. Bake 20 minutes in a 350° oven.



A NEW COMMANDMENT

In John 13:34, Jesus offers important instructions for his followers.

Directions: Figure out the pattern in each vertical line of letters. Then add the next letter in the sequence to the blank underneath, completing John 13:14, NIV.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ ABCD...

F L S Y	F K Y	X E I Q B V O	O J	F
H M T A	I L A	Y H K R D Y P	S M	G
J N U C	L M C	Z K M S F B Q	W P	H

E X M B	C L M B U	V F R	P L	V F R
F Y P C	F M P C X	W I S	Q M	W I S
G Z S D	I N S D A	X L T	R N	X L T

A R J Q	C C S B	F K Y	X H L Q B Y I	
E S M R	F G T C	I L A	Y J M R D A L	
I T P S	I K U D	L M C	Z L N S F C O	

JOHN 13:34, NIV

Answer: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34, NIV