

THE TIE THAT BINDS

May 2018 Newsletter of the
First Baptist Church of Bordentown



With God on Mission
May 26 – June 2



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On Saturday May 26th, Chris Norcross, Sandi Stark, Bev & Steve Thomas, and Lynne & Pastor Mark, along with eight from Pastor Mark's former congregation in West Virginia will join others from our

regions in New Jersey and Pennsylvania and will depart for Puerto Rico to join in what God is already doing to provide relief and hope to an island devastated in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria some eight months ago.

Why go? Let me give you a few reasons. First, because of the cross of Christ. If we were to choose only one symbol to represent Christianity over the centuries, it would be the cross. The cross has always been at the very center of our faith. Since Christ died for the sins of the whole world, it is logical that we should be deeply concerned about reaching every individual with the gospel. Second, because of the command of Christ. In all four Gospels and also in the Book of Acts, Jesus Christ gives us the Great Commission. The Great Commission says we are to go into the world...It is never presented as an option to be considered, but always as a mandate to be obeyed. One theologian said, "We must be global Christians with a global vision because our God is a global God." Third, because of the coming of Christ. In Acts 1, as Jesus ascended up into heaven, two angels asked the disciples, "Why do you stand here looking into the sky? It's as if the angels were saying, "Don't you have something you need to be doing? You aren't supposed to be gazing up into heaven, but rather you are to be going into the world." Then there was the angelic reminder that there is limited time to accomplish the Great Commission because This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

We will be going as representatives of our American Baptist Home Mission Societies and Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico as we seek to rebuild, restore and renew the hurricane-ravaged island. We will provide hands-on efforts to make a difference; encourage and supporting those in need; and serve side by side with American Baptists and other volunteers from around the country. I think I speak for our whole team in saying how blessed we are to be called by God to GO for Him. Thank you to our church family for providing us with this opportunity to represent all of you before God and our American Baptist brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico.

In the Name of the One Who Call Us,
Pastor Mark

Worship for May **Continuing the Series: Who Am I?**



identity

Sunday, May 6th

Communion Served

Scripture: Ephesians 3:1-13

Message: "I Am Afflicted"

Sunday, May 13th

Mother's Day

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:10

Message: "You Go Mom!"

Sunday, May 20th

Scripture: Ephesians 3:14-21

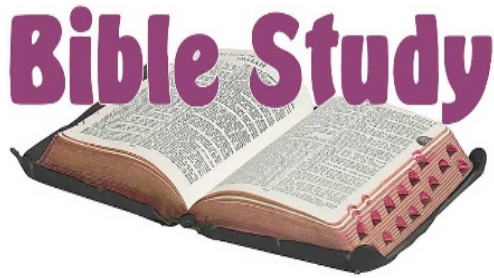
Message: "I Am Heard!"

Sunday, May 27th

Mr. John Daniecki preaching

Scripture: Job 38:4

Message: "Size Matters!"



For May

Wed/Thurs, May 2nd/3rd
Philippians 4:8-13
It's All in Your Mind

Wed/Thurs, May 9th/10th
Philippians 4:14-23
Generosity

Wed/Thurs, May 16th/17th
Colossians 1:1-8
Faith, Hope, and Love

Wed/Thurs, May 23rd/24th
Colossians 1:9-14
Praying with Power

Wed/Thurs, May 30th/31st
No Bible Study

From the Trustees



The Trustees, Pastor Mark, and our Moderator have met with local and state officials to help us generally understand the scope of services provided by these governmental agencies in assisting our church for possible emergency situations. We anticipate making several very short presentations of our findings to the congregation during future worship service time periods. At our currently planned first presentation on May 20, we anticipate sharing a summary of available sanctuary and educational building exiting, should such an evacuation become necessary in an emergency.

The Trustees have authorized the purchase of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for the church in the amount of \$1500. Most of the cost of this system will come from the church Memorial Fund. Having an AED in our church will allow this life saving equipment to be immediately available for use in a medical emergency until EMTs arrive. Local EMT officials indicated that they would be available to train interested individuals in the use of the AED as well as CPR training.

