

## February Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- 2 Doris Perkins, Cyndi Peters
- 3 Howard Tuttle, Janette Perkins
- 4 Mary Mercurio
- 5 Stacy Henning, Stephanie Pratt  
Robin Klein, Faith Kelly
- 11 Dolores Thompson, Bob Leath
- 15 Virg Jones, Chris Hermann
- 18 Ryan Lingle
- 19 Laigha Anderson
- 21 Shirley Keller, Connie Aaron, Mike Hill
- 24 Joe Slavens, Linda Hermann
- 25 Marisa Knight

### Anniversaries

- 15 M/M Ron Dunham
- 21 M/M Bob Colvin

### December Budget Numbers

- December Budgeted Receipts - 43,328.13**
- December Budget Disbursements - 46,376.78**
- December Budget Need - 26,402.16**



Attendance Record	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29
Morning Worship	128	143	No Services	152	147
Evening Worship	No Service	Business Mtg.	No Service	23	Community Sing
Wed. Evening	49	72	69	65	

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## The Baptist Beacon

## Bacone College Choir

The Bacone College Choir is coming to our church to perform on February 26 during our morning worship service. Following the service we will host a carry in dinner. Please bring 1 or 2 covered dishes to share as we have a great time of fellowship together.

This choir is comprised of approximately 25 members plus sponsors. Therefore homes are needed to house choir members on Saturday night, February 25 and to provide breakfast on Sunday morning. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center for hosting choir members. Please consider helping out by opening up your home. Their request is that housing be provided for students in pairs of girls or boys. If you have questions, contact the church office.



## Take a Look at the Church Library

Take a look at the church library. It might seem to be a little disorganized but a lot of books have been taken out of storage and we are in the process of cataloging them and finding the proper place to file them.

The library has a considerable number of Bibles, Commentaries and many other books with a religious content. This is in addition to the great number of books written for the more romantic type. We even have some material for children. Also within the library are a number of CD's and cassettes that are for those who like to listen to the Bible and other religious material.

Come check us out and check out a book!!!



## Book Review



### Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur

Contrary to popular belief, we do not have to be perfect to do God's work. Look no further than the twelve disciples whose many weaknesses are forever preserved throughout the pages of the New Testament. Jesus chose ordinary men—fishermen, tax collectors, political zealots—and turned their weakness into strength, producing greatness from utter uselessness. MacArthur draws principles from Christ's careful, hands-on training of the original twelve disciples for today's modern disciple - you. This book is available for check-out in our library.

## REV IT UP - "Moving Forward Into the Future"

I wanted to begin by saying that Bonnie and I truly feel blessed by our Lord to have "called" us to First Baptist. We love this Church, which is the people – you! My father's primary advice (he was a successful Pastor) as I entered ministry was; "Love the people..... and they'll love you." Well, this has certainly been our experience with this wonderful church family. Praise the Lord! "Thank you" for the honor, privilege and joy of being your Pastor. I take my "calling's" responsibilities very seriously as I serve in Christ's Church and seek His will. I absolutely believe Christ's desire is for His church here at First Baptist is to thrive now and into the future! A thriving church now and into the future is the focus of my "report" as we end 2016.

***"I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the Gospel, so that I may share in its blessings."*** 1 Corinthians 9:22b-23

**"Whatever it takes for the sake of the Gospel,"** our church motto.

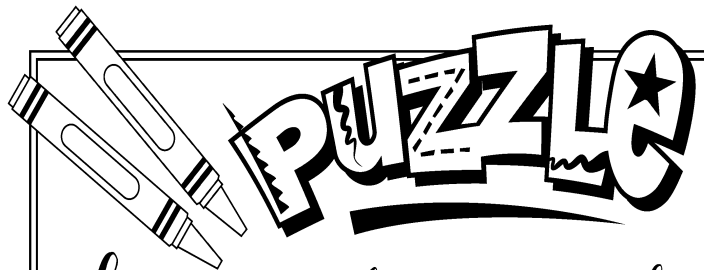
## FEBRUARY IS "LOVE GIFT" EMPHASIS



The month of February has long been the month we focus on American Baptist Women's "Love Gift". During the Great Depression in 1932 to help American Baptist Churches overcome a \$500,000 deficit American Baptist Women accepted a challenge. Fearing that the financial crisis would curtail God's work, the Board of Missionary Cooperation (now Mission Resource Development) asked individuals to give financial contributions in excess of their tithes and pledges. The Committee on Conference (later named the National Committee on Women's Work) challenged women to raise \$150,000 to help meet the crisis. Taking up the challenge, the women began the over-and-above contribution called "LOVE GIFT." It's amazing to think that a few coins saved here and there can make such a difference. Today, many ministries supported by **Love Gift** happen within our Region as well as across the US and Puerto Rico.

**How can you help?** You can help by giving an over-and-above offering to **Love Gift**. You can save money and place them in the Love Gift box and/or envelope. You can help by saving dollar bills with L and G's on the front (representing Love Gift) or setting any other letter on the dollar bill as one you will save, such as J for Jesus, B for blessings, etc. You can place your pocket change each week into the large purple container located in the foyer through the end of February. However you chose to help, you will receive blessings beyond blessings from the Lord. Share Love Gift from your heart!





# Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

**Directions:** Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12<sup>th</sup> letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

- (1) You really like ice cream! \_\_\_\_\_
- (16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. \_\_\_\_\_
- (21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. \_\_\_\_\_
- (4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. \_\_\_\_\_
- (11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. \_\_\_\_\_
- (17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. \_\_\_\_\_
- (6) "That's yours, eff!" the fairy yelled. \_\_\_\_\_



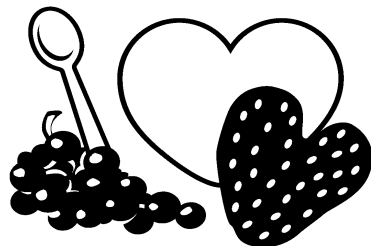
♥ "Honor \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_"

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

# Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



### What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

### What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!

As the Apostle Paul successfully adapted his missionary approach in presenting the everlasting and unchanging Gospel to different social contexts, so must we as part of Christ's church in Leavenworth today. Paul was very much aware of the society about him in which he wanted to share Jesus with. As a result, Paul would "contextualize" his message to fit where he was ministering. He did NOT change the Gospel of Jesus, NO! But, he adapted his ways of presenting Jesus Christ in order to reach the lost and nurture the found. WE, as First Baptist Church of Leavenworth in 2017 and beyond, would do well to emulate this time tested approach to grow and move forward into the future of Christ our Lord.

Our social context in which we do ministry has changed and is changing fast! The church must be aware of its context in order to be successful in growing the Body of Christ now and into the future. If the church is not aware or responsive to the context in which it is to minister, its efforts for Christ are hindered. Decline, instead of growth, then becomes the norm for a church. Decline is certainly NOT the Lord's will for any Christian church. Christ wants us to reach out and grow His Church. So, we must know our community and world well. We must know our neighbors in order to reach them with the Gospel. Things have changed, whether we like it or not. We cannot ignore how our world has changed and successfully grow into the future. Adaptations, adjustments and innovation is required within the church to move triumphantly into the future Christ has for us. Yes, this can be scary. Yes, change can be uncomfortable. Yet, it can also be invigorating and exciting! Being part of a movement at Christ's leading is an amazing thing! It brings life from the author of all life, as He moves among and through us by His Holy Spirit.

With this in mind I asked our Deacon Board to begin a journey of "Futuring." We started this process earlier in 2016. It began with prayerfully considering our history and how we currently do ministry at First Baptist. We also did research on our Leavenworth community. This was done with the help of the Facilitator who works in this field with local churches. After doing our homework, we went on a 2 day intensive retreat with the Facilitator and another A.B.C. church in the process. We reviewed a great deal of current social research in relation to the Church as a whole. Then, we had some very honest discussions about our church and the context which we are called to minister in today and into the immediate future. On February 11<sup>th</sup> of 2017 we will have a final meeting with our Facilitator here at the church with our leadership. We will be discussing possible "way points" on what we might actually DO to move forward into the future.

At our January 8th Business Meeting the church did approve two items as part of our efforts to thrive into the future. First, as part of our budget, we approved funding for a "worship Leader / Christian Ed / Youth" worker to help with contemporary praise music and our children/youth programs. Second, the church approved the forming of an "Ad Hock Committee. They will examine our current organizational structure, then come up with options for downsizing the structure and increasing efficiency. In addition, the Deacon Board will be working with me to evaluate our current worship services and Sunday School schedule. As we do, new worship options may be proposed. Again, all of this to be done to help Christ's church thrive into the future. Please be in prayer for the church as we move forward.

Christ be with you, The Rev.

# February 2017

Every  
Sunday:

9:00 am - Sunday school  
10:15 am - Worship service  
6:00 pm - Creative Worship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal 6 pm - Youth Fellowship Hr. 6:30 pm - Bible Study & Prayer, Venture Club 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal, Youth Group	2 10 am - LeLeche League 6 pm - Pickleball 6 pm - Fly Tying Class	3 9 am - White Cross Sewing Group 6 pm - Parent's Night Out	4
5 Communion 9 am - Sunday School 10:15 am - Morning Worship 6 pm - Creative Worship	6 9:30 am - Staff Mtg. 10 am - Pickleball 6 pm - Pickleball	7 6 pm - A.C.T.S. Prayer Group 6 pm - Open Gym Basketball	8 5:30 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal 6 pm - Youth Fellowship Hr., Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm - Bible Study & Prayer, Venture Club 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal, Youth Group	9 6 pm - Pickleball 6 pm - Fly Tying Class	10	11 9 am - Futuring Mtg. W/David Schrirer
12 9 am - Sunday School 10:15 am - Morning Worship 11:30 am - Fellowship Committee Mtg. 6 pm - Creative Worship	13 9:30 am - Staff Mtg. 10 am - Pickleball 6 pm - Pickleball	14 6 pm - A.C.T.S. Prayer Group 6 pm - Open Gym Basketball 7 pm - Grief Support Group	15 5:30 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal 6 pm - Youth Fellowship Hr. 6:30 pm - Bible Study & Prayer, Venture Club 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal, Youth Group	16 6 pm - Pickleball 6 pm - Fly Tying Class	17 9 am - White Cross Sewing Group	18
19 9 am - Sunday School 10:15 am - Morning Worship 6 pm - Creative Worship	20 Church Closed—President's Day	21 6 pm - Open Gym Basketball 6 pm - Team Meetings	22 5:30 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal 6 pm - Youth Fellowship Hr. 6:30 pm - Bible Study & Prayer, Venture Club 7 pm - Choir Rehearsal, Youth Group	23 6 pm - Pickleball 6 pm - Fly Tying Class	24	25 1:30 pm - Movie Matinee - "Little Boy"
26 9 am - Sunday School 10:15 am - Morning Worship—Bacone College Choir 11:30 am - Carry in Dinner 6 pm - Creative Worship—Contemporary Music Guests 7 pm - Youth Afterglow	27 9:30 am - Staff Mtg. 10 am - Pickleball 6 pm - Pickleball	28 1:30 pm - Heart for Mission 6 pm - A.C.T.S. Prayer Group 6 pm - Open Gym Basketball 7 pm - Grief Support Group				