

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
610 North Fifth Avenue
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235-2108



**FIRST
BAPTIST**

FIRST THINGS

FEBRUARY 2012

This is just part of the story. I'm sure there's more to come...

Here is some of what I said on the Sunday after FBC was broken into and burglarized:

Within an hour of the time the police left on Monday afternoon, I was speaking with a friend. She said, "Well, let's hope whoever took the money needed it more than God did."

I looked her straight in the eye and said, "You can be sure of that. God doesn't need our money at all." And I mentioned Psalm 24:1 that "**The earth is the Lord's and everything in it**" and Psalm 50, where God says, "**every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.**"

And she countered that God needs money because the churches that are doing his work need the money. And I acknowledged that's true. And then I said we might be very surprised at how God might supply the money – that we have been surprised in the past and that he just might surprise us again. I said something to the effect that: "Who knows? Someone might hear about what happened and money could come from out of the blue." She said, "Well, I suppose that's true."

Fifteen minutes later I got a phone call. In the course of the conversation, as it was drawing to a close, the subject of the burglary came up. The person on the other end of the phone, someone who knows about our church but is not a member and doesn't even attend FBC but believes in our church's impact in the community and our church's ministry in the world, said a check would be coming for \$7,500. **How does that happen?**

How does that happen, two hours after the safe is discovered to be missing, and 15 minutes after I say to a friend: "*Who knows? Someone might hear about what happened and money could come from out of the blue.*"

How does that happen? Isaiah 55:8,9 tells us how that happens.

**For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

I don't know what God has in mind for us in the wake of the reality that "thieves break in and steal".
But I praise him that he has things in mind for us in the wake of the reality that "thieves break in and steal".

There is much more of the story yet to unfold...

For God's glory. And for our good.

Pastor Cory

With a postscript added January 20, here is the letter that was sent to the newsletter mailing list on January 13 (and available at worship on January 15).

Hello FBC Friends –

Many of you are aware of the break-in and burglary that took place Sunday night, January 8, or Monday morning, January 9. Here is a link to a Door County Advocate story that appeared online on Wednesday evening, and it gives a number of pertinent details.

<http://www.doorcountyadvocate.com/article/20120111/ADV01/120111158/First-Baptist-Church-Sturgeon-Bay-copes-burglary?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

Several details are still being kept under wraps, upon advice from the police. However, I want you to know some things that may be of particular interest to you.

After entering the building, the perpetrator(s) located the safe and removed it; it is physically missing – they stole it. The offering from Sunday was in the safe; it had not yet been counted.

This is rather important: Both the police and the insurance adjuster suggest there is no need for an individual check-writer to do anything about a check that was in the safe (except to note if the check ends up clearing your financial institution). In fact, the police advise against it, because the bank most likely charges an account holder to stop payment and most likely the check is never going to be cashed. The thieves were almost certainly just going for cash. The police would like it if an attempt is made to cash a check; it could aid in the apprehension of the thief (or thieves). ***If someone notices that the check from last Sunday does clear the bank, the police would like to know about it immediately.***

Both the police and our insurance adjuster suggest that people write a check to replace the stolen check; they are quite confident that's a safe practice. Both would be surprised if the stolen check shows up at a bank and ends up clearing. If in the unlikely event you end up “giving twice” for one Sunday and would like a “refund” for the check given on January 8, we will be happy to issue that refund.

There are several "good parts" to this story, and I'll share them relatively soon, I think. And probably even this Sunday. The title of the sermon is “**Where thieves break in and steal...**”

It's also been something of a hard week for various reasons, but a good one, too. Thanks for your prayers. Don't forget to pray for the perpetrator(s); it's plain to many that he or she, or they, need the change of heart that Jesus Christ provides.

If anyone has any questions whatsoever, please don't hesitate to contact me. Upon advice of the police, there are a few details I can't divulge, and I hope you'll trust me with that.

I think we may end up marveling at the unusual way God might choose to reveal more grace, and one blessing after another. Pray for that, being watchful and thankful.