The second annual church wide cleanup was held on Saturday, April 21, 2018. About a dozen folks attended and cleanup work was accomplished in many areas of the sanctuary and educational building (including the roof!). Thanks to all who participated.

A proposal in the amount of \$3758 has been received by the Trustees for the proposed new sanctuary speaker and related equipment systems. \$1000 has been received as an anonymous gift to help defray this cost. The 2018 congregation approved budget allowed \$1000 toward the cost. We thank the Women's Society for funding the balance of the cost! Installation of the system will be done by FBC volunteers.

At our December 2017 congregational meeting regarding the approval of the 2018 church budget, members requested that a

Trustees continued

“mid-year 2018” meeting be held at which time the 2018 budget would be compared to actual expenditures and total income received. In addition to Local Expenses, the Missions portion of the overall budget would also be reviewed. We are proposing that the mid-year meeting take place on Sunday, June 10, immediately following the service. Data from the Local Expense Treasurer’s May 31, 2018 report will be shared with the congregational.

Larry has replaced all of the light bulbs in the upper fellowship hall and the room is now substantially brighter. A new programmable thermostat has also been installed in upper fellowship hall.

The main motor powering the sanctuary organ has failed. The motor has been removed from the church and was taken to an electrical contractor’s office for repair. The motor has been repaired and is now reinstalled. Let’s hope we get another 40 years out of it.

There are several issues that need to be addressed in the Parsonage. These items that will be addressed in the not too distant future include: replacement of the back door and screen door, painting of the kitchen and outside shutters, adding lighting to the basement, replacement of the heating system circulator pump, basement water leakage from rain, etc. Pastor Mark indicated he would try to do some of these tasks himself depending upon other schedule obligations that may arise.

An upgrade to our church nursery (including painting, new carpet, and new toys) is in the planning stage. Stay tuned for its progress.



Board of Christian Education

The BOCE is planning to redecorate the nursery. We will paint, lay new carpet, and purchase some new toys and play equipment. Be on the lookout for a wish list from us, and please consider purchasing an item or two!

We continue our search for a Youth Director. We have received a few applications and will proceed with the interview process.

Beginning soon, we plan to organize a Parents' Night Out. This program would be for children ages 4-10 and include snacks, crafts, and games. If you would be interested in helping to organize or lead a program like this, please see Pastor Mark or Lauren McWhirk.

In May, we are getting ready for the first Saturday in June. Get your flower pots full of soil, or in your yard, dig a small hole and wait to place a plant or a flower you chose from us into the ground or pot. Throughout the summer, watch your purchase grow, just as we grow in the love of Christ. Each day there is a miracle.



Many of you may have observed May Day for many years. Do you remember May baskets or the Maypole? What fun it was to share the first of May with friends on that special day. Just an idea of a memory to share with the younger people of our congregation. Let them quiz you. Any day ask Marty G. and she will let you know what happened in the mid-west during May first.

HELLO
my name is

THE NEW GUY

Who Is John Daniecki?

My name is John Daniecki and, in the Trenton neighborhood where my father was born, that last name was pronounced like you were saying three short English words all together...Dan – yes – key. You see, my grandfather came from Poland and didn't let the Ellis Island staff transliterate the "c" in the Polish alphabet to the "s" that it sounded like in English...

Now, I'm another old, white guy who grew up in a small Delaware River town and who has lived well past the age I thought I would see... because of *how* I've lived...

While I have been "known globally as a singing actor of the highest caliber" (former words of my then, 'high-powered', Manhattan agent) I'm really just 'average' in more ways than I have space to completely relay here...

I've founded internet businesses, worked at the Metropolitan Opera, delivered pizzas, performed on NPR, been a Pinkerton detective, sung at Ivana Trump parties (once even with Donald present), packed for Amazon, written for and performed on video, stage, in churches and in synagogues...

