

The Ambassador

News
and Views
From the Hill



January 2011

*A Newsletter From
The First Baptist Church of Norwich
239 West Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360
Phone: 860-889-0369*



The music on Christmas Eve is always beautiful. This year the women's choir added a perfect touch to the evening. It complimented the dramatic presentation of "The Drummer Boy" by Penny Sargent and the Praise Band and the vocals of Shawn Rucker, Steve Contois and Cheryl Dutrumble and the Lord girls. Videos of most of the music can be found on the First Baptist Life Blog.

More news inside:

Including a listing of our recent Santa volunteers, news from the Christmas Pageant and Party, a call to the 2011th Annual Meeting and much more.

Guest Preacher
Michelle Madsen Bibeau will be
with us on January 9th.

Join us for
worship every
Sunday morning
at 10:30 a.m.



To get an ongoing and fun
report of happenings at
FBC check out
First Baptist Life at
www.firstbaptistlife.blogspot.com



Worship
10:30 -
11:45 am

Join Us As We Worship This Winter

Upcoming Sermons in January



January 20, 11

Communion Sunday

Scripture: John 1: 1-18

Responsive Reading "The Church Covenant"

Sermon: "A Dream Come True"

January 9, 2011

Guest Preacher - Pastor Michelle Madsen-Bibeau

January 16, 2011

Scripture: I Corinthians 1:1-9

Responsive Reading: Psalm 40:1-11

Sermon: "God Always Supplies Our Needs"

January 23, 2011

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 1: 10-18

Responsive Reading: Psalm 27: 1-9

Sermon: "It Is Christ's Church"

January 30, 2011

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 1:18-31

Responsive Reading: Psalm 15

Sermon: "It is All About the Message"

**Slow Down and Join us at our
 45 MPH Services**

Join us on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. for a series of messages based upon the Gospel of John. Each week we enjoy some special music, a time of prayer and a word of hope as we slow down to spend a little time with the Lord.



Joined in Prayer

Our Guest Preacher on January 9

Michelle Madsen-Bibeau is a 1993 graduate of Colgate Rochester Divinity School who has served as interim pastor for eight of our ABCCONN churches, most recently at Stafford Baptist in the Northeast Association. Many of the church family will remember her from her ministry at Central Baptist from 2007-2009, during which time she coordinated a joint summer VBS with FBC and participated in three short term mission trips. Michelle currently teaches part time at Quinnipiac University and is 'in care' with ABCCONN in the ordination process. Michelle and her family live in West Hartford.



Worshipping is to...

- Quicken the conscience by the Holiness of God
- Feed the mind on the truth of God
- Purge the imagination by the reality of God
- Devote the heart to the love of God
- Devote the will to the purpose of God

Ministry Helpers in January

As Ushers & Greeters

- Jan. 2 - H. Calkins, L. McFalls, B. & P. Adams
- Jan. 9 - G. Strouse, K. Barber, Z. Earle, M. Kane
- Jan. 16 - F. Royce, C. Brockway, N. & G. Schuster
- Jan. 23 - H. Calkins, L. McFalls, B. & P. Adams
- Jan. 30 - G. Strouse, K. Barber, Z. Earle, M. Kane



As Counters

- Jan. 2 - Mary Brockway & Ray Deptulski
- Jan. 9 - Dick Strouse & Mark Rogers
- Jan. 16 - June Deptulski & George Strouse
- Jan. 23 - Bob Walker & Bob Sullivan
- Jan. 30 - Nancy Allen & Amy Rezendes

As Nursery Volunteers



- Jan. 2 - Bonnie Ambruso & Fran Rogers
- Jan. 9 - Kelly Bolin
- Jan. 16 - Sandra Lucien & Jesly Souvenance
- Jan. 23 - Kristen Deptulski & Chelsey Calkins
- Jan. 30 - Bonnie Ambruso & Fran Rogers

As Worship Assistants

- Jan. 9 - Nancy Allen
- Jan. 16 - Lori Lord
- Jan. 23 - George Strouse
- Jan. 30 - Bob Walker



**Our Sunday School
 meets each week
 at 9:15 a.m.
 Bring your kids!**



Lighting the Advent Candles

Each week during Advent we had a different family light the Advent Candles.

On Sunday, November 28 Cal & Lori Lord lit the candles and were joined by their daughters, Rebecca, Sarah & Rachel.



On the second Sunday of Advent Fran and Mark Rogers lit the candles with help from their daughters Priscilla and Julia.

On the third Sunday of Advent Bob & Helen Walker lit the candles and were joined by their daughter, Cynthia Costa and grandchildren, Kaitlin Beavan and Nicholas Costa.

On Christmas Sunday, the fourth and final Sunday of Advent Cheryl Dimmock lit the candle with help from her daughter, Kelly Bolin and her children, Nicole and Rylan.

Pastor with a Missionary Heart Joined Us For Advent

Rev. Bill Huegel was with us on the second Sunday of Advent. He talked about some of his experiences as a short term missionary and how Christ became more real for him as he chose to walk with him among the poor.



Rev. Huegel is recently retired from the First Baptist Church of Wallingford, CT and he will be leading a mission team to Haiti from Connecticut in February 2011.

Hats



& Mittens

We brought a nice assortment of hats and mittens to the soup kitchen and to Thames River Family Place from our special mitten tree in the rear entry at church. Thank You!

Our Christmas Poinsettias

Given In Honor or Memory of:

Penny Sargent, Mr. & Mrs. Stauble, Frank Adams, Jennifer Louise Kane, John & Priscilla Kane, Frances Delaney, Richard Rogers, Wyatt R. Matteau, Raymond & Dorothy Barber, Clarence & Wilma Beavan, The Witham Family - Otis, Mabel, Beverly, Richard, William & Raymond Witham: The Bray Family - Robert B, Robert H, Arnal & Paul B Bray, Harold & Esther Brockway, Mr. Stephen Chesnowitz, May F. Bowen, Hal Brockway, Clifton Choate, Mary Craig, Donald, Grace, Donna & Peter Lillibridge, Lorraine Bober, Kathy & Ray Deptulski Sr., Ignatius & Mary DiBiagio, Marino & Anna DeNovellis, Bill Duguay, Rev. Alvin & Bertine Johnson, Richard Brannegan, Clifford Dutrumble, Dot & Harry Ferguson, Bob & Grace Stott, Charles F. Hamblen, James & Rita Christina, Althea & Jack Lambert, George "Herv" Hervey, Dr. Ralph Lopez, Leroy & Lillie Peckham, Clifford Peckham, Rev. Dr. John & Janet Brooks, Gayle P. Lord, Ken Duntz, Paul & Esther Lorraine, Henry Pendleton, Will Willey, Edith Robinson, Doris Diehl, Sallie Pierce, Les Main, Clifford Oat, Anders & Marguerite Peterson, Celeste Copeland, Donna Grow, Grace Rico, Mr. & Mrs. Amos Russell, Mr. & Mrs. Rossiter Willet, Charles & Evelyn Roderick, Rev. Walter & Lucy Schoepfer, Rev. Donald Schoepfer, Jean & Donald Royce, Eva & James Sypher, Leonard & Doris Royce, Herbert & Elizabeth Way, Frances & Butch Sargent, Muriel & Raymond King, Joshua White Seder, David Karon, Walter & Dorothy Macht, Theodore Calkins Jr., David Jordan & Lena Sawyer, Edward P. & Ethel W. Wheaton, Herbert D. & Mary E. Strong, George H. & Louise L. Strouse, Alice J. Cote, Dina L. Hoagland.