Remembering our Treasure in Heaven...

~ Pastor Cory

P.S. (added January 20) – If you wrote a check and put it in the offering on January 8, you may wish to speak with your financial institution about your options and get advice from them.

FEBRUARY SCHEDULES

General Fund Giving (to support our "core ministries")

12/25-12/31 **\$8,434**
01/01 **\$2,997**
01/08 - "0" - (but notice the other figures here)
01/15 **\$11,213**

Wish List – \$4,610
Helping Hand – \$1,846

*Thank you for your support of our church's core ministries – the "General Fund" – and gifts beyond the General Fund for other ministry purposes (such as **Helping Hand Fund** and **Wish List** and the "**Let's Go Haiti**" Youth Mission Trip).*

*Always remember, and take it to heart: **Your** gifts enable FBC to **make a huge difference** for the sake of **The Name of Jesus Christ**. Way to go!*

Thanks for remembering the rebates!

You can join the "**Roundy's Rewards**" program at **Pick'n Save** (there is no cost to you or to the church). Stop at the service desk and fill out the form. Our church's account number needs to be included -- **that number is 227950**. You do not need to bring receipts to church – the rebate is calculated automatically.

econo foods' rebate program requires store receipts – bring them to church and put them in the envelope on the bulletin board across from the church office.

Many thousands of dollars have come to FBC through these rebate programs. Thanks for participating!



The Helping Hand Fund

We have a special opportunity to extend a helping hand to others, in our church and our community and around the world, by contributing to the Helping Hand Fund.

~ Thank you for planning your giving and, as the Lord leads you as you follow him, thank you for including the **Helping Hand Fund** in your giving.

~ The Deacons administer the Helping Hand Fund; please talk with one of them if you know someone with a particular need.

NURSERY: (*Attendants will try to be in the nursery at least 10 minutes before the service begins.*)

2/5 Ruth Neinas, Noreen Buczek
2/12 Lori Mellen, Helene Krueger
2/19 Chad & Christy Andreae, Jenna Forbes
2/26 Dan & Julie Kielar

SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSERY:

2/5 Kirsten Meacham
2/12 Tahna Evers
2/19 Shari Pellizzer
2/26 Ruth Neinas

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

2/5 Steve & Jolene Melville
2/12 Darla & Peter Dahl
2/19 Lisa White, Robbie Hohlfelder
2/26 Suzanne Happs family

USHERS: John Crean, Peter Dahl, Tim Dahl

POWERPOINT for Worship Services:

2/5 Jeff Buczek
2/12 Cody Melville
2/19 Riley Happs
2/26 Chad Andreae

COFFEE TABLE during Coffee Time:

2/5 Nancy Stults
2/12 Darrel & Elaine LaLuzerne
2/19 Dan & Julie Kielar
2/26 Darren & Char Duckart

DEACON ON CALL:

Our deacons are happy to help the church family in various ways – prayer, communicating needs for the Helping Hand Fund, listening, visiting sick and shut-in and those alone, and more. Feel free to call any of our deacons when you think there's a need they may be able to help meet.

Chad Andreae (920-634-6042 or 743-8166)
Jeff Buczek (920-493-7092 or 825-7091)
Darren Duckart (920-621-9738 or 837-2677)
Russell Lenius (920-246-2676 or 743-4662)
Phil Pearson (920-655-1286 or 837-7678)
Jake Schulz (920-495-1399, 743-5543 or 746-3588)
Jon Sowl (920-493-5667 or 743-1580)

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your prayers, visits, cards and encouraging words during my recent stay at Bellin Hospital and following recuperation. You are a precious church family and your care and concern was a real help to me and my family during this time.

