


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
200 3rd ST SW
MINOT ND 58701

The **FIRST**  **WORD**

First Baptist Church • 200 3rd St. SW • Minot, ND 58701
(701) 852-4533 • firstbap@srt.com
www.firstbaptist-minot.org
Published weekly • Issue No. 29 • Aug. 1, 2010

Seek God Amid Suffering

Most people understand that suffering exists in many forms and is a universal human experience. As Christians, we know human suffering has existed since the Fall of Adam. In times of suffering, it is easy to become discouraged. Yet, God's Word offers hope and perspective. One of my professor friends from Gordon-Conwell Seminary shares these words...

The fundamental lesson of the book of Job, like that of the Bible as a whole, is quite simple: our sole hope and only anchor in the midst of suffering or prosperity is knowing God and God alone in his sovereignty and grace. Moreover, Job teaches that our suffering itself is the matrix within which we learn this all-important lesson, since suffering, like no other experience on earth, brings us "face-to-face" with God himself. The primary purpose of suffering is to make God known to us.

This is not an easy "answer" to the problem of evil. To say that suffering ultimately exists so that God can glorify himself by making himself known in all his majesty and mercy is of little comfort for most people. Only those who recognize that their deepest joy is knowing God will take solace from such a conclusion. But as the book of Job also illustrates, this is a hard lesson to learn. (Scott Hafemann, *The God of Promise and the Life of Faith*, Crossway, 2001)

Suffering can serve a *good purpose* - if we allow it to drive us to God. God, our greatest good, waits for us in times of suffering. He offers us renewal and victory. This was king David's experience. In Psalm 30:11-12 he writes,

"You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy, that I might sing praises to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever!" - Psalm 30:11-12

Keep your hope in God! Blessings on you, Pastor Kent

LORD'S DAY SERVICES August 1, 2010

Worship Services: 8:30 • 11:00
"Sweet Holy Spirit", Part 2

John 14:19-24

Communion
Pastor Kent

Our Stewardship in Attendance

	Last Week	2009 Avg.
SS	108	191
AM	409	447
XYZ	65	

Our Stewardship in Giving

Needed per week	\$ 14,029.92
Given last week	\$ 16,865.96
2010 YTD-Future Expansion	\$ 6,234.00

Ushers

Mitchell Koch, Bill Brunnemeyer, Chris Collins,
Jeffrey Lanser, Percy Radke, Clyde Thorne,
Bob Vix, Rick Wallace

Greeters

8:30 Percy & Ardith Radke
9:45 Michael & Teri Tingley
11:00

Information Desk Judy Hall

Children's Church – 11:00 AM

Emily Long

Nursery Workers: Rachel Lindquist

8:30 Andrea Klingbeil, Brenda Willoughby
9:45 I – Viki Collver-Horvath, Alethea Monley
T – Debbie Guitian, Ashlee Anderson
11:00 I – Mitchell & Megan Belger,
Ben & Lisa Washburn
T – Kasey Huseby, Allison Odom

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MINOT, ND 58701
PERMIT NO. 105

EVENTS FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 1 - 7, 2010

Sunday	8:00 am	Pre-Service Prayer with the Pastors
	8:30 am	Classic Worship/Communion
	9:45 am	Sunday School for All Ages
	11:00 am	Contemporary Worship/Communion Children's Church
Tuesday	1:30 pm	Staff Meeting
	7:00 pm	CE Committee
Wednesday	9:30 am	XYZ Steering Committee
	6:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
		Uth Meeting
Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Fellowship

• **Deacon Benevolent Fund:** We will be observing the Lord's Supper this Sunday during the Morning Worship Services at which time you will have the opportunity to give to the Deacon benevolent fund.

• **Reminder – VBS Workers:** Please wear your VBS T-Shirts to church this Sunday, August 1.



