

VISITOR

**Our mission: to share the Good News
of Christ's love - in word and deed!**



First Baptist Church
An American Baptist Church
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VOLUME 28 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2015

In August of 2014 I penned a piece I called "Coming Down Off the Mountain". That essay gave me room to process the two amazing weeks I spent working at Christian Camps in both Colorado and Wyoming. I love Camp! I have loved camp since the 4th grade when I "accidentally" threw a dead bumblebee down the shirt of a girl whose father would later be my sixth grade science teacher. She recovered, though I believe her screams may be part of the reason I needed hearing aids as I entered my 40's.

In my earlier essay, I extolled the virtues and benefits of sending your kids to Camp, but today I want you to consider the other side of the camp equation. Every camp on every mountain, plain, beach, lake or stream requires a substantial base of volunteers in order to create the environment that makes Christian Camping a transformative experience in the lives of our kids. Fortunately the graduates of these camps often seek to return in order to pay back the love and attention invested in them. Unfortunately, they are young and don't often have the experience needed to help kids gain perspective. Campers need fun younger leaders, but they also need leaders who have lived enough of life to see beyond the drama of their immediate surroundings. Campers need the 'wise sage' as much as they need 'Mr. Excitement'! I will be directing Junior Camp (Entering 4th and 5th Grade) at WYOBA this year, and I'm hoping to find a good mix of both types of leaders.

One of my favorite cabin leaders was Stew. Stew was a police officer and was quite a bit older than most of the cabin leaders at camp when I was in Jr High. He wasn't my favorite cabin leader because we could rough house with him, in fact no one even considered it. He was my favorite because he took time to listen to me and tell me and my cabin mates stories from his life. At the time, I just knew he could tell a good story, but as I consider it, what he did was validate for me that I was worth listening to and talking with. His stories weren't always great moral or biblical lessons, but they taught me about life, love and what it meant to be a good person. Even more, Stew demonstrated the value of giving out of my life for others. He wasn't a spiritual superstar or a charismatic motivator; he was simply an adult who made time to take kids seriously.

If you can take kids seriously, I want to encourage you to consider investing some of your time in their lives. I've been working various camps over the past 20 years, and I have emerged from these weeks exhausted and energized at the same time. There is great reward in doing good, hard, work that isn't for your own sake. You will be up early, to bed late, and you'll sleep on uncomfortable bunks. The food won't be graded 5 stars, but it will taste like it because you'll have no problem meeting your step goal each day. (One day at camp I logged nearly 15,000 steps.) You will actually be able to spend time in silence before God. But most importantly, you will nurture the young lives around you.

These weeks at camp are some of the most significant spiritual times in my life. I have felt God's presence move me to trembling tears during times of worship or study. I've been captivated by God's joy and laughed large for no good reason. Once, while lying on my back staring a clouds in a field of tall grass in North Dakota, I heard God speak to me and tell me to go to seminary and become a pastor. As much as serving at camp will help the kids, it will be good for you too!

Serving kids at camp doesn't have to mean being a cabin leader, though that is an amazingly rewarding way to do so. WYOBA also needs your money, your skills, your prayers and your support. WYOBA keeps costs low so that any child who wants to be there can be. This often means that camper fees cover about half of the cost of providing camp. So I'm going to challenge you all to find a way to give. Simply mark your check Donation to WYOBA in the memo line and place in the offering plate. If you want to be a physical presence at camp, let me know. Camper forms are available in the church office. Be blessed and be a blessing!

Pastor Jeff



Adult Ministries

Friends of Christ meet on the stage, studying *Seeking a Closer Walk with God*; with Jackie Carter

JOY Class in Room 206, Adult Bible class studying *Learning to Pray*, by Judson Press with Bill Carter

Adult Elective *THE TWELVE: Discover the Unvarnished truth about the ordinary men Jesus chose* -- 7 week Lenten study for adults (all ages) - Prayer Room. Mary Burman, Teacher. Until April 12, then a new study will begin.

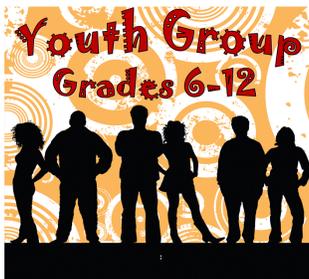
Child Care for babies to age 2 in Room 106 from 9:30 am—10:45 am; babies to age 4 10:45 am—Noon, with Trudy Moe

Preschool for children 3—5 not in Kindergarten in Room 109 learning about different stories of Jesus with team of Phyllis Dunbar, Karen Steeve & Brenda Lundblad

Discovery Kingdom for ages 5 (in Kindergarten) - 5th grade in Room 108 with Diana Kocornik and Sandra Brown



Youth Sunday School—for grades 6—12 in Room 115, *Pictures of God*, with Christy & Russ Oliver



Sunday Evenings from 6:00—8:00 pm
At the Church In the Fellowship Hall
All kids grade 7– 12 are welcome!
Devotion, Food, Activities, Games, Servicer projects

Too young for youth group? Too old for children's activities? Tweens is a special group for friends in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade to get together have fun and discuss faith issues and have even more fun.

