

the messenger

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH · NORFOLK.NE
JULY 2017

START OF SOMETHING NEW

It is no secret that most churches struggle to connect in a meaningful way with their community. In days gone by, the church was often the center of society.

Both literally, in how cities and communities were built with a church in the town square, but also metaphorically, with church membership and faith as a central component to the way of life. But as the world has changed, so too has the position of the church. Churches now are spread throughout town and are much less in the middle of things geographically. But they are even less so at the center of the mind and heart of society.

This leaves most churches with a tough choice to make. We can continue business as usual, hoping and praying that people will flock into our doors, as they once did in the good ole days, or we can move our seats out of our seats, and go to where the people are!

I think option two is the best option! I think it squares quite nicely with what we see in scripture as well; Jesus going out to the people and then telling us in the Great Commission to do the same. During our *Summer Give Away* events, we are seeking to do just that. Get out of our building, go to where the people are, and show some love. It was fun and meaningful to give away \$1,000, but on the last Sunday in June, it was amazing to see the response we got as we hosted a free BBQ at the Syracuse Street Apartments. A whole group of tenants from the complex and members of FBC spent two hours together eating, playing games, holding babies, talking and interacting. For me, it was a glimpse of what a lot of ministry might look like in the future. Going to where the people are, ministering in their own context and bringing the love and light of Jesus with us.

I believe that God's hope and desire for our church and every church, is that we can continue to allow the Gospel and the Good News of the Kingdom of God to continually re-invent the way we do ministry. It seems to me that this seemingly simple BBQ, might be the beginning of something exciting and something new.

Church Events

- July 3 & 4 Concert
- July 9 Constitution Q&A
- July 10 CE Board
- July 11 Deacons
Missions
- July 16 Business Meeting
- July 18 Deaconesses
Trustees
- July 22 Summer Give Away
- July 24-29 Pastor's vacation
- July 25 Advisory Board

Constitution Revisions

In February, the Constitution Revision Committee, which consisted of Frank Tucker, Barb and Donovan Ellis, Duane Wolff, Chris Wilson and Pastor Caleb began their work to revise and update our Constitution.

Over the course of the next several months we met multiple times to discuss and work through changes we thought would be helpful and meaningful. We have completed our work and will be doing the following things to inform the congregation of our proposals, have opportunities for questions and clarifications and to vote on them.

- June 30 Digital Draft of Proposed Changes e-mailed to the Congregation
- July 2 Hard Copy available to congregation
- July 9 Q & A Panel with Committee after worship
- July 16 Vote on proposals @ Business Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

Summer Give Away # 3

July 22nd we will be giving cool treats away to our community.



Proverbs 11:25
“A generous person will prosper.”

4th of July Concert

Dynamite Duo & The Sparkers

Annual Community Concert to be held at FBC/Norfolk

Mon, July 3rd @ 7 pm
Tues, July 4 @ 2 pm

Church Board

DEACONS

- Discussed use of New Ministries Fund
- Reviewed our REACH schedule for Deacons
- Discussed To Norfolk with Love project

CE BOARD

- Reviewed Awana and next year's plans
- Evaluated VBS event; lots of positive feedback
- Discussed plans for Children's Church to start next fall
- Discussed plans for church picnic in August

TRUSTEE BOARD

- Brenda Wilke volunteered to weed flower beds this summer
- Roses need spraying for bugs
- Property insurance went up \$2,000
- Sold the old John Deere lawn mower
- Financial trend is concerning. Some belt tightening will need to be made

MISSION BOARD

- Checking \$1,356 Savings \$1,955
- Given in June toward One Great Hour of Saving \$591.60
- Young Life of Norfolk has disbanded, that monthly gift will now be given: \$50 to Borquists; \$50 to Mercy Barnes.

TREASURER

- All bills are paid. Mortgage on the building is under \$390,000

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Caleb Carroll was baptized May 28th.
- Preparing for To Norfolk with Love on Sept 16th. FBC will be organizing and other churches will be invited to participate with about 15-20 projects; 9 am - noon

UnSung Servant

The UnSung Servant for the month of July is often helping behind the scenes (both literally and metaphorically). This person helped tirelessly with VBS, making scenery, gathering supplies and being a right-hand lady to Alice, our Director. She also serves on our CE Board and has been helping for several years with the Sparks at Awana. Chances are good that if it has to do with kids, this UnSung Servant is there and serving her heart out.

Sandy Hawk is our UnSung Servant for the month of July. Sandy serves, faithfully, consistently and quietly behind the scenes at many of the things that we do as a church family and with kids. Sandy has such a big heart for children and for the Lord, and it is evident in her attitude and actions that she loves them both deeply. If you see Sandy anytime soon, make sure to encourage her and thank her for all of the hard work she does for the Lord and our church family.

Sandy, from a grateful church family, thank you for serving!



July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 COMMUNION 9 am Sun School 10:30 am Worship	3 7 pm Concert	4 2 pm Concert	5	6	7	8
9 9 am Sun School 10:30 am Worship Noon Q&A Constitution 7 pm Latino Worship	10 6:30 CE Board	11 6 pm Deacons 7 pm Missions	12	13	14	15
16 9 am Sun School 10:30 am Worship Noon Business Mting 7 pm Latino Worship	17	18 6:15 pm Deaconesses 6:30 pm Trustees	19	20	21	22 Summer Give Away #3
23 9 am Sun School 10:30 am Worship 7 pm Latino Worship	24	25 6:30 pm Advisory Board	26	27	28	29
30 9 am Sun School 10:30 am Worship 7 pm Latino Worship	31	Pastor Caleb's Vacation				