• **Church Picnic:** Make plans to join us Sunday, August 8 for our annual church picnic at Oak Park at 5:30pm. We will provide the grilled meat: hamburgers, hotdogs, and chicken. Please bring a dish to share (salad, chips, dessert, etc.) and your own beverage.



• **Choir:** Will resume Wednesday, August 25 at 6:30 pm. We will meet in choir room (upstairs lounge). I would like to invite and encourage new members to join us. We can really use all voices but especially soprano, alto and tenor. I am looking forward to another exciting year of singing and praising God through choral music. We will be doing a Christmas musical again along with other music. We would be very happy to have anyone interested in singing to join us.

• **“The Intercessors” Prayer Ministry:** The August calendars are available at the Information Desk.

• **Coffee House:** Saturday, August 28, 7:00-10:00pm. Come enjoy live music, poetry, drama, and all the caffeine you can digest! Donations of dessert-type items are always welcome.

• **Connect:** Would you like to welcome new people to our Church? We are looking for people to join our Connect Team, and to help new people feel "at home". For more information, call Pastor Gordon at 852-4533, or email him at glkroeker@srt.com.

• **Ladies' Retreat – Crystal Springs Baptist Camp:** Is scheduled for September 10-11 with guest speaker, Judy Hampton. Judy was our ladies' retreat speaker in 2009. Registration brochures are available at our Information Desk. For further information, please contact Debbie Guitian, 839-8767.

• **YTD Budget Report:** An itemized budget report as of June 30, 2010 is posted on the north hallway bulletin board.

• **Strategic Planning:** The pastoral staff continues to meet weekly this summer in an effort to formulate a fresh ministry plan for FBC. We are looking at issues such as "What are we trying to accomplish as a church?" and "How well are our current church programs aligned with the church mission statement of "WIN, BUILD, SEND"?"

• **Special Project Update:** The electronic drums are fully funded and have been ordered. You may be wondering where they are? We have contacted the manufacturer and there has been a delay in production. We hope to have the new drum set soon, but until then we will wait patiently!

• **Mission Trip to Brazil:** Pastor Merle Hoots and other volunteers from Bismarck Baptist Church travelled in June to Brazil to work with the Chain of Love orphanage there. The Minot Daily featured this mission trip in an article dated July 26, Section C. Pictures can be viewed on the following link: www.tnarum.wordpress.com – Click on “Bismarck Baptist Brazil Mission Trip July 2010”.

• **Bus Ministry - Sunday Mornings:** Need a ride? Contact the church office during office hours or on weekends contact our bus driver, Jim at 833-8139.

SHEPHERD CARE CONCERNS

Prayer Chain: AM 838-6064
PM 838-0405

Giving Thanks: Many gracious thanks for the outpouring of volunteers to help out with VBS this past week. It was a great week!

Sympathies: We extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to Ken and Kevin Kalamaha, Bob & Andrea Crackel, and their families in the passing of Millie Kalamaha, Ken and Kevin's mother, and Andrea's great-aunt. Millie passed away in Minneapolis on July 27. She was 89 years old. The funeral service will be held Monday, Aug. 2 at 11:00am at Thompson-Larson Funeral Home.

We extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to Jeanna Grilley and family in the passing of her father, Kenny Grilley, of Surrey on July 28.

Requests: Pray for the CYIA (Christian Youth In Action) students as they serve as counselors at Camp Good News camps the next couple weeks.

Deployed: *Afghanistan* Matthew Stebleton; *Iraq* Erik Albertson, Landi (Kizima) Whiteside, Martin Vasquez; *Guam* Matt Collver-Horvath

Missions: Pray for boys and girls who have made decisions for Jesus this summer in VBS, Camps, for those reached in the Fair Ministry, and for those decisions made in 5-Day Clubs. Please support these new Christians in your prayers.

NCA Pastor/Ministry of the Week: Rev. Bernard Jasken, Napoleon Baptist, Napoleon, ND

FBC Missionary of the Week: Bill & Maggie Farmer, SIM