

CATCH THE VISION!

“Where there is no vision,
the people perish.”

Proverbs 29:18

March 8, 2010

*“The church with a glorious past, present and future,
where everlasting relationships are built!”*

First Baptist Church Affton
8751 Mackenzie Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63123

Church Phone: 314-631-8750 Pastor: Rev. Dana L. Burris
Website: www.fbc-a.org Home Phone: 636-282-0611
E-Mail: mary@fbc-a.org DanaLBurris@aol.com



GREETINGS IN THE WONDERFUL NAME OF JESUS!

Sunday was a great day as we had a larger attendance, several visitors and a sweet spirit in our services. It was also a beautiful day outside with sunshine in the morning and nice temperatures. It was just a wonderful day to be in the house of the Lord with God's people.

I have been preaching a series of sermons from the book of Jonah. February 21st the subject was "Running from God." February 28th in Jonah chapter 2 I addressed "Running Back to God." On Sunday I spoke on the subject of "Running With God" as I used chapter 3 for the text.

If we are to "Run with God" there are at least four things we need to do. **First, we must hear God's voice.** Jonah heard God plainly and said "No!" Our problem is that sometimes we don't hear because we are not listening. We fill our heads with all kinds of noise and things we want to do and we put God's will aside and make our wants and desires a priority. The Bible tells us in Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God."

Once we hear God's voice clearly and distinctly we must obey Him. Jonah was told to tell the city of Nineveh that in 40 days they would be destroyed. It was not a detailed message or a long drawn out plan. Jonah simply had to do one thing and that was to warn the Ninevehites of God's coming judgment. God simply wants us to obey Him if we are to run with Him. Sometimes it is just doing that one thing He tells us to do.

The next step is to proclaim God's Word. As the followers of Christ we have the responsibility to give the Good News of salvation to a lost and dying world. We have to live a life that sets us apart as a follower of Christ. People then will want to know what is different about us and we will have the opportunity to share with them. Jonah simply told the people what God said to tell them.

When we hear God's voice, obey His commands and proclaim His word to others **then we simply trust the power of God and watch Him work.** Jonah did not have

an elaborate message or outline. He simply walked across the city and told them they would be destroyed in 40 days. Immediately from the king down they repented in sackcloth and ashes and proclaimed a fast for all people and the animals as well.

Notice it was not Jonah or the words he said. **The Bible states that they believed God.** These people were not God fearers. They were cruel, ruthless people who had no regard for God or man. They were an idolatrous people with no regard for Jehovah, the one and only true God and the God of the Jews. However, at God's Word they repented immediately and God forgave them.

This was not Jonah's doing. He simply listened to God this second time after God got his attention. He then obeyed God's command and went to Nineveh to proclaim the Word God had given him. **As a result He saw the power of God change an entire city and cause their repentance. A revival swept the city.**

God gave Jonah a second chance. He does not have to, but often God does give people a second chance. You may have run from God, you may be running back to God or you may be running with God. Wherever you are in your life, God wants us to run with Him. There is no joy like being in the center of God's will. I trust you are running with God today. **If you will hear His voice, obey what He tells you, live and proclaim His truth to others then you can trust His power and you will see God do things you never imagined.**

I believe that God wants to bring revival and renewal to each of our lives. He also wants to bring revival to His church in Affton, in America and around the world. **I believe the only thing that is holding back revival is the refusal of many of God's people to hear His voice, obey His commands and live and proclaim His word.** That is keeping us from seeing God's power in our lives and our churches. When it stops being all about us and it becomes all about Him and His plans, goals, desires and will for our life, then and only then will we see the power of God unleashed in a mighty way.

May God bless you richly. I hope to see you Sunday with a smile on your face, a friend by your side and a Bible in your hand as we partake of the Lord's Supper to

Continued from page one...

gether. Please invite and bring someone with you. It was a joy to see the church with a larger attendance on Sunday. It could be every week if we will make those contacts and invite others.

JUST REMEMBER THAT GOD LOVES YOU AND SO DO SANDY AND I!



TRIVIA NIGHT

A Trivia Night has been planned as a fundraiser for Youth Camp on Friday, May 21st at 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Please place this date on your calendar and plan now to attend. Be sure to invite people to come with you as we work to help make the Youth Camp in Kentucky a reality. This will be a mission trip. Watch for more details in the future.