Come join our FBC Tween Scene Group on Sundays at 6:00—8:00 pm!

Invite your friends!



Meet our new Children's church teacher: Sara Thielk from Aurora, CO. She is studying Elementary Education with her concentration in Early Childhood Education. She hopes to teach kindergarten through about third grade once she graduates. She has three younger siblings; a sister who is a freshman at the University of Wyoming, a brother who is a freshman in high school, and a brother in 7th grade. She enjoys swimming and going to sporting events here on campus. She loves the summer and pools because she works as a lifeguard and enjoys spending her time out in the sun when it is nice outside.



11:15 am Sunday during church with K—3rd grade





American Baptist Women Ministries (ABWM)

Wednesday, April 8 at noon—

Hostesses: April & Mary B.

Program: Mary, Homeless in Laramie and Wyoming

Bible Book of the Month: Zephaniah

Bring a friend! All women welcome!

Dorcas Circle Wednesday,

April 15 2015 at 9:30 am

Meet in Room 112 downstairs. Mission Projects such as roll bandages, knit, and put together an afghan to donate!

All women are welcome!

Inspired Women ~

4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm on

NEXT MEETING April 28, 2015 (Date subject to change).

Call for detail and for meeting place.

For all those who cannot make it to ABW; or those that would like to connect with Women in the church.



Men's Coffee

Monday Mornings at 6:30 am
at Coal Creek, 110 Grand Ave



College/ Young Adult

Weekly Bible Study

Welcome to a weekly Bible Study for you! Monday nights at 7:30 pm at Hastings

For more information contact:
Maggie Harrop at 307-760-0305



Find us on
Facebook

Church @ First Baptist Church of Laramie
Youth @1st Baptist Youth Group -Laramie



Sundays 12:30 pm—1:30 pm

Anyone is welcome to join!



Wednesdays, April 1, 8 at 5:30 pm

Anyone is welcome to join!

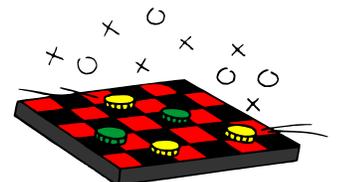
After April 12 (last performance), Handbells will be taking a break until Fall!



Final Friday Game Night

Come join us on April 24 at 7:00 pm on the Final Friday of every month to enjoy a snack, games and fellowship! Bring a snack to share, game and/or friend and enjoy Christian Fellowship!

Everyone is Welcome!



LENT

Get excited ABOUT VBS!

Date: June 8—12, 2015; 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Theme:

OUR  R Jesus'



Registration: \$10 (includes a T-shirt)

Those sponsoring: First Baptist Church, St. Laurence, St. Matthew's, St. Paul's UCC, Trinity Lutheran, Hilltop Christian Child care center

Next Planning meeting is April 13 at 3:30pm

Interfaith Good Samaritan



WALK | RUN | WHEEL

Annual Fundraiser Event



When: April 26, 2015 at 2:00 pm

Registration begins at 1:15 pm

Where: Southeast side of Civic Center, 8th and Custer

Who: Individuals, Groups, Clubs

FREE T-shirts with \$50.00 pre-paid pledges

All pledges and donations are welcome!

BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL KIDS

There are high needs for food in this program for the Children. Please help over fill the tub! The need for weekend food for some children is so great, we have decided to continue to support the Backpack program through our Missions in Action focus. Bring peanut butter, small containers of fruits, puddings, flip-top soups, ramen noodles, mac 'n cheese, juices, healthy snacks or other kid friendly food. They have been sending out 135 backpacks. The need is increasing every week. Thank you for your generous and ongoing support!

Weekly study—Thursday April 2, **Maunder Thursday**, at 5:30 pm with a Seder dinner, Study 6:15—7:30 pm. There will be two groups— Adult: *In-depth Upside-Down, Inside Out* led by Pastor Jeff & Children: Art and Story led by Karen S.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE for EASTER

APRIL 5



Son Rise Service at 8:00 am

Breakfast at 8:30 am

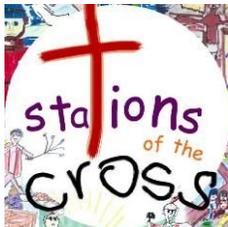
Stations of the Cross with Egg Hunt at 9:00 am

Worship 11:00 am

*No Children's church



Join Us For Breakfast



Easter Morning, April 5, 2015

Starting at 9:00 am **SHARP!**

Stations of the Cross and Easter

Egg hunt combination

For **all** children and anyone who would like to participate!

Story, Crafts, and Egg Hunt!

Everyone is welcome to join!



Can you find 27 Easter Eggs?

Missions



Greeting,

Howdy from Northern Thailand. Hope this finds everyone in good shape for Easter. We have experience our first thunderstorm of the season. We received about 3 mm of rain. It has cleared the air in good fashion. For the last 2 weeks we have experience some of the worse air pollution in recent years. According to the weather station our air quality has been over 300. It has caused several of students to become quite sick and miss school. The storm woke us up at 1:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning.

