

LIGHT LINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WALLINGFORD



APRIL
2008



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Easter is over, and now we wait for the beautiful spring days of April to descend upon us. Lots of things are happening.

On April 6, Mr. Kevin Butler is coming from Camp Wightman to present the camp to our children in Sunday School, and he will bring greetings in the worship service.

On April 12–19, 20 of us will be in Pass Christian, MS to help the Hurricane Katrina reclaim efforts. We will be helping to build a new house for a family whose residence was destroyed by the storm.

On April 13, the congregation will enjoy hearing Rev. Larry Dobson while I'm away. Larry was the Missions/Stewardship Director for our ABCCONN headquarters before retiring two years ago.

April 25 and 26 are the dates for our Annual ABCCONN Meetings which will be held at Central Baptist Church in Hartford where John Endler is the Pastor. John was ordained here at Wallingford First Baptist

Church.

Please pray for those of us who are leaving for Pass Christian on April 12. It is a wonderful opportunity to express the love and compassion of Christ to those whose lives were torn apart by Hurricane Katrina. The town was so completely destroyed that it is hard to picture what this beautiful coastal town was really like. We will be worshipping with our brothers and sisters of the First Baptist Church in Pass Christian.

Don't forget to catch the class on Forgiveness. Beginning on April 20, I will be leading a class on Forgiveness using the book entitled: The Art of Forgiveness by Lewis Smedes. This is a six-week Sunday afternoon study from April 20-May 25 from 4-6 p.m.

Here are the sessions:

◆ April 20 – Watch the Movie: The Hiding Place, the story of Cory Ten Boom. Cory experienced the horror of the Nazi concentration camp in which her dear sister and father died. She was later called upon to forgive the very people who hurt her so much. It is a

moving story of grace and courage.

- ◆ April 27 - What we do when we forgive
- ◆ May 4 - Why we forgive
- ◆ May 11 – Mother's Day – No class
- ◆ May 18 - Whom we forgive
- ◆ May 25 - How we forgive

You will learn:

- ⇒ What makes forgiveness work
- ⇒ Why you should do it
- ⇒ What to forgive and what not to forgive
- ⇒ How to know when the time is ripe
- ⇒ Whether to tell the person you forgive that you've done it
- ⇒ Whether to resume a relationship again after forgiving
- ⇒ How to know whether you have actually done it, and above all—how to do it right.

If you have ever wrestled with the gut-wrenching issues of forgiveness, or have ever wondered how to help others, this class will be invaluable.

Blessings,
Pastor Bill

Upcoming Special Events for April

Sunday, April 6
Camp Wightman Sunday
with Kevin Butler here
See pages 1 and 2

Thursday, April 10
1 p.m. in the Gold Room
Women's Guild Pizza Party
See page 4

Thursday, April 10
7-8 p.m.
Special Men's Prayer Fellowship
Time at home of Rich Spinaci,
14 Dana Blvd. in Wallingford—see page 3

April 12-19
Hurricane Katrina Mission
Trip—see this page, Pastor Bill

Men's Softball Games
Tuesday, April 15
Tuesday, April 22
Tuesday, April 29
See page 6 for a complete
schedule of games

Beginning Sunday, April 20
4-6 p.m. in the Gold Room
"The Art of Forgiveness"
Sunday afternoon six-week
study—Pastor Bill teaching.
See this page for a list of
class dates/topics

First Baptist Church
Calendar for April 2008

Go to:
<http://www.calsnet.com/fbcwlfld>

From Your Director of Discipleship, Susanne Jordan

Continue to celebrate the love of Jesus with one another and to share your faith story with your children, family, and friends. This is still the perfect time for faith to be caught as well as taught; the resurrection of Jesus deserves no less. Think of Holy Week and Easter as the beginning of a new church year!

Adult Discipleship:

Sarah Sanford and I have spent a bit of time talking about Adult Discipleship, and it is a topic that we would like to spend more time on! As a result of our conversations and encouragement from our Elders, we will be exploring this topic in more detail. We hope to put together a survey, and on an upcoming Sunday after worship, we would like to hold a brainstorming session (similar to what Joe Sanders did for Fellowship). So please stay tuned for more details on both projects.

