

First Baptist Crossings

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SMITHVILLE
OCTOBER 2013 – VOLUME I ISSUE 09

View from the Pulpit

Wow! What a wonderful month we had at FBC in September! Last month I had the opportunity to share about some wonderful things happening in our Children's Department and this month I am surprised and joyful over other areas of growth for our church body. I am reminded daily of the ways in which God is working through us and blessing our congregation.

One area of growth we've seen in the last month is in worship attendance. Whereas last spring we were running in the 60s and 70s some weeks in worship, during the month of September we crossed over into triple digits! Now that deserves exclamation points in triplet form, I think!!! Just a few weeks ago we hit 100 people in worship and on September 29 we climbed all the way up to 108! It has truly been a blessing each week to watch as our pews begin to fill up more and more and see your smiling faces as we worship our Lord together. Thank you for being faithful to our God and to our church and making worship a priority in your life.

Attendance is rising throughout several of our ministries in addition to worship. Our numbers are rising significantly in the Children's Department, ranging from 14 to 20 on any given week and that department will continue to grow with 3 more babies on the way! Our youth department has also seen growth in the last six months with a consistent group of 12 youth in attendance, several of those whom attend both Wednesdays and Sundays and have begun volunteering with our music and nursery departments. On roll we have about 20 youth so there is already a pool of students from which we can continue to grow this ministry. Our Young Adult class has a solid group of 13 participating weekly in Sunday and Wednesday activities and one of our adult classes, taught by Hubert Shuler, has grown to over 20 in attendance and has had to move their class into the Fellowship Hall so they will have enough room to seat everyone! Our senior adult exercise class (PEPPI) kicked off in September with a great start with 14 people participating—and you can still join in on the fun! Our members have been more faithfully involved and we continue to see new visitors in worship. If all of this doesn't energize you about fruitfulness within our church, I'm not sure what will!

Sometimes it's easy to let the troubling matters turn us sour or give us a negative outlook – like a bunch of trashcans in our sanctuary collecting rain water through our new roof! I know these are realities and can put a damper on things, but I hope you will join me in looking beyond the hardships and be overwhelmed by the blessings. In addition to rising numbers in attendance we have watched as our offerings began to slowly increase during the summer months, which is usually a low time for offerings in churches as families are traveling and don't always make up their tithes or offerings. Perhaps one of the latest happenings in our church that has energized me the most is the recent approval of eight new deacons! I look forward to serving with each one of these eight as I know they will offer fresh perspectives and new gifts and talents that will help our diaconate better serve our church and community. I feel blessed to be a part of the First Baptist family and I hope you will continue to be involved and support our body of faith as we look ahead and envision what God has in store for us!

Rev. Swanson



Weekly Events

Sundays

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:15 am Coffee & Snacks
- 10:30 am Bible Study

Tuesdays

- 1:00 pm PEPPI Exercise Class, FBC gym

Wednesdays

- 6:30-7:15 pm Adult Bible Study
- 6:30-7:45 pm Children & Youth Programming

Church Events

- October 6, 11:30 am Teams Meeting
- October 8, 5 - 8 pm Pizza Hut Night
- October 13, 11:30 am Quarterly Business Meeting
- October 27, 5-8 pm Fall Festival
- October 30, 5:30 pm Deacons Meeting



Fall Festival

Our annual Fall Festival is just around the corner!!! This event is always a fun time for our church family and a great opportunity to invite families from the community to our church. Folks will enjoy a hot dog supper, games, hayrides, bounce houses, and more!

How can you be involved???

- Volunteer to help with the event. We need helpers for games, in the kitchen, registration table, decorations, handing out candy, and more! Sign up to help on the bulletin board.
- Donate candy, hot dogs, buns, chips (individual sizes), and desserts (cupcakes, brownies, cookies, etc. for the Cake Walk). Donations will be needed prior to October 20. Desserts can be brought by the day of the event.
- Come out that night to support the event!

*We'll also have a donation box for our food pantry the evening of the event.
Help us support this important ministry of our church.*



Save the Date

*Sunday,
November 24*

*Celebrating 140 years
of First Baptist Church
(More Details to Come)*

Join us as we observe communion, celebrating our oneness in Christ with our Christian brothers and sisters from around the world.