I've worked with children's choirs, sold vacuum cleaners door-to-door and conducted senior adult ministries. I've taught Sunday school to middle school, high school and "well past school." I've guided whitewater rafts professionally and fought fires as a volunteer...

I've managed aquatics facilities at elite country clubs, kitchens for Chick-fil-a and a church campus in Germany. I've eaten with stars and presidents from EU nations, driven a UPS 'brown car' and enjoyed drinks at receptions where queens and princes were in attendance and they actually came to talk to me...

If I were to quote from an old singing-actor's bio, I've "appeared with virtually every major opera company world-wide and, in concert, with most major symphonies... including Madrid, Dallas, Montreal, New Zealand, San Francisco, Toronto, Philly, Atlanta, Houston, Moscow..."

John Daniecki continued

My discography includes a recording of Carmina Burana which won a GRAMMY in the 1990's, the Spoleto Festival recording of Kurt Weil's Die Burgschaft that won awards in Europe and the world premiere recording of Amistad; released by the Chicago Lyric...

I've had "major festival appearances" in Aix-en-Provence, Wexford (Ireland), Wellington (New Zealand), Saratoga Springs, Bergen (Norway), Spoleto (Italy), Charleston, and Macao (China.) I've been a stage and master class director and the founder of private vocal studios both within academia and professionally...

It is of the utmost importance to include, that I've broken every one of the Ten Commandments... more than once... every one.

And I've been in every sordid and unseemly place a man of worldly vision can succumb to in a lifetime. Well... probably only *almost* every one of those... not to be flippant... but that's a much longer list...

And I carry the significant regrets that each of those un-Godly moments of arrogance and ignorance can bestow.

In the fewest possible words, I'm no different than anyone else. And yet I'm also different from many... I'm absolutely the most base of sinners, who is absolutely saved by Grace and I'm destined for eternity with the Creator of the Universe... and I know it... absolutely.

No matter who you are, we should probably talk...

HAPPY *Mother's*
DAY



When God Created Mothers

by — Erma Bombeck

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into His sixth day of "overtime" when the angel appeared and said. "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."

And God said, "Have you read the specs on this order?" She has to be completely washable, but not plastic. Have 180 moveable parts...all replaceable. Run on black coffee and leftovers. Have a lap that disappears when she stands up. A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair. And six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said. "Six pairs of hands.... no way."

It's not the hands that are causing me problems," God remarked, "it's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have."

That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. God nodded.

One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say. 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

God," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "Get some rest tomorrow...."

I can't," said God, "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick...can

feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger...and can get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.

But tough!" said God excitedly. "You can imagine what this mother can do or endure."

Can it think?"

Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek.

There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You that You were trying to put too much into this model."

It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear."

What's it for?"

It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

You are a genius, " said the angel.

Somberly, God said, "I didn't put it there."

The Latest from J.D. and Rhonda Reed

Missionaries to Bolivia



As normal, we have had a busy spring where we and the House of Hope welcomed some wonderful guests. Our first guest was a spring break trip for the Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) of West Virginia University. The team joined us and helped us build bathrooms in a church that we have worked with for over a

decade, Iglesia Samaritano in Villa Porvenir. We started with clearing some land, and then they built the brick walls, helped pour cement on the floor. They worked very hard and had a great time making relationships with the people in the Villa Porvenir community. Special thanks to all the students and leaders for the WVU BCM group!

This group was followed by Kayla Kanosky, a nurse from North Carolina who came down and volunteered with the house and participating in the many medical and dental ministries we support in Cochabamba. Even though it was Kayla's first time with us at the House of Hope, she is definitely no stranger to the ministry as her mom, a nurse in Morgantown, WV, has volunteered with the ministry a number of times. She was a wonderful addition to the work that God is doing here and we look forward to her return (hopefully with a team) soon!