In the interim, Paul French's Sunday morning class will be continuing on into the spring, and Pastor Bill will be offering a Sunday afternoon study from April 20 through May 25 on "The Art of Forgiving" by Lewis Smedes.

Finally, our men are getting together for a time of prayer and fellowship. Their first meeting was on Wednesday evening, March 6 at the home of Tony Pacific. A second date and time is announced by Joe Sanders in his article. Please see if you can spare an hour! I know you will be enriched and greatly blessed by spending time with your FBC brothers in Christ.

Of course, if you have any immediate ideas or suggestions, please do not hesitate to share them with either myself or Sarah.

Congratulations to the following young people and adults who were bap-

tized on Sunday, March 30: Christina Andrulat, Melanie Blain, David Bolles, Allen Copas, Zachary Zealor, and Evelyn Hernandez. We also welcome into church membership Joan Niles.

Spotlight on This Year's Graduating Seniors:

Let us continue to lift up and celebrate the following young people who will be graduating from high school this spring: Adam Desjardins, Steven Drozd, Timothy Fekete, Mary Kay Hester, Krissy Noyes, and Eric Sanford. This is a very exciting time for these students, (college decisions have arrived in the mail by now) but I'm sure a very busy and anxious time as well. Let us remember these young people in prayer and let us continue to remind them that God has *big* plans for them!

Sunday School Teacher and Youth Leader Appreciation Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 4.

Please say thank you and give a hug to all those who give of their time so willingly – to our children, our youth, our teens, and to our adults. Let them know how much you appreciate them and how impactful their work is!

I Spy longer days, warmer temperatures, birds singing, more kids playing outside; could it be that summer is just around the corner? Are your thoughts turning to summer vacation? If so, you won't want to miss **Sunday, April 6 – Camp Wightman Sunday**. Kevin Butler will be visiting with us, and he will share news about summer camping opportunities at our American Baptist Camp – Camp Wightman. Please join me in welcoming Kevin to First Baptist. (He will speak to our Sun-

day School kids during the Sunday School hour; parents are welcome to stay and listen!)

You will also want to save August 4-8 for Vacation Bible School (in partnership with Liberty Community Church and White Oak Baptist):

Cosmic City! Coming this summer – We'll be exploring the **AWESOME** wonder of God!

Plan to join us as we take this summer's VBS program to new heights! Space voyagers from Kindergarten – Fifth Grade will love joining the crew of Cosmic City Tours as they travel on an intergalactic journey throughout Cosmic City, a floating space city unlike anywhere else.

We have **awesome** stops along the way and in every corner of Cosmic City. God's wonder will dazzle our hearts and minds!

If you would like to be part of our **Team of Tour Guides** for this year, please be in touch with either me or Stephanie Sanders; you won't be disappointed with your experience!

Thank you everyone for your time, attention, and support; go forward, continuing to shout "Hosanna!"

Susanne



From Our Coach of Fellowship, Joe Sanders

Spring is almost here! It's been great to have daylight when I come home from work, and I haven't had to put on my winter coat for a few days. With spring, comes Easter, baptisms, and new members in the FBC family. Have you looked around at church and seen any new faces? What about others that might sit on the "other side" of the church? During this coming month, make it a point to invite someone you don't know very well for coffee. We have a great opportunity to do that each week called the "Service Station Café". It happens downstairs from the Sanctuary in Fellowship Hall. Light snacks and drinks are provided so that YOU can continue to enjoy being with your church family after worship. It's a great way to catch up with what's really happening at FBC.

The Service Station Café is made possible by the gifts of time, food, and money from many. We are fortunate to have willing helpers but still have some additional areas where help is needed.

From Our Music Director, Ginny Henderson

A huge thank you to all the singers and instrumentalists who provided music all through the Lenten season, Holy Week, and Easter. With calm assurance we can proclaim, "He is Risen, Indeed!" I am now looking for soloists or special groups through the spring season. Please see me after church, or call me at 605-9834.