*Sunday, October 6
Worship, 9:30 am*

Volunteers in October

Nursery Department: Baby Room

October 6 Pat Merriman, Erin Loker
October 13 Tammy Kelly, Ruth Hiatt
October 20 Pam Petty, Laura Bush
October 27 Carol Shaffer, Linda Frazier

Nursery Department: Toddler Room

October 6 Donna White, Mikayla Herrod
October 13 Jennifer Edwards, Cassidy Hopkins
October 20 Joy & Andy Bettis
October 27 Carlene Rubicam, Dorothy Allen

Greeters

October 6 Lee & Dorothy Huntley, Lois Earlywine
October 13 Judy Asher, Betty Shuler
October 20 Betty Shuler, Dorothy Allen
October 27 Rosalie Swaney, Pat Merriman

Children's Sermon Leaders

October 6 Jenny Holmes
October 13 Randy Kelly
October 20 Ruth Hiatt
October 27 Jeff Buscher

Deacon of the Week

October 6 Lee Huntley
October 13 Randy Kelly
October 20 Hubert Shuler
October 27 John Srite

Communion Preparers

October 6 Lee Huntley, Bill Forsyth

Hospitality

October Carolyn Jensen

Welcoming Our New Deacons

Please welcome our eight new deacons! These individuals will serve a year as Deacons in Training and will be ordained in the Fall of 2014.

Andy Bettis	David Chiles
Linda Frazier	Randy Holmes
David Petty	Carol Shaffer
Donna White	Joel White



Quarterly Business Meeting

Sunday, October 13
11:30 am, Sanctuary

Ministry Updates

During the month of September:

- Nursery Department (3 rooms) were painted and prepped for artwork.
- Our new children's Sunday school structure was implemented with the addition of 3 new classes and 4 new teachers.
- Further repairs were made to church roof.

Financial Figures

September Offerings \$11,667

In our prayers

Audrey Tygart Aliene Harris
Dorothy Perkins Glenn Petty
Lettie Pemberton Hila Foster
Linda Mangels Al McNeal
Georgia Callaway Roy & Linda Thomas
Joyce Teegarden Gary Teegarden
Joni Teegarden
Kerri & Roy Boyer, *Bonnie Chancellor's daughter and son-in-law*
Marcia Franke, *Bonnie Chancellor's daughter*
Larry Brown, *Darlene McMillian's son*
Charles McMillian, *Darlene McMillian's step-son*
Phebe Troxel, *Laura Bush's mother-in-law*
Rob Earlywine, *Lois Earlywine's son*
John Allen, *Dorothy Allen's son*
Nancy Brown, *Beth Asher's mother*
Georgeanna White, *Ruth Hiatt and Joel White's sister-in-law*
Michael Loker, *Erin & Bethany Loker's father*
Floyd Huntley, *Lee Huntley's uncle*
Mildred Brubeck, *Donna White's aunt*

Christian Sympathy

To Peggy Baber and family on the passing of Don Baber.
To Ron Merriman and family on the passing of his brother-in-law, Bob Johnson.

First Baptist Church

300 South Bridge Street

Smithville, MO 64089

Phone: (816) 532-0164

Website: firstbaptistchurchsmithvillemo.com

Email: fbcsmithvillemo64@att.net

October Birthdays



October 1	Jess Edwards
October 6	Bonnie Evans
October 8	Darlene McMillian
October 9	Joan Pence Jim Cockrill Jana Lindsey
October 11	Karen Cockrill
October 13	Margaret Fales Kim Robinette Mildred Barnhill
October 18	Krista Petty
October 22	Jerry Holmes
October 25	Eula Pendleton
October 26	Christina Berner Don Doerzbacher

Ministers & Staff

Rev. Stephanie Swanson, *Pastor*
Rev. Jeff Buscher, *Associate Pastor*
Betty Shuler, *Secretary*
Tammy Kelly, *Secretary*
Margaret Fales, *Music*
Athena Gillespie, *Pianist*
A.J. Kelly, *Custodian*

Office Hours

Mondays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Tuesdays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Thursdays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Food Pantry is available during office hours.

Visit us online at <http://firstbaptistchurchsmithvillemo.com>