Palm Sunday

*Amazing Grace how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind but now I see.*

To totally understand these timeless words, we have to truly comprehend the freedom that was granted to us when Jesus gave His life on the cross for our sins. **My Chains Are Gone-an Easter Celebration of Freedom**, walks us through the events of Jesus' last days as He continued to meet the needs of the people around Him. Some came for healing, some for words of comfort and forgiveness, but all came to have the weight of their bondage lifted so that they could be set free.

Please join us on Palm Sunday, March 28 for the morning worship service as we celebrate our freedom in Christ and contemplate the Easter story once more. Our Worship Choir is eager to lead you and to enhance your worship this Easter with songs of celebration, encouragement, and commitment. May God bless you as we worship together this Easter.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

Hallelujah! What a great weekend. We had temperatures near 60. We were outside enjoying the greatness of God's sunshine. What a great God!

As we began Sunday School yesterday, we started a new quarter... new books, new studies, new beginnings concerning what Jesus taught about everyday troubles and everyday concerns. Why not start a new spring resolution to be in Sunday School? Call a friend or neighbor and invite them to church and/or Sunday School. Church is about putting others before ourselves.

We set up the Easter crosses on Saturday. We will need people to gather outside in the yard during the Crucifixion re-enactment. You don't have to do anything but be here. The more people we have standing around the crosses during this time, the more people will notice the re-enactment and its meaning. It is only four weeks until Easter. Won't you please make a commitment right now to be in church on Easter and be here for the re-enactment?

We are having more people in attendance on Sunday nights. We are singing new songs and enjoying great fellowship. It is an enjoyable time to gather, meet and greet, and read from God's word. Won't you make a commitment to change your Sunday night routine and come to church? You don't know what you are missing unless you come. We miss you.

We had a great men's prayer breakfast on Saturday morning. We had 10 men gather to eat, have fellowship, share prayer requests and study Tony Dungy's newest book on being an uncommon Christian. It's not just another breakfast at church. It is a time to really get to know our Christian brothers and what is going on in their lives. Mark your calendars for the April men's prayer breakfast and come and fellowship with us.

Pastor Dana has been preaching on Sunday mornings about Jonah and his struggles. Jonah knew about God. Jonah knew he should go and do what the Lord was calling him to do, but Jonah rejected God at first and ran in the opposite direction and his life was terrible. Then Jonah repented and followed God's request and went to Nineveh and proclaimed God. This made Jonah feel complete. Are you knowingly rejecting God, church and fellowship with other believers? Is it time to renew your fellowship with God and attend church regularly? March and springtime are a great time to come back to God and church.

Jerry Honse, Deacon Chairman

Our Goal: \$ 2,000.00



ANNIE
ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS



CHILDREN'S CAMP YARD SALE

Start going through your house and collecting the things you would like to get rid of. We'll have a yard sale here on Saturday, June 5 from 8:00-2:00 that will benefit children's camp. This will help you clean house as well as assist our children with their fees for camp.

SUPER "SUNDAE" NIGHT April 11th

Following the Evening Service



The children from the 1st-6th grade Sunday School classes will provide ice cream sundaes for everyone. A special menu will be provided. Look for more details in the upcoming weeks.



GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

Sunday, March 7th was Girl Scout Sunday and we were privileged to have 7 girls in our service who are third grade Brownies and will bridge over to Juniors in the fall. They are from the Windsor School District. Accompanying them was their leader Kris Scott and her assistant Kim Dreiman. Girl Scouts are expected to give service hours for God and country. This troop helped prepare dental kits for the local Health Department and adopted a soldier for the holidays. They are a young group but they also went to the local Red Cross chapter and learned about safety and preparedness for disasters. They made first aid kits for their families and encouraged their families to develop a disaster plan. Pastor Dana recognized them in the service and asked them to stand. Then all Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and former Scouts were asked to stand. Pastor Dana also acknowledged those who had attained Eagle Scout or Gold Scout as Senior Leader awards. It was our privilege to have this group in Sunday School and worship, to recognize them and acknowledge their contributions in service to God and country.