Sincerely, Darrel LaLuzerne

SUNDAY SCHOOL

**There's a Sunday School class for everyone!
Learn from The Word. Learn from each other.
Grow your faith. Grow your friendships.**

Children's Classes:

Nursery/Toddler	Gail Haag / weekly helpers
Preschool	Gene Alberts / Lisa Musil
K/Grade 1/2	Darren & Char Duckart
Grades 3/4/5	Chad & Christy Andreae
Junior High	Dan Kielar / Kurt Kluge /Lisa White
Senior High	Mark & Jill Forbes / Ruth Pearson

Adults:

Gospel of Matthew	Phil Pearson
Christian Beliefs	John Meacham
Forgiveness	Wanda Mango (<i>women's class</i>)



Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Guide – available at FBC at the *Resource Center for Prayer and the Ministry of The Word* (on the wall in the upper lobby area at church). You can also pick up free New Testaments and other very helpful material there.

Bible Verses for KIC Club

Verses are from the English Standard Version (ESV)
(The date refers to when the verse is recited)

Feb. 1

Psalms 119:105 – Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Feb. 8

James 1:22 – But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Feb. 15

Jeremiah 10:6 – There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might.

Feb. 22

Isaiah 46:9 – Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

FIGHTER VERSES

Verses are from **Holy Bible, English Standard Version**, or ESV



January 30-February 5

Psalm 103:1-4

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

February 6-February 12

Psalm 103:5-7

Who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

February 13-February 19

Psalm 103:8-10

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

February 20-February 26

Psalm 103:11-14

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

February 27-March 4

Psalm 103:15-16

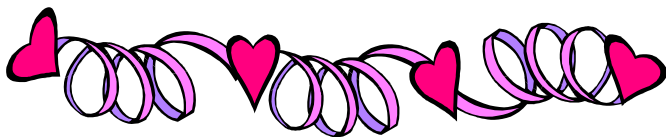
As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

FIGHTER VERSES – are verses chosen to arm you for the fight of faith – the fight **for** hope and **against** sin. Memorize them! If every person in our church was actively memorizing the Bible, the positive change would be immense. Join many in storing God's Word in your heart. (See Psalm 119:11)

Fighter Verses are available as an app for your iPhone or iPod Touch (and other devices). Our schedule follows the schedule you find with the app.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 9am-11:00am at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Michigan St. and 18th Avenue) in Sturgeon Bay . MOPS is dedicated to nurturing and networking with mothers of children ages 0-5 years old. For more information contact Pam Schulz (920-743-5543) or Christy Andreae (920-743-8166).

PLEASE NOTE: **MOPS** needs “Moppet Helpers”! These persons help with the preschool age children in a VBS style morning, while the moms enjoy MOPS. If you have questions or are interested in serving the young moms in this way please contact Pam Schulz (920-743-5543) or Gail Haag (920-743-3757). We appreciate it very much!!



Senior High Youth Events for February

Friday, February 3 from 5-7ish
Loaves and Fishes at NWTC

If you need a ride,
please call or text Mr. Schulz at 920-495-1399
(this is a monthly event: first Fri every month)

Friday, February 17
Babysitting Event (aka “Childcare Challenge”)
from 5pm-8pm at FBC
and then “**the after party**” at the Schulz home
from 8pm-11pm
(for those who helped with childcare)

Plus (of course) Sunday School
(and “Crazy Love”)
and Wednesday Youth Group
(in the Café Lounge at FBC)

! - Attention Couples with Kids - !

Make It A Date!

*Senior High Youth Group offering
FREE child care for FBC attendees.*

Enjoy a night out while FBC youth (and leaders)
take care of, feed,

and entertain your children at FBC.

Friday Feb 17 from 5 pm - 8 pm.

Dinner/Entertainment provided (for the kids!)

Look for a sign-up sheet at FBC or contact

Jake/Pam Schulz (920-743-5543)

for more information.

Happy Valentines Day!

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Luncheon

The Lodge at Leathem Smith
1640 Memorial Drive – Sturgeon Bay
Tuesday, February 14, 12:30-2:00 pm

\$14.00 is all inclusive

Reservations by **Wednesday, Feb. 8** (920-824-5132)

(A cancellation is **required** if unable to attend!)

See the bulletin board at church for more information.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, February 18 at church

We eat at 7:30; done by 8:30 –

no cost; we “pass the basket”

Bring a friend with you! Spread the word!