Poinsettias



Cancellations

In the event we have to cancel worship services, meetings or Sunday School classes due to inclement weather, there will be a message on the church answering machine and on the church web site.



There will also be a notice sent to Channel 3 WFSB and WCTY/WICH radio



A Tradition of Playing Santa at FBC

Each year since 1985 a different person has been tapped to play the role of Santa. Our list now reads like a "Who's Who" of the men at First Baptist Church. Pete Adams is our newest honoree.

- 2010 - Peter Adams
- 2009 - Mark D. Kane
- 2008 - Randy Sargent
- 2007 - Brian Goldin
- 2006 - Ray Deptulski Jr.
- 2005 - Fred Stone
- 2004 - Rich Erb
- 2003 - Harry Calkins
- 2002 - Les Main
- 2001 - Wayne Morse Sr.
- 2000 - Timothy Rezendes
- 1999 - Fred Green Sr.
- 1998 - Curt Brockway
- 1997 - Don Walberg
- 1996 - Cal Lord
- 1995 - Oliver Bray
- 1994 - Ben Strouse
- 1993 - George Rezendes
- 1992 - John Kozak
- 1991- Dave Royce
- 1990 - Bob Duntz
- 1989 - Ron Watson
- 1988 - Bob Buchowiecki
- 1987 - Paul Lorraine
- 1986 - Doug Wolf
- 1985 - Brent Weimer

The Sights And Sounds of Christmas Eve 2010



*Cheryl & Steve sing
It's Christmas Time.*



The perfect setting for a service.



A Brockway father-son candle lighting team.



Penny as the Drummer Boy



Shawn sings of the Holy Night.



Sarah, Rachel & Lori sing a trio.



Curt lights the candles



Pastor Cal makes a point



Kevin hits the high note on the trumpet prelude.

A Pageant and Party at Church



The cast of the 2010 Christmas Pageant takes a bow. Chelsea Maynard and Troy Anderson played Mary & Joseph.



Jennifer & Santa



Anna & Santa



The shepherds wait.



We had kings.



Santa & Sarah



Alli & Santa

We think of Bob Duntz in prayer. He is at Apple Rehab in Colchester following his stay at Yale New Haven Hospital. He hope to get home soon. We have also been praying for Donald L'Homme. He had a fall and broke his leg. He has been in Backus. Donald is the uncle of Doreen Mainville and Melanie Schueuermann... Pam Kane is up and about after he knee surgery. She is getting around on one crutch most days. Think of her and also think of her dad. HE is battling cancer in Florida... Doris Adams has been battling bronchitis. Think of her in your prayers... Penny Sargent continues her treatments. We know that they will work with God's healing touch to defeat any remaining cancer cells in her body... Think of Jeannine Pestey. She has been having a miserable time with her hip and has been in a lot of pain. Pray for some relief... Ray Deptulski's dad had a fall and his mom continues with hospice care. Think of the family in your prayers... Charlie Rogoff was back in the hospital recently. Think of him... Melinda Maynard Clark had rotator cuff surgery in her left surgery. Think of her... Remember Michelle Lord and Frank Roderick in your continuing prayers...



We think of our men and women in the military. In particular we think of Nicholas Muyres, Brian Grillo, Tim and Aaron Rogers and Danny Moriarty. We pray that God will keep them safe and bless their families as they watch and wait for them to return home...

We lift up members of our extended family who are in need of prayer. They include, Mark Roger's mom, Doris Adams, sister, brother and niece, and June Deptulski's mom ...

In our continuing prayers we lift up James and Shirley Murray, June Coleman, Nancy Oat, Barbara Hayes, Ken Taylor, Lois Lopez, Doris Regets and Jean Roscoe.

People News...

Congratulations to Melinda Maynard on her recent wedding. She and Howard Clark, a boyhood sweetheart, were married in Florida on November 26. She is living in South Carolina and enjoying life... Congratulations to Amy and Matt Meyer! They announced that they will be expecting their first child later this summer. That will make Curt and Mary Brockway grandparents for the first time... Nancy Allen spent a few days out in Illinois with family over the holidays... Roy Bourque has been working on a book that brings science and faith together. He has just finished it and would like to see if he can get it published. Congratulations and good luck Roy! Yolanda Charles Copeland has been working at D & D Cleaners and Norwichtown and enjoying it... Betty and Harry Eisan are doing well. The Pastor dropped in to see them last month. They enjoy visiting with the grandchildren and great grandchildren and had a crowd for Christmas. They say "hi" to everyone... Fred & Gwyn Green have been attending the Wakefield Baptist Church with Fred's dad every week and have decided to transfer their membership there. We wish them well... It was nice to have Casey Rezendes and Fred Green Jr. in church last week. They joined Amanda Duntz and it was almost like old times... Roger Lambert and Treasure Hervey have sold their home and are making plans to head south. We have enjoyed having them with us the last year and wish them well... Danny Moriarty is back from his tour of duty overseas and he is enjoying time with his wife, Ashley, and new daughter, Arianna. Heidi and Jim Oddis and the girls, Heather and Hollie Adams enjoyed a week down in Florida. They had a great time... Shawn Rucker is at it again. She has been cast in the upcoming production of the Day Boy and Night Girl. The show opens January 12... IT has been nice having Rev. Dick and Elizabeth Strong with us again. Dick retired from the pastorate at the Winthrop Baptist Church in November... Ben Strouse was one of the UCONN Husky fans to be at the Fiesta Bowl in Arizona. He had fun even though UCONN lost. He gets our vote as their number one fan! By the way, Ben and Lauren Benson will be married later this year. Our best wishes to them... Jennifer Fraser is also getting excited about her upcoming wedding. She has a May date with her love... Speaking of weddings, congrats to Michelle Jette and James Pendleton Jr. They were married at our church on New Year' Eve. It was a beautiful candle light service.

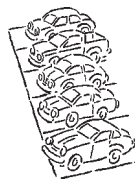


Luis Pabon is surrounded by several of "his girls" at a recent wedding. The bride, Michelle Pendelton, grew up in the studio and is now one of the instructors.

Parking at Church

The parking spots along the rear of our building are reserved for visitors and/or those with special needs.