Our Bolivian Cohort. J.D. has been working hard on his new role as a Regional Consultant to Iberoamerica and the Caribbean in the area of Theological Education, where his primary focus is with the Masters of Theological Studies (MTS) in Latino/a Ministries at Palmer Seminary. At the end of February, we had our first MTS group in Bolivia get started and they are almost finished with their first

J.D. and Rhonda continued

class at the writing of this journal article. There are currently 12 students participating in this cohort group who bring our current student total to just over 80 students throughout the Americas. There are six from Cochabamba, five from Santa Cruz and one student all the way from Santiago, Chile. Say a prayer for them as they work hard over the next two years.

The only way that these pastors and leaders in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico and other Majority World countries can participate in this program is through a scholarship that IM provides. We need the help of individuals and churches like you and yours to help us ensure that these pastors and leaders can lead their churches and ministries well. Would you consider partnering with us to help them get the ministry training that they need?

Update on Rhonda

Many of you know and have been asking about Rhonda's health. We recently sent out an email and shared with each of you about her heading back to the US for an indefinite amount of time to deal with some lingering health issues. We are excited to share with you that later this week, Rhonda will be returning to Bolivia after just over 6 weeks in the US. She has been able to get a good handle on her health during this time but is anxious to get back to the family. We wanted to take a moment and say thank you to all of our friends and supporters who have been praying as she has been in the US. She shared with me that this time has been very humbling for her as she realizes how many people are praying on a daily basis for her, our family, and the ministry we are doing here. We are truly blessed by each and every person that partners with us in God's ministry. Without each of you and your participation, we wouldn't be here. Pray for safe travel this week for Rhonda, and also for her health as she gets back to life here in Bolivia.

Well, that should just about to it. As always, we love you all and pray for you regularly. Don't forget to take advantage of the Spring Matching Challenge!

In Christ,

J.D. and Rhonda Reed (and the kids)

Sanctuary Air Conditioning



We have already enjoyed a partial season of the comfort of our new air conditioning. Some of pledged or given towards that installation. We now approach one year into that pledge drive. If you made a pledge, we want to encourage you to check your records and make sure your pledge is up to date.

In addition, it is not too late to make a contribution towards the comfort you enjoy on Sunday mornings. \$19,000 has been pledged or given towards the \$53,000 installation cost to date.

Saturday, June 2nd



Our church will participate again this year in the City-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 2nd. So, now's the time to search your basements, attics, closets, and garages. You can begin to bring in your unwanted treasures anytime and leave them in the nursery classroom on the first

floor of the education building (last classroom on the right before you go down the stairs). All proceeds from our yard sale will go to help fund future mission trips.



BIRTHDAYS

Keith McWhirk	2	Bob Whitman	15
Jean Cheriza	5	Debbie Franks	17
Debora Mills	9	Bill Huber, Sr.	24
Chris Harrison	10	Kristen Keenan	25
Janice Chapin	13	Emily Adams	27
Matthew Bell	14	Joan Vareha	27
Sandy McGonigal	15	Jade Carroll	28
		Cynthia Foulks	30

Keep Praying For

Barry Carlson
Phil Heitzenroeder
Mary Lou Hengeli
Mike Immordino
Paige Inman
Michael McCormick
Truck Stop Ministry

Betty Nelson
Madeline Strusz
Dorothy Wilbert
Terry Zahorchak
Rose Zaiss





May



2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. Christian Ed. 7:00 p.m.	2 Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	3 Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	4	5 Daughters of the King 4:30 p.m. Drop-In Center 6-9 p.m.
6 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. Youth Gr.	7	8 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. Trustees 7:30 p.m.	9 Singles Dinner 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	10 Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	11	12 Crafty Ladies 1:00 p.m.
13 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship	14	15 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m.	16 Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	17 Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	18	19 Daughters of the King 4:30 p.m. Drop-In Center 6-9 p.m.
20 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. Youth Gr.	21	22 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. Women's Society 7:00 p.m.	23 Singles Dinner 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	24 Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	25	26
27 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship	28 <i>Memorial Day</i> Motel Ministry 3:00 p.m.	29 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m.	30	31 Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	Notes:	
May 26-June 2 Mission Team Puerto Rico						