The few weeks have been very busy for us. This next week the accreditation team will visit us. This is a major step for our school. All the teachers have been written unit plans; lesson plans, and preparing student work for the team's visit. All of this work has been in addition to our regular work load.

On March 12 we had our annual Science Fair where Morley was in charge. Over 100 projects were displayed. Several students produced some great projects.

The Karen church we attend had they annual thanksgiving service and dinner. It is combined service with the other 3 churches in the area. The dinner was of traditional Karen food and they served over 200 people from the 4 churches.

My email account with Yahoo was hacked and all my emails were forwarded to another account for 4 days. All is well. With the help of our son and some tech people here I was able to get everything back to normal. Thank you for emails of concern.

We are continually appreciative of the prayer and support from First Baptist provides for us. Please pray for good health for us as we begin the hot season here. We will be in Laramie around the first part of June and are looking forward to the cool weather and experiencing the snow up in on the Range.

In Christ

Jane and Morley



Discipleship: A Journey of Grace
Titus 2:11-13

America for Christ Offering—We donated \$ 2,355

THANK YOU TO . . .

Dear Friends at FBC Laramie (2/26/2015),

We've just receive word from International Ministries of your gift to our ministry in January. It is a most generous gift, and we are very thankful to you for your support. Gifts such as yours are what will allow us to reach our support goal and be able to return to Bulgaria at the end of our year of home assignment this summer.

We so appreciate the prayers and financial support you have given us over the past years. East of you is a blessing to us!

With gratefulness,
Tom & Terry Myers



Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you for your thoughtful gift to the Laramie Soup Kitchen. We really appreciate your support of our mission. Your donation helps us to continue to provide great meals and services to the hungry.

Sincerely,
Emily Madelen, Executive Director



April 12, 19, May 3, 17 at 6:00 pm

April 12—TBA

April 19—TBA

May 3—Stress, by Lori Collamer

May 17—Gardening



is May 7 service at 7:00 pm in
our sanctuary



Join the nearly 8 million people who have been screened. Appointments are limited, register today!

What: Screenings for Stroke/Carotid Artery, Heart Rhythm, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Arterial Disease, Osteoporosis Risk

Where: Laramie, First Baptist Church

When: Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Pre-registration is required. Call 1-888-653-6450



APRIL CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 8—Mary M. Burman
- 11—Shania Brown
- 14—Claire Bunning
- 16—Bruce Lange
- 17—April Johnson, Karen Steeve
- 30—Lois Wamhoff, Gery Simpson



ANNIVERSARIES



Please let the office know if we missed your birthday or anniversary so we can add it to our list!

Monthly Community Bereavement Support Group sponsored by Hospice of Laramie:

*Monday, April 6th, 12:30 to 1:30PM, at Iverson Memorial Hospital's Summit Conference Room. Shirley Kingston, discussion on Aging Gracefully. Roundtable is Bring a brown bag lunch or purchase lunch in the IMH cafeteria.

*May 4th, again 12:30 to 1:30, in the IMH Summit Conference Room. Dr. Lou Farley, will present on the practice of mindfulness.

*Hospice of Laramie provides emotional, spiritual, social, medical, and material resources to support the dying, their families and friends. For questions or more information please contact Susan at Hospice of Laramie 307-745-9254.

Camp Wyoba Info

There are scholarships for all camps! Early registration is due May 29 for all camps, if you are late, you pay the late fee! More information and registration packets see the table outside the office.

- May 23 Camp Opening
- June 5—7 Men's Retreat
- June 28— July 1 Survival Camp
- July 5- 11 Junior Camp (grades 5 – 6)
- July 12 – 18 Junior High Camp (grades 7 – 8)
- July 19 – 25 Senior High Camp (grades 9 – 12)
- July 26 – 29 Primary Camp (grades 3 – 4)
- July 31—August 2 Young Adult Weekend
- August 7—9 AB Women's Retreat



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www.laramiefirstbaptist.org



Return Service Requested

Pastor Jeff Lundblad
Mary Jean Honeycutt, Music Director
Sandra Brown, Administrator and
Newsletter Editor
Office Telephone: 307-745-4106
Hilltop Christian Child Care: 742-2822
 Church Office Hours
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

SPRING SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 11:00 am
Children's Church 11:15 am
Fellowship 12:15 pm 

Mission Statement:
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FBC Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars

March 29—Palm Sunday; Children Procession starting at 11:00 am

April 5—Easter

8:00 am SonRise 9:00 am Stations of the Cross/Kids activities
8:30 am Breakfast 11:00 am Worship

April 14—Lifeline screening, pre-registration required

April 12, 19—Adult Forum, Sundays at 6:00 pm

April 24—Game Night , 7:00 pm

April 26—All Church Business Meeting, 12:30 pm

April 26— Interfaith Good Samaritan Annual
Walk/Run/Roll Fundraise, 2:00 pm



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PASTOR JEFF LUNDBLAD
Church: 307-745-4106
Email: pastorjefflundblad@gmail.com
Office hours: Monday—Thursday 10:00 am—12:00 pm