There are plenty of parking spaces behind Firestone and at Midas Muffler for those who are able to walk. You can also park up at the Oak Tree Plaza if the other spots are full.



www.fbcnorwich.org

See this newsletter in full color and get all the latest news from your church family.



ABCCONN's Lay Ministry Institute

The Lay Ministry Institute will be a wonderful journey that is aimed at assisting you to develop a deeper and more meaningful relationship with God. Our journey begins with five classes that make up the core of Biblical Foundations. Each class lays the foundation for good Christian discipleship. The classes in Cycle 1 provide a solid foundation for future growth and Christian maturity.

Cycle 1:
Biblical Foundations

Friday, March 25, 5:00pm
to
Wednesday, March 30, 2011, 5:00 pm

Holy Family Retreat Center
303 Tunxis Rd.
West Hartford, CT 06107-3119

Cost: \$350.00

RWANDA

The role of the media in a land beyond genocide



featuring pulitzer prize winning photo-journalist Sally Stapleton

Noank Baptist Church
January 23, 2011

7:00 p.m.



Women's Retreat at Camp Wightman

Come away for a weekend of experiencing the Holy One. Through prayer, Bible Study, Music, Art and in laughter and fellowship around the table, we will open that sacred door and enter.

Make time in your busy life to come away and be with us. Women unite-it is time for your annual retreat to Camp Wightman, during the weekend of March 18 - 20, 2011.

Rev. Lisa Gustafson will lead retreaters through the doorway with a weekend of Spiritual Growth and Renewal. The weekend will begin with dinner Friday evening and close following lunch on Sunday.

The cost for the two nights and six meals is just \$140.00. Registration is limited!

The Annual Pasta Dinner and Auction

to benefit our mission trip to Louisiana



Details will be announced soon.

ABCCONN's Spring Fling

A Day Celebrating the Missional Church
March 5, 2011

Essex Baptist Church

We will look at the process of becoming missional communities that share the love of Christ with the people in our neighborhoods.

For those who have been through the process, the teams will be able to share their experiences and learn how to apply for more grant money to continue what they are doing.

"THANK YOU FOR THAT QUESTION ABOUT FOOD. ACTUALLY, I DON'T HAVE THE FOGGIEST! THIS IS ABOUT LOVE, LAUGHTER, AND THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS!"



The Coast Guard Chamber Players
Noank Baptist Church
January 16 at 2:00 p.m.



Free admission

The United States Coast Guard Chamber Players Recital Series was established in 1977 for members of the Band to present classic to contemporary chamber music.

How to Listen to a sermon

from an actual church handbook

We believe God's Word comes to us through the ordinances and the preaching of the Holy Scriptures. Honoring God's Word, not to mention getting something out of church, includes diligent listening to the sermon and active mental participation. So please attempt to do these things.

1) Review active listening skills.

While the listener in this case doesn't get to speak, the sermon is still a conversation. Make mental notes as you listen. Take notice of where and why you react and which emotions you experience.

2) **Take notes.** Note taking promotes active listening and provides a good basis for later reflection. It also allows you to return to confusing or complicated parts at your leisure. Some congregations provide space in the bulletin for notes, and many confirmation ministries provide structured worksheets.

3) **Maintain good posture. Avoid slouching.** Sit upright with your feet planted firmly on the ground and your palms on your thighs. Beware of the impulse to slouch, cross your arms, or lean against your neighbor, as these can encourage drowsiness.

4) **Listen for the Law.** You may feel an emotional pinch when the preacher names the sinner in you. Pay attention to your reaction and try to focus on waiting for the gospel rather than becoming defensive. For more information, see "How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel" on page 86.

5) **Listen for the gospel.** This will come in the form of a sentence most likely starting with the name Jesus and ending with the words *for you*. Upon hearing the gospel, you may feel a physical lightness, as though you've set down a great burden. You may cry tears of joy. This is normal.

6) **End by saying, "Amen."** Since preaching is mostly God's work, honor the Word by sealing the moment with this sacred word, which means, "It is most certainly true!"

7) **Review.** If you've written notes, read through them. If you have questions, or thoughts, share them with others in your congregation.

Describing God in a memorable phrase

A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in 20 ways to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results: scroll down. Wouldn't this be great if it was taught in every school.

God is like.
BAYERASPIRIN
He works miracles.



God is like.
A FORD
He's got a better idea..

God is like.
GENERALELECTRIC
He brings good things to life.

God is like.
COKE
He's the real thing.



God is like.
HALLMARKCARDS
He cares enough to send His very best..

God is like.
WAL-MART
He has everything.

God is like.
TIDE
He gets the stains out others leave behind.



God is like.
ALKA-SELTZER
Try Him, you'll like Him

God is like.
SCOTCHTAPE
You can't see Him, but you know He's there.

God is like..
DELTA
He's ready when you are.



God is like.
ALLSTATE
You're in good hands with Him.



From that point on, the kings vowed to do their Christmas shopping much earlier.

A Pageant xperience to remember

My proudest moment came during the children's Christmas pageant.

My daughter was playing Mary, two of my sons were shepherds and my youngest son was a wise man. This was their moment to shine.

My five-year-old shepherd had practiced his line, "We found the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes." But he was nervous and said, "The baby was wrapped in wrinkled clothes."

My four-year-old "Mary" said, "That's not 'wrinkled clothes,' silly. That's dirty, rotten clothes."

A wrestling match broke out between Mary and the shepherd and was stopped by an angel, who bent her halo and lost her left wing.

I slouched a little lower in my seat when Mary dropped the doll representing Baby Jesus, and it bounced down the aisle crying, "Mama-mama." Mary grabbed the doll, wrapped it back up and held it tightly as the wise men arrived.

My other son stepped forward wearing a bathrobe and a paper crown, knelt at the manger and announced, "We are the three wise men, and we are bringing gifts of gold, common sense and fur."

The congregation dissolved into laughter, and the pageant got a standing ovation. "I've never enjoyed a Christmas program as much as this one," laughed the pastor, wiping tears from his eyes "For the rest of my life, I'll never hear the Christmas story without thinking of gold, common sense and fur."

"My children are my pride and my joy and my greatest blessing," I said as I dug through my purse for an aspirin.