In Christ,
Ginny Henderson

1. **The pantry needs restocking** with snacks, decaf coffee, and drink mixes. Simply leave donations on the counter in the kitchen. If you would prefer to make a financial donation, we will gladly accept it and put it to good use.

2. **We need three to four Café helpers.** This requires 20 minutes prep time before service and clean up after. We will help you learn how to do this! You'll be added to an existing team with others that have done this before. You won't be "on your own", or doing this every week.

3. Luncheons are a special event put on once a month by two fantastic teams of cooks. The cooks often wind up shopping for the food, cooking it, setting up tables, and cleaning up after. We had a great suggestion recently that we help lighten their load by setting up the hall and clean up being done by others. **We'd like to create two "lift and clean" teams** that will be responsible for setting up tables and chairs before luncheons, cleaning up Fellowship Hall, and putting things away. Each team needs three or

more people and would help every other month. Please speak to me about helping!

Don't forget, while the Café is made possible by food donations, the luncheons do have a cost. We welcome all of our church family, friends, and visitors at the table regardless of ability to pay. This is an enjoyable time for so many, and we don't want to leave anyone out. There is a donation jar on each table to help with the cost of the luncheons. If you are able, please be a giver!

We want to provide a way for all of our church members, regular attendees, and visitors to connect into our church family. With spring here, church fellowship events don't have to be indoors. You can always speak to me or drop a note on ideas that you have – whether indoor or outdoor. They will be welcomed!

Joe Sanders
Coach of Fellowship
Phone: (203) 294-4359
E-mail: jodoone@snet.net

MEN – you've probably heard about the great time of fellowship and prayer we had recently at Tony Pacific's home. The next Men's Fellowship and Prayer is on Thursday, April 10, from 7-8 p.m. at Rich Spinaci's home, 14 Dana Blvd., Wallingford, 284-8436. We are planning to meet one to two times per month. This is open to all the men of the church. Since it is an informal time and not a Bible study, you won't "get behind" if you are not able to attend each meeting. Get to the ones you can! See Joe Sanders with questions.



Women's Guild - IT'S A PIZZA PARTY!! The April Women's Guild meeting—1 p.m. on April 10 in the Gold Room at the Church. Susanne Jordan is hostess. Marion Beckwith and Viola Aldrich are co-hostesses. Bring your taste buds; we'll be having pizza for lunch. Inez Tomlinson will lead us in devotions. The program for the month should be a real interesting one. Mr. Ralph Lamphere will be our guest., and he is a political cartoonist...Hmm. Wonder what he'll draw for us. See you there.

Worship Hosts Needed - More volunteers are needed to make sure our Sunday morning service runs smoothly. Training will be provided by Bill Burill, Coach of Worship, at your convenience. Please call Bill at 237-0720.

How do you Iron Chef? We are planning an Iron Chef competition in May to raise money for our monthly lunch-ens. There will be a strategy meeting at Stephanie Sanders' house, 43 Pieper Drive, Wallingford, on Monday, April 7 at 7 p.m. If you have any ideas on how we can make this work or are interested in competing, please plan to attend. If you have any questions or need directions, call Stephanie at 294-4359.

Free Diapers - Master's Manna (a local food pantry) is again reaching out to our community in an attempt to provide for a need. They are partnering with the New Haven Diaper Bank to make diapers available to those in need. Appropriate paper-work must be completed for a family to obtain 80 diapers per child per month. A family does not have to be part of the food pantry to obtain diapers. Volunteers are also needed to assist with picking up cases of diapers. If you have a need for diapers or can help pick up diapers from the diaper bank, please contact Cheryl Avery at 203-678-3024 for more information. Thank you.