CHURCH BUS DRIVER NEEDED

Dan Kunst and Angie have bought a house and moved to Granite City, Illinois. He was one of our Sunday morning drivers. We currently have three drivers and two are husband and wife. We need at least one more driver and could use more to set up a longer rotation. You do not need a special license. Contact the office or Harold Huffstutler today to volunteer. This is a great ministry opportunity.



Easter Egg Hunt

EASTER EGG FILLING PARTY

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 3rd at Mathilda Park at 10:00 am. All children are invited. There will be donuts, juice, milk, story time and lots of eggs to hunt. Some will have special prizes in them. We are asking people to come to the church on Thursday March 25th at 6:30 pm to help us fill the thousands of eggs. You may also make donations of money or pick some plastic eggs up in the Welcome Center to take home and fill. There will be a sign up sheet for the filling party.

LIVE CRUCIFIXION REENACTMENT



The date is Good Friday, April 2nd and Saturday, April 3rd from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm on the church lawn. We need volunteers to dress in costume as the crowd and the Roman soldiers. We need young men to go on the crosses. Several people need to be available to greet people who come on our campus. We need donations of cookies and/or cupcakes as well as someone to make drinks and serve them. One or more people are needed to coordinate the costumes and get them out of storage. Contact the office to volunteer for this great outreach ministry and visual witness to our community. Please sign the sheet in the sanctuary to volunteer.



BREAD MINISTRY TESTIMONIES

St. Louis Bread Company who donates the bread to us on Saturday nights has asked that we share any human interest stories that we have from delivering this bread. Please contact the office if you have something to share.



Remember to set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, March 13th. If you don't, you will be an hour late for Sunday School and worship next Sunday morning, March 14th. Remember to "spring" forward one hour on Saturday night.



First Baptist Church of Affton
 8751 Mackenzie Road
 St. Louis, MO 63123
 314-631-8750

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 ST. LOUIS, MO
 PERMIT # 789


Returned Service Requested



March 14

LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE

Lord's Supper



This Sunday, March 14th in the morning service we plan to observe communion. Pastor Dana and Seth are planning a special commemoration of this event that is truly a worship service. The entire service will center around the Lord's Supper. You will want to be a part of this very special service as we remember the sacrifice of our Lord as we approach Easter.

Regular Sunday Services

9:00 Sunday School
 10:15 Morning Worship

6:00 Evening Worship
 7:15 Choir Rehearsal

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School	Feb. 28	Mar. 7
Enrollment	152	134
Attendance	91	97
New Members	0	1
Visitors	2	9

Total Morning Worship

	115	138
Sanctuary	100	122
Children's Church	10	9
Nursery	5	7
Evening Worship	38	33

OFFERING

Weekly needs	\$ 4,920.00
Received 2/28	\$ 4,905.42
Received 3/7	\$ 8,602.27
YTD Received	\$ 46,541.36
Parking Lot 2/28	\$ 575.83
Parking Lot 3/7	\$ 1,015.00

Regular Wed. Services

6:00 Youth FUEL!
 Awana
 7:00 Bible Study

Deacon of the Week

March 7
 Jerry Honse
 March 14
 Joe Tyra


Bread Ministry Workers
 March 13
 Dan and Debbie Bender

Thank You

Thanks to all:
 Louise Baumann sincerely thanks everyone for all the 90th birthday cards she received.


GAME NIGHT

Saturday, March 20th at 6:30 pm is our next Game Night. The last one was a great success. Bring your favorite board game and your favorite snack as we have a "potluck" of snacks for the evening. Drinks will be provided. We will also have activities for the children and electronic games for the youth. Plan now to attend and invite several friends. This is also a great event to invite the unchurched to attend. It is a great time of fellowship. If you need transportation, call Bill Wright or the church office.




Need A Ride?

Call the Church office by 3:00 p.m. on Friday if you need a ride Sunday and you are on our bus route.



Our Budget

Our financial standing for the month of February is -\$2,033.30. For January and February our standing is -\$1,311.44.



Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Dana L. Burris
 Worship Leader: Seth Carruthers
 Youth Directors: Tom and Jennifer Martin
 Church Secretary: Mary Bond
 Custodian: Gregg Crain
 Church Phone: 314-631-8750

PRAY AT



10, 2, 4 and Bedtime