ACROSS

1. O LORD, not _____ but to your name be the glory (2,2) (Ps 115:1)
5. Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a _____ day (Ezek 1:28)
9. the _____ of my years is as nothing (Ps 39:5)
13. an _____ to grace your neck (Prov 3:22)
14. from the Sovereign LORD comes _____ from death (Ps.68:20)
15. He also went down into _____ on a snowy day (1,3) (2 Sam 23:20)
16. My heart pounds, my strength _____ me (Ps 38:10)
17. not during the feast, they said, or the people may _____ (Mark 14:2)
18. rodent
19. you may eat any that has _____ and scales (Deut 14:9)
20. he built _____ and store cities in Judah (2 Chron 17:12)
21. _____ men and maidens have gone (2,5) (Lam 1:18)
23. the _____ ones will be brought low (Isa 10:33)
25. I have not been drinking wine or _____ (1 Sam 1:15)
26. Moses built _____ and called it The LORD (2,5) (Ex 17:15)
30. like that of a very precious _____, like a jasper (Rev 21:11)
33. "I'll send you a _____ goat from my flock," (Gen 38:17)
35. LORD, how long will it be _____ thou be quiet? (Jer 47:6) KJV
36. thou knowest not what _____ may bring forth (1,3) (Prov 27:1) KJV
38. were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their _____ (Dan 3:21)KJV
39. A fool's talk brings a _____ to his back (Prov 14:3)
40. the centurion _____ an Alexandrian ship sailing for Italy (Acts 27:6)
43. the skins will _____, the wine will run out (Matt 9:17)
44. I gave my back to the _____ (Isa 50:6) KJV
46. the God of Israel will be your _____ guard (Isa 52:12)
48. Above all _____, guard your heart (Prov 4:23)
49. I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and _____ (Isa 6:1)
53. This is the lament they will _____ for her (Ezek 32:16)
56. You weep and _____ because he no longer pays attention (Mal 2:13)
57. "No _____ sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment (Matt 9:16)



58. Its rider _____ a bow, and he was given a crown (Rev 6:2)
59. units, parts
60. sons and thirty grandsons, who _____ on seventy donkeys (Judg 12:14)
61. to devour the land _____ a plague among my people (2,4) (2 Chron 7:13)
62. sorrows are turned upon me, and I have _____ no strength (Dan 10:16) (KJV)
63. Israel joined in worshiping the Baal of _____ (Num 25:3)
64. twice as much, two _____ for each person (Ex 16:22)
65. You lie on _____ inlaid with ivory and lounge on your couches (Amos 6:4)

DOWN

1. we are ready _____ ourselves and go (2,3) (Num 32:17)
2. But she did not respond _____ any attention (2,3) (1 Sam 4:20)
3. until we all reach _____ in the faith (Eph 4:13)
4. Mary, who _____ at the Lord's feet listening (Luke 10:39)
5. See, I will _____ and test them (Jer 9:7)
6. _____ man stirs up dissension (2,5) (Prov 29:22)
7. the LORD is God _____ he who made us (2,2) (Ps 100:3)
8. affirmative response (Acts 22:27)
9. took the _____ from the right hand of him (Rev 5:7)
10. he made a _____ of cherubim of olive wood (1 Kings 6:23)
11. They cooked it in _____ or made it

- into cakes (1,3) (Num 11:8)
12. fishermen's gear (Mark 1:18)
19. the trees of the forest as _____ for the fire (Ezek 15:6)
20. can the _____ grow without water? (Job 8:11) KJV
22. _____ his voice, and not rebel against the commandment (1 Sam 12:14)
23. The 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
24. a prophetess, _____, the daughter of Phanel (Luke 2:36)
27. Like a lion I will devour them; a wild animal will _____ them (Hos 13:8)
28. the magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret _____ (Ex 8:18)
29. I will give him _____ from all his enemies (1 Chr 22:9)
30. took oil in _____ along with their lamps (Matt 25:4)
31. another name for Esau (Gen 36:7-8)
32. from the _____ of Egypt to the Euphrates River (2 Kings 24:7)
34. So God created man in his _____ image (Gen 1:27)
37. Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand _____ of wheat (1 Kings 5:11)
38. All who see me mock me; they _____ insults (Ps 22:7)
40. He was crying, and she _____ sorry for him (Exod 2:6)
41. but _____ a little wine for thy stomach's sake (1 Tim 5:23)
42. Here comes that _____! they said (Gen 37:19)
43. Tear down your father's altar to _____ (Judg 6:25)
45. like plants in the field, like _____ green shoots (Isa 37:27)
47. God, for whom and through whom everything _____ (Heb 2:10)
50. Be kind and compassionate _____ another (2,3) (Eph 4:32)
51. So he _____ their days in futility (Ps 78:33)
52. I will repay them according to their _____ (Jer 25:14)
53. who _____ your wood and carry your water (Deut 29:11)
54. The Lord needs it and will send it back _____ shortly (Mark 11:3)
55. "You _____ were with Jesus of Galilee," she said (Matt 26:69)
56. their robes _____ not scorched (Dan 3:27)
59. _____ not forget your precepts (1,2) (Ps 119:141)
60. Adam lost one of these to Eve (Gen 2:22)

A New Furnace at FBC

Small, compact and efficient. That's our new furnace. It heats the chapel, fellowship hall, parlor and the nursery.



Last month we were able to replace our 40 year old, oil fired furnace with a new gas fired, energy efficient model. It not only does a better job at heating the building, it also is much more cost effective. A big thank you goes to two families that stepped up and offered to pay for the conversion. The total cost of the system was just over \$16,000 and we should realize the savings in rebates and lower fuel costs over the next few years. That's good stewardship that allows us to do more ministry with the gifts and offerings we receive..



MISSIONS

We Are Looking for Mission Mississippi Team Members



We will be heading to Slidell, Louisiana between August 9th -16th to work on the Epworth Project. Projects include carpentry, cabinetry, framing, insulation, drywall hanging, flooring, plumbing and roofing.

The group will fly down to New Orleans and drive 30 minutes to Slidell to a dorm facility where it will be housed for the week. We will be cooking our own meals and be responsible for our own transportation. More information on the Mission work and the project can be found at www.epworthministries.com. There is also a facebook page at Project Noah.

We have limited the group to 20 participants between the ages of 14 years and up. We estimate the total cost per person will be about \$750 per person. There will be fund raisers to help offset the cost for the trip, including our annual Pasta Dinner and Auction tentatively scheduled for March 5 at Central Baptist.

Deposits of \$100 will be needed by March 1 to secure your spot. All spots are on a first come, first served spot so get your deposit in early to insure your participation.

Please pass the word to other potential team members. This should be another great experience for those whom God has called to go with us.

Relief For Cholera Weary Staff Arrives after "Miraculous Border Crossing"

The small Ebenezer Dispensary was overrun with interned cholera patients, most requiring many life saving IV serums. For eleven days the small staff had been working day and night and was exhausted. The situation at the clinic (and other hospitals in the area) was truly in need of many miracles.

The three large rooms and hall were filled, and new patients were being cared for in a large tent (supplied with cots) that was just installed. We prayed for help and it came.

A few days ago we were delighted to learn that a medical team led by IM missionary Kristy Engel was coming from La Romana, Dominican Republic and was expected to arrive with supplies in Upper Limbe on the following Saturday.

When the team arrived at the border crossing early Saturday morning, the border was closed to commerce due to fears of introducing cholera into the DR. Although the border officials agreed to permit the medical team to pass through, the crossing remained uncertain due to the presence of an angry crowd of Haitians, people frustrated because they were not being allowed to cross to pursue their livelihood, the buying and selling of goods in the DR.



With the team eager to help in this epidemic and everyone at Ebenezer Clinic desperate for that help, we prayed and asked for prayer from our support network while our dear driver/friend, Miler, patiently waited on the Haitian side, ready to transport the team to Limbe.

It truly was a miracle that after many delays and hurdles the angry crowd allowed the team to pass. It's truly unbelievable that neither the Dominican nor the Haitian officials gave the group any trouble, in fact allowed them to go through without the usual fees and waved the usual requirement for a passport stamp! Haitian customs officials even allowed the truck of vital supplies to accompany the team. All the officials seemed grateful the team was coming to help. Amazing!

The team finally arrived around 5:15 PM and after a brief orientation meeting and a hurried meal, started working with 45 very ill patients, bringing a blessed respite to the exhausted staff. The team from La Romana worked all night. We all, Haitians, Dominicans, Canadians, and Americans praised God as together in the dark we unloaded the 500 liters of IV solutions plus boxes of medical supplies. We sang "Count Your Blessings" in Creole as we worked.

Sadly, one person died upon arrival that night, coming too late to be saved. Continue to pray for the situation here in Haiti. Thank you all for your love and prayers!

Steve and Nancy James, your mission partners in Haiti.

Connecting With Your Kids

Children are a heritage from the Lord.
—Psalm 127:3

In today’s activity-packed society, it’s more important than ever to intentionally connect with your kids. Here are 10 ideas that can help you get to know your children better and pass on a legacy of faith and fun.

1. During dinner ask everyone to share one piece of both good news and bad news from the day.

2. Have regular “Kids’ Nights to Cook.” Set up a restaurant atmosphere in your home and create some lifetime memories. Little ones will enjoy decorating the table and making special menus for the evening.

3. Visit a local bookstore with your children and ask them to help you choose a family devotional. Then work through it together.

4. If you have a sports enthusiast in your home, ask him or her to give you and your spouse regular updates about what’s going on in the world of sports—both locally and nationally.

5. Do a one-on-one activity with each child at least once a week.

6. Take turns choosing Bible verses that the entire family can memorize together. Using a special journal or notebook, ask the children to record each verse after the family has memorized it together.

7. Once a week after mealtime, draw names to see who will be in the “hot seat.” (Discard each name after it is drawn so everybody will eventually be chosen.) Family members will ask the person in the “hot seat” a question that cannot be answered “Yes” or “No.”



8. When bringing the kids to school, take turns being prayer warriors—praying for each person’s day.

9. After dinner, rotate sharing a “joke of the day.”

10. Have regular family nights doing something fun that everyone enjoys. You may want to select one of the 48 activities in Kurt and Olivia Bruner’s [Just Add Family—Easy Recipes for Faith-Filled Fun](#)



getaways, but the relationship with your child is the rich heritage of memories that you build with them.

One thing my parents did right was instilling in me a lot of memories: making ice cream at Grandma’s house, fishing trips, relatives, parties. We didn’t go all over the United States on fancy trips, but they did leave me with an enormous reservoir of memories that I still draw on as a married man and father today.

You need to decide that your family is going to be found guilty of having too much fun, rather than too little, and you need to carve time out of your schedule for that to happen. You have to purposefully sacrifice your time, because if you think memories are going to be built by default, you’re fooling yourself. These memories are more than just fun; through building memories, you are building strongholds for Christ in your child’s life.

I think the most important way to build memories, after spending time with your kids, is to practice the lost art of storytelling. Begin by telling the kids how you met as a couple. Build a sense of connectedness to the past, because the lessons of life are found in our past right and wrong choices.

Barbara: I kept a family scrapbook, and every New Year’s Day while we cooked our dinner over a campfire, the whole family would gather around the scrapbook and relive the year together.

Dennis: It’s no mistake that God gave us the gift of memory. Over and over again in the Bible, He challenges the nation of Israel to call to mind his benefits, to remember his abundant kindness. God wants us to remember those things, because He is found in our lives at so many points. As we relive memories through storytelling, faith and maturity are built for today.

Lastly, some of my most important memories are tied to family traditions. Make an effort to establish some significant practices that you repeat year after year. Those repetitive events build stability and a sense of continuity in your child’s life.

Vacations, stories, and traditions will come together to form a museum of memories in your child’s life that will serve as a solid foundation for him as he begins his own family.

Making Memories With Your Children

by Dennis and Barbara Rainey

Q: How can I build memories with my children?

Barbara: One of my favorite family memories is of a day from our vacation in California. We had rented a condominium that we shared with another family. It was a really fun day because we were able to be leisurely all day.

We went out on the beach in the morning, propped up the umbrella and put the babies under it so they wouldn’t burn. The older kids played on the beach, building sand castles and hunting for shells. It was a wonderful day because we got to enjoy our relationships with each other without any deadlines or demands.

Dennis: Vacations are great memory makers because they are a time for us to get away and recharge our batteries. They are a time for us to concentrate on one another, regardless of where we are. The romance of a marriage relationship is built by romantic

Checks & Balances

How to work through your money differences in marriage
Christy Scannell

Of all the topics engaged couples discuss, I suspect the least amount of time is spent on how to handle money. I'm not talking about those budgeting exercises they give you during pre-marriage counseling or knowing how you'll make your rent or what it will take to pay off your student loans. I mean the real, gut-wrenching "how do you view finances" conversation.

No, that one usually happens after the wedding. Depending on your situation, it might be weeks or even months before it hits. But when it does, it lands with a giant thud in the center of your newlywed bliss.

Take Rich and me, for example. We were older than "traditional" marrying age, so any observer might have thought we'd be financially set with an understanding of basic money management. The problem was, our understanding was not the same; we were set all right—set in our ways. And neither of us was willing to budge.

Money Models

I can trace our distinct views to the models set by our parents. When Rich was growing up, his mom and dad kept separate bank accounts. They had a system for who paid what bills, but discretionary leftovers were theirs individually. Since his mom was an ardent saver, his dad was more likely to pay for the extras, such as eating out or vacations. But it worked for them, and so of course that is the financial separation Rich expected in our marriage.

My parents handled money quite differently. They had one joint



- checking account with one checkbook. Purchases were mutual decisions, and my dad wrote all the bills once a month on payday. Although they were not much for saving,

my parents did find a way to afford a few trips to the beach and designer jeans for me (remember the '80s?).

Before Rich and I married, he rarely allowed me to pay for anything on our dates—chivalry is not dead, I suppose! He enjoyed treating me so I didn't question it. Since we had separate households, I figured whatever extra money he had after taking care of his responsibilities was his business, and if he wanted to spend it on me, well, who was I to stand in his way? Similarly, he never asked how I parceled out my paycheck.