Spring Clean Up Day on May 17, 8 am.-noon - Save this date on your calendar. Coffee and donuts will be provided for breakfast as well as pizza for lunch. Details of tasks will follow. Al Messier



Our prayers and sympathies go out to the Copas Family as they mourn the loss of Cathy's mom, Sue Connors, this past week. Cathy's family would also like to express to those who prayed for them and especially for Sue, Alleluia! She has gone home to her Lord and Savior. The Copas family would also like to express their appreciation to all that have prayed faithfully for Sue during her time of illness, for all the cards sent, calls made, and for all the help with the funeral reception this past week. Praise God.

Congratulations to Woody Dormeus and his wife following the birth of their beautiful daughter who was born on March 4 at 7:35 p.m. She weighed 6 lbs. 2 oz. and has not had any problems so far. Please keep them in your prayers, and pray as well for their ministry in the Caribbean.



A Little Laughter
 "A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones"
 Proverbs 17:22



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| April 1 | Rachel Zealor |
| April 2 | Justin Willette |
| April 3 | Alec Andrulat |
| April 5 | Craig Spinaci |
| April 8 | Robyn Spinaci |
| April 9 | Luke Abreu |
| April 10 | Eric Sanford |
| April 11 | Alan Messier |
| April 11 | Cindy Oppelt |
| April 11 | Hannah Soukup |
| April 14 | Adam Gravell |
| April 15 | Chynna Jacobs |
| April 18 | Pamela Walker |
| April 18 | John Endler |
| April 19 | Stephen Hanisko |
| April 21 | David Bolles |
| April 21 | Liz Davis |
| April 22 | Louis Gilman |
| April 26 | Laura Sanford |
| April 27 | Milton Pader |
| April 28 | Deborah Fekete |
| April 28 | Joyce Vertz |
| April 28 | Cassandra Carolan |
| April 28 | Kimberly Fekete |
| April 30 | Laurel Geist |

Missions

DR Drug of the Month Collection

Hi everyone! Medication collections have been very low and slow this year. We have only three more months to collect, and time is just flying by. For the month of April, we will be collecting adult vitamins with iron. Please, please check the expiration dates on the medications. We cannot take expired medications, and the expiration date needs to be July 2008 or later. We have started packing and sorting medications, and unfortunately many of the donated medications needed to be thrown away because they were expired. You can leave your medicines in the collection box in the Gold Room, or you can give them to me directly.

In His service,
Sandy Drozd

Help us Help the Poor!

Please help us collect as many items as you can from the list below. Our group will bring and distribute your donations to the very poor in the Dominican Republic in late June. Please return the items to any member of the DR team. You can also call **The First Baptist Church** at 203-269-4796 or via email at office@fbcwlfld.org, and we will pick up the items. If you have questions, you can call **Sandy Drozd at (203) 265-5043** or email sandydrozd@hotmail.com. Remember, generic brand is cheaper and the same medicine!

Thank you!

Over The Counter Medications

Tums and/or Calcium supplements
Aspirin (coated) and Baby Aspirin (81 Mg.)
Ibuprofen (adult, children, infant drops)
Multivitamins with IRON (adults, children, infant drops)
Prenatal Vitamins
Zantac, Pepcid, or other Acid Reducers
Imodium or other Anti-Diarrhea Medications
Pedialyte Powder or Similar Hydration
Powders
Antibiotic Creams/Ointments (Bacitracin, Polysporin, etc.)
Antifungal Creams/Vaginal Creams (Lotrimin, Nystatin)
Pepto-Bismol (Tablets)
Hydrocortisone Creams
Cough Syrups (adult and children) (small bottles)
Decongestants and Cold Medicines
(adult and children) NO Liquid, please
Eardrops
Sennekot/Colace/Laxatives
Eyedrops
Caladryl Lotion
Acne Lotion (clear only)

Toiletries

Toothbrushes/Toothpaste

Financial Donations

Checks made out to the "DR Mission Team" will help us fund the medical clinics we will run in the DR. All donations are tax-deductible. Specify Medical Clinics - we can buy food/Meds. in the DR

Prescription Medications

Antibiotics
Antihypertensives (blood pressure) i.e. Lopressor, Norvasc
Diuretics – Lasix, HCTZ

We can take any unused medication as long as they are not expired