WEDNESDAYS at FBC

KIC CLUB ~ YOUTH GROUP ~ BIBLE STUDY

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 6:00 pm | KIC Club (Kids In Christ) for pre-school through Grade 5 |
| | Jr. High Youth (grades 6-8, meeting in The Attic) |
| | Sr. High Youth (grades 9-12, meeting in the Café Lounge) |
| 6:30 pm | Adult Bible Study (utilizing the book, “Crazy Love”; talk with Pastor Cory if you need a book) |

LEAP DAY – FEB 29 – KIC CLUB LEAP DAY PARTY!

(No Adult Bible Study that night)

K.I.C. Club (what we call our *Kid's Clubs*) is a great time for everyone between the ages of Preschool and Grade 5 (and fun for their leaders, too!) K.I.C. stands for **Kids In Christ**, and that is what we hope every one of us is—***in Christ!*** A person who is ***in Christ*** is a new creation—the old has passed away, the new has come (see 2 Corinthians 5:17). There is no condemnation for those who are ***in Christ*** (Romans 8:1).

⇒ Plan to join others on **Wednesday nights** at FBC from 6-7:30 for a time of fun, and singing, and learning the most important stuff there is.

Questions? Call Lizabeth Bies at 920-837-7745.



FBC Café – The FBC Café is open the second and fourth Sundays of the month after worship, and Lizabeth Bies, along with FBC youth and some of their leaders, serve up your favorite coffee-drinks. Suggested donation of “around” \$3 per drink; proceeds going toward our **Youth Mission Trip 2012 to Haiti**.

Offering Envelopes

A box of offering envelopes can help your worship through giving. If you are a member of the church, have been a regular giver in the past or simply request a box of envelopes, there's a box with “your name on it” (probably literally). If you would like to have a box of offering envelopes, please contact FBC's Financial Secretary, Sandra Greenfeldt (920-743-6368).

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Looking for a weekend away, for just the two of you? A *Marriage Encounter Weekend* offers you this experience. It's a time to renew your relationship, away from the everyday distraction of life. It's an opportunity to strengthen your communication and promote greater intimacy in your life together “Discover each other again” more deeply, honestly and warmly.

February 10-12 or March 10-11

Norbentine Center for Spirituality, DePere
(920-544-5166) or www.gbme.org

e-mail and website info

General messages to FBC – fbc@sturgeon-bay.com

For Pastor Cory – cdahl@sturgeon-bay.com

Visit FBC's website -- www.sturgeon-bay.com

Do you have a “room to rent” or know of a place?

My name is Brittany and I recently accepted a job in Sturgeon Bay. I'm looking for a place to live (quite temporarily) that would be open to a monthly or weekly renter. I'm getting married within the next few months and don't want to commute from Appleton 3 hours every day. Preferably the place needs to be affordable since my other lease isn't up until the end of February. I'm open to anything – sublease, home, apartment, roommate. If you know of anything, please contact me at 920-475-6940. Thank you and I appreciate your help!

(Note from Pastor Cory: You may have seen Brittany and her fiancé Ben at worship at FBC. After they're married, they'll be living about 2 blocks from church. Look for them, and say hello!)

Some thank-you notes from College Students who rec'd “care packages”



Dear church family,

It has been so good to be home these past few weeks. During that time, I was part of the annual Living Nativity, and was also able to come to Sunday morning worship with you all each week. Even though I am attending college literally a thousand miles away, I haven't forgotten about everyone back here at FBC! From letters some of you have sent me, I know you keep me in your thoughts and prayers too. The care package you sent a couple of months ago was a big surprise on the day it arrived, and it really made my day. In fact, I shared it with my roommates and I am still working on its contents! Thank you so much for everything; see you in June.

~ Love, Abe (Kielar)

Merry Christmas to everyone at FBC – and thank you all for keeping spirits up with the wonderful and caring care packages!!

~ Jordan White ♥♥♥

THE BIBLE. SERIOUSLY.



Find us on
Facebook

Just search for