Cut to the first month of marriage. Rent came due, as did other bills. Before the wedding we'd talked about what our debts would be and how our combined incomes would cover them. But we'd never planned how that would actually happen. My assumption was that we'd open a joint checking account, where our pay would be deposited. When I suggested to Rich that we stop by the bank to apply, he looked as if I'd just asked if he wanted to go for a manicure.

"Why would we do that?" he responded with honest disbelief.

I explained what I thought our bill-paying procedure would be (my parents' example), only to have him lay out the strategy he thought we'd use (his parents' method). The more we each lobbied for our vision, the more heated the exchange became. We had to go to separate rooms for a while to

cool off. Maybe this sounds familiar.

Working It Out

I'd love to say we worked it all out and lived happily ever after, but that's not the case. In fact, money is probably the number one sticking point in our marriage—as it is in so many. Thankfully, however, we've come to terms with each other's "money language," and we try to respect it.

We did open a joint account, but Rich kept a separate account where a small portion of his income is deposited for his own use. Because I'm better with budgeting, I write the bills from our joint account. We discuss our savings, and he contributes to it from his personal account when necessary (the first time he's ever had a savings, by the way). Typically we discuss large purchases, but we respect each other's privacy when it comes to our "walkin' around money," as Rich calls our spare cash.

I try not to nag him about his spending, and he tries to understand my need to have multiple back-up plans for savings and paying off debt. Over time, we've realized our mutual flexibility has softened both our stances. He's become a bit less of a spendthrift, while I've learned it's okay to let go and not fear "the worst" so much.

The important thing is we haven't allowed the almighty dollar to take over our marriage. As Rich has reminded me when I've been overly anxious about financial obligations, "It's only money."

So talk about money. Solve any fiscal disagreements immediately. And don't let the green stuff (or lack of it) get in the way of your most important

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Drew Brees' Faith Inspires Him

On the stage Drew Brees, 31, raises a microphone to his mouth. "My empowering word is faith."

It is a word that in modern times can polarize-or politicize-an audience, ingratiating some listeners and repelling others. (Not this audience, the adult portion of which gasps in approval.) It's a word that the children have been taught but can't yet fully understand. For Brees the word is more than religion and spirituality, although it has been both of those, increasingly, through the years. Faith is more than Brees's empowering word. It is the central force in his life, slicing across family, football and community, carrying him to the top of his profession and to an iconic status in a still-wounded city that he's helped lift from despair. Drew Brees is the Quarterback of the Super Bowl Champion New Orleans Saints and he gives the glory to God.

When Brees blew out a knee in the 11th grade and college recruiters largely abandoned him, it took faith to believe he would someday play college football. When the entire NFL passed on him in the first round of the 2001 draft, when the San Diego Chargers benched him four times and then brought in a young quarterback to replace him, when he tore up his shoulder in December '05, it took faith to believe he would be a star in professional football and lead a team to a Lombardi Trophy. When only New Orleans- the doormat franchise and the ravaged city- believed in him, he believed in New Orleans. When his estranged mother ended her life in the summer of 2009, it took faith for Brees



to embrace and understand the complicated and sometimes fleeting power of a family's love. When he rises every weekday at 5:15 a.m., it takes faith to look a cynical public in the eye and nakedly embrace the earnest values

of fidelity, fatherhood, service, selflessness and sportsmanship, knowing that the slightest error in behavior will bring a furious blowback.

Yet is faith not also the essence of sport? A fan's unwavering faith in the home team. A player's faith in the workaday value of practice done hard and right to extract the most from his physical gifts. A team's faith that its members can do more together than each could do alone.

On the night of Feb. 7, 2010, Drew Brees led the New Orleans Saints to the first Super Bowl championship in the franchise's star-crossed history, a 31-17 victory over the Indianapolis Colts in Miami. He completed 31 of 39 passes for 228 yards and two touch downs, did not throw an interception and was named the game's most valuable player. For Brees it was the culmination of a four-year climb to a place among the best quarterbacks in football, and for the Saints the crowning moment in a 44-year romance with their home. For that city, nearly lost to a terrible storm, it was a critical step on a

very long path to recovery. "I needed New Orleans just as much as New Orleans needed me," says Brees. "People in New Orleans needed somebody to care about them and it was they cared about me."

"People come up to Drew and don't say, 'Congratulations,'" says Saints veteran tackle Jon Stinchcomb. "It's a year later and they say, 'Thank you. Thank you for coming here.'"

It is not a good time to be anyone's hero though. Not with the gaping maw of endless news cycles, cellphone camera photos, social media and gotcha blogs, all lying in wait for the Tiger Moment that reveals the lie and exposes the hypocrisy. And the higher the pedestal, the harder the fall. Brees is acutely aware of this reality but unafraid. "People are waiting, if not to catch you doing something bad," he says, "then to catch you doing something that can be twisted into something that looks bad. But I'm aware of my position. Kids hang on your every word and action. You have an influence on their lives. And I believe this is who I am. It comes pretty naturally to me. I mean, I don't avoid using drugs because kids are watching me; I avoid doing drugs because it's not a good idea to use drugs."

In Brees's best-selling memoir, *Coming Back Stronger*, published last July, he wrote of his marriage to the

former Brittany Dudchenko, 34, whom he met in 1999 when both were students at Purdue, "...when I put the ring on Brittany's finger, I said, 'For better or



part.’ Period. No matter how bad it could possibly get, I am committed. It’s not about happiness. It’s not about a feeling. I committed myself to her for the rest of my life, and I promise *never* to walk away.”



Sean Payton.”

It is clearly victory that drives Brees, and service that moves him. He is a richly compensated professional with more than 20 sponsorship deals beyond his football contract. Yet it is family that fulfills him. Late on a bye-week afternoon he rushed to Danneel Park, a half mile from the Breeses’ Uptown home. The new playground at the west end of the park was alive with small children-climbing, running, falling and rising again to play more in that indomitable way that only children can. It was a spectacular autumn day in the city, warm without humidity, windless and clear. Brees walked to where Brittany stood over three-week-old Bowen’s stroller. The little guy was bliss-fully asleep. Brees kissed his wife

soon the Saints’ franchise quarterback was climbing up the side of a playscape, the biggest kid in the park. “Oh, no,” said Brittany. “Drew is going to hurt himself. We better walk over there. I don’t want to make that call to

Part of Brees’s rigid daily schedule includes getting home each Monday through Thursday night (NFL players are usually free on Fridays) at 7:30 to read books to Baylen and put him to sleep before resuming tape study. If Brees is delayed at the team’s facility, 15 minutes away in suburban Metairie, Brittany brings the boys to see their father before bedtime.

“Balance in my life is so important with my four priorities: Faith, Family, Football, Philanthropy. The four F’s.” says Brees. He is collecting game balls for his boys, five so far for Baylen, one for Bowen, painted and inscribed with their names as if they shared in the wins. Brees says he would like to play long enough in the NFL for his sons to

see him in action and remember it.

One of the toughest moments he faced in recent years is the death of his mother. Yet he has grown strong from it. And here is faith again, building greater love from tragedy. “I’ve learned never to take anything for granted,” he says, “whether it’s a relationship, an opportunity or something in your personal or professional life. I just value little things more. I love being with Brittany and my two boys. Time goes by too fast.”

Now the quarterback is standing next to a dusty circle in the park, where two little girls slap at a yellow tetherball. Brees is holding Bowen in his arms’ the little boy’s brown fleece sleeper with bear ears is unzipped in the warm air. The sun is falling and casting long autumn shadows across the earth. The Saints are winning, the city is alive, the family grows. The father drops his head, closes his eyes and softly kisses the son on the forehead. Everything is sweet. Everything is right.

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Thanks to Wilma Melendez (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-24-2010

THIS IS LIKE TOTALLY THE COOLEST THING THAT HAS EVEN HAPPENED IN THIS STABLE!

Here is a look back at the year that was...

January

Jan 3rd - We held the first worship service on the year... Jan 9th - The mission team hosted a Pasta Dinner and auction at Central Baptist Church. Pasta Dinner... Jan 12th - An earthquake struck Haiti. We began raising money for the relief efforts and raised over \$1800... Jan 17th - We hosted our first Community Luncheon of the new year. It has become a regular part of our mission and outreach... Jan 18th - We hosted a "Scrabble Night" in the hopes of starting a new tradition of monthly game nights... Jan 28th - We hosted the 210th Annual Meeting of First Baptist Church...

February



Feb 7th - We celebrate Adele DiBiagio's 30 years of ministry at First Baptist with a special service and coffee hour. She was given a few

gifts and Alan McNeeley dropped in to give regards from her peers throughout the city... The Disciples Quartet sang at Central Baptist Church as a fund raiser for the mission team... A Super bowl party was held at the home of Nancy Allen. The New Orleans Saints came away victorious... Feb 13th - Several of us attended a medical fun raiser for Steve Ohlund's daughter, Anastacia. She was battling cancer... Feb 14th - We hosted a dedication of officers during morning worship and recognized several men and women for their faithfulness to our ministry over the years. The group included; Cynthia & Dick Strouse, Oliver Bray, Gywn & Fred Green, Nancy Allen, and Bob Walker. Each of them had given over a decade of service to the ministry of First Baptist... An installation service was held for Rev. Nancy Morrow at Central Baptist Church... Feb 17 - Mid-week lenten services started with a service at First Congregational



Church with Rev. Bill Dunlap preaching... Tess Geneva Canada was born to Kate & Chris Canada... On Feb 20th - We partnered with our sister Church, Buenas Nuevas and the Martin Luther King Center for our second "Because We Care Day". We gave out winter survival kits and more... We hosted a concert for the kids of Haiti. Over \$400 was raised. Our Praise team played and so did some other musicians...

Feb 21st - We commissioned our Mission Mexico team as they prepared to leave for Mexico... We began a series of skits titled "The JPS Man" starring Fred Green Sr... February 23rd - Our mission team left for Mexico. The team from FBC included Carol Calkins, Michelle Chaffee, Erica Corbett, Amanda Duntz, Mark Kane, Lisa Lapointe, Cal Lord, Randy Sargent, and Jake Shanks... Feb 24th - The second Lenten service was held at Lee Memorial United Methodist... Feb 28th - Rev. Willis McCaw filled the pulpit while the Pastor was away on the mission trip...



March

Mar 3 - We hosted the third Lenten service of the season... Mar 10th - Central Baptist hosted the mid week Lenten service... Mar 16th - We hosted a Life-line Screening clinic... Mar 20th - Caleb James Dutrumble was born to Dan & Cheryl at Backus Hospital... Mar 24th - Park Church hosted the weekly Lenten service... Mar 28th - Central Baptist hosted the Annual Men's Communion Breakfast. Rev. Willis McCaw was the speaker... Mar 28th - We had a service of believer's baptism and Rosie Rakowitz was baptized. Later in the service she and Amy Rezendes were welcomed into membership... March 29th - Gorman Todd was born to Ingrid and Jamie at Yale New Haven Hospital... Flood waters from heavy rains ripped through southern New England.

Our nursery area and Fellowship Hall suffered some damage...

April

April 1st - We hosted a Maundy Thursday worship service with the Lord's

Supper... April 2nd - The Way of the Cross procession was held in town and we participated... April 4th - We hosted the 15th Annual Sunrise service at Brown Park. Rev. Greg Perry gave the message... Easter worship at FBC was wonderful. The Easter Band Played and the Pastor began a four part series on Forgiveness... An earthquake ripped through Mexicali and

southern California. Our missionaries, Rick & Mercy Barnes and their family were not hurt but there was some damage to their home and to some of the churches were worked with... April 11th - We began collecting donations

for Nickels to Nails, Habitat project... April 24th - The ABCCONN Annual Gathering was held at Central Baptist Church and Buenas Nuevas hosted one of the worship pavilions. Our Pastor was chair of the event...

May



May 1st - We hosted LUNCH as they provided a concert to raise money and awareness to help world hunger. The group was led by Bill and Kay Pere... Arianna Elizabeth Moriarty was born to Danny and Ashley...

May 2nd - The Annual CROP Walk took place... May 6th - We participated in the Annual National Day of Prayer Observances at City Hall... May 14th - Softball season begins and the team is ready to compete... May 15th - Four of us attended the Iron Sharpens Men's conference in Worcester, MA. The group included Curt Brockway, Oliver Bray, Andy Higgins and the Pastor... May 23rd - We hold our Annual Children's Day program. The theme is "God Cares For Us." A picnic follows at Fort Shantock...

June

June 1st - The Pastor began doing some work as an Area Minister with ABCCONN. His major responsibility was to meet with churches going through pastoral searches and to serve as an encouragement to area Pastors... June 4th - We took a trip to See

Shawn Rucker at the spirit of Broadway Theater in a performance of Asylum: The Strange Case of Mary Todd Lincoln... June 16th - Rev. Mercy Barnes was our guest preacher at the Wednesday night service. She was in Connecticut promoting the ministry that she and Rick have in Mexico... June 20th - We celebrate 25 years of ministry with Pastor Cal Lord with a recognition service and reception in his honor... June 26th - Sarah Lord, the Pastor's daughter, competes in Miss Connecticut Pageant. She finishes as the third runner up... June 27th - Mr. Robert Phillips fills the pulpit in the Pastor's absence... The Pastor throws out the first pitch at Dodd Stadium as the Connecticut Tigers begin their inaugural season in town. It is a fund raiser for the New York City Mission team and raises \$400...



July

July 10th - The NYC mission team hosts a Yard Sale to raise money for the mission trip... Camp Wightman Hosted a Barbecue and Homecoming... July 11th - Kadens Charles is brought before us in a service of family dedication by his parents, Mirlande and Pierre. Ramel Eirc Porter is also brought before us as his parents Erica Ferreira and Sean Porter give thanks... July 18th - Pastor Lord left church early to participate in a surprise recognition for Rev. Greg Hamby on the occasion of his 15th anniversary in the Quaker Hill Baptist Church... July 23rd - Marcha Willhoit and Don Jendrewski were married at the Inn at Woodstock... July 28th - Our New York City Mission team is commissioned during



worship. The FBC team includes; Keeley Backus, Carol Calkins, Michelle Chaffee, Taylor Chaffee, Erica Corbett, June Deptulski, Sharon Fishkin, Becky Lord, Cal Lord, Sarah Lord, Bethany Stone, Sandy Stone, and Julie Wagner... July 31st - Our NYC mission team leaves for the city...

August

Aug 1st - Mr. Stan Widman from the Christian Motorcycle Association fills the pulpit while the pastor is away... Karen Murray and Chuck Hellier were married... August 8th - Communion is observed as the Pastor returns... Aug 15th - Lee Memorial hosts "Galactic Blast" Vacation Bible School... Maximus Grange was born to Stacia and Nick down in Florida... Aug 21st - Cassie Kane and Brandon Frec hette are married by the pastor in a ceremony at Ocean Beach. . Aug 22nd - We host our annual Softball Sunday recognition Sunday... Aug 29th - Gorman Todd is brought before the Lord in a family dedication service in part one of a special service. After the message we head out to Camp Wightman for a service of baptism. Jesly Souvanance, Ingrid and Jamie Todd are baptized and welcomed into church membership on the shores of Billings Lake...

September

Sept 5th - Caleb Dutrumbel is brought before the congregation by his parents, Dan & Cheryl, in a service of family dedication... Sept 7th - Choir rehearsals begin again for the fall... Sept 12th - Sunday School resumes for the year. Fran Rogers takes over as nursery co-ordinator for worship services... Children's Bibles and coloring books are offered for the kids who stay in worship... Sept 16th - We begin our Wednesday night services under the name of "45 MPH" services. They offer music, prayer and a word of hope. We also begin praying for families in the congregation and sending out cards to mark the occasion... Sept 19th - We celebrate the NYC Mission team with dessert & coffee at Central

Baptist Church... Sept 20th - We host a foundations class for those interested in participating in a Habitat Build... Sept 26th - Aida Barnes was named our ninth recipient of the FBC Scholarship. She follows Adam Barber, Jennifer Kane, Lindsey Mariano, Jon Vanase, Casey Rezendes, Becky Lord, Melissa Ingoglia and Cami Ferguson as winners...

October

Oct 2nd - Youth Group outing to Six Flags Fright Fest... Oct 10th - Hillary and Lee McFalls welcome Cameron and Logan into the family. The twins were born a month early but everyone is doing well... Oct 15th - Mikel & Michelle Brockway welcome Mikel Jr. to the family... ABCCONN host "An Evenin With Friends" as a fund raiser for the region... Oct 17th - The Fall Stewardship Campaign kicks off with the presentation of the "My Three Wishes" booklet... A new video Bible series begins featuring Rob Bell and his short video clips from the Nooma series... Oct 19th - Special rehearsals are held as the choir prepares for the annual Choir Festival... Oct 24th The Stewardship Committee hosts a brunch following worship as part of the Fall Campaign. The breakfast is served by Olde Tymes. A skit is presented by Mary Brockway, Nancy Allen and the Pastor... Oct 28th... Dave and Mary royce become grandparents as Ryan and Michelle williams give birth to Kay Royce... Oct 30th - Several people participate in the Baptist build with Habitat for Humanity in New London... Oct 31st - We begin



collecting food for our Thanksgiving Baskets... The First Baptist quarterly meeting takes place and the major item of business is talk about a new furnace...

November

Nov 5th - The Youth Group goes skating at Galaxy Rink in Groton... Nov 7th - We recognized our Veterans during morning worship... Nov 13th - Our Coat Giveaway begins with a two hour session in the front of the church. Over thirty families show up and walk away with some winter apparel... Nove 14th - St. Mark's Evangelical

Lutheran Church hosted the Annual Choir Festival. Our choir consisted of Mary Brockway, Susie Rothholz, Cindy Costa, Amy Rezendes, Carol Johnson, Anna Senay, Cynthia Strouse, Lori Lord, Nancy Allen, Helen Walker, Rosie Rakowitz, Paul Johnson, Robert Phillips, Oliver Bray, Shawn Rucker, Curt Brockway and Cal Lord... November 18th - Central Baptist hosts the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Rabbi Charles Arian is the preacher...



Nov 20th - The second week of our Coat Giveaway was held at the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen. A large number of people came by to get winter clothing from us... Nov 27th - We met to decorate the church for Advent. Karen Barber provided refreshments and Kaitlin Beavan worked with the children to create some



cute crafts... Nov 28th- We celebrated the first Sunday of Advent... Local members of the USA Tap Dance Team and their families were in worship with us. We prayed for them and sent them off to compete in the World Tap Dance Championships in Riesa, Germany. Luis Pabon and Stan Boyes were team leaders and Rachel Lord was among the participants. Pastor Lord was also traveling with the group. They left for the airport shortly after worship ended... Following worship we had a brief special meeting to vote on moving ahead with the new heating system for the chapel, parlor, fellowship hall and nursery areas. It was approved unanimously...

December

Dec 5th- Rev., Bill Huegel was our guest preacher in the pastor's absence. We celebrated the Lord's Supper... December 19th - We hosted the Annual Christmas Party & Pageant. The traditional pageant was directed by Mary Brockway. Troy Anderson was Joseph and Chelsey Maynard was Mary. Santa (P.A.) paid us a visit afterwards and we all enjoyed Jesus' birthday cake... Dec 24th - We held our

annual Christmas Eve Family Candle light service at 7:00 p.m. The highlights included Shawn rucker sinigng "O Holy Night", Lori, Rachel & Sarah Lord singing "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen", Steve Contois and Cheryl Dutruble singing "It's Christmas Time" and Penny

Sargent marching in with her drum while the Praise Band sang "The Drummer Boy." ... At the late service Shawn and the Lord girls sang again in our Late night Candle-light service...



Join Us For Our 211th Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 27

The meeting will start
at 6:30 p.m.sharp.

- * We will receive reports,
- * Vote on 2011 Budgets
- * Elect Officers, Boards & Commites
- * Celebrate what God is doing
- * Make plans for the future

Annual Business Meeting



We will gather at 6:00 p.m.
for soup & sandwiches

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.
Mid week worship -
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Clayton A. Lord, Jr., Pastor
Adele DiBiagio,
Organist & Choir Director
Sandy Stone, Administrative Assistant
Harry & Doris Calkins, Carol Calkins, Sharon
Fishkin and Bob Walker are the Production Assis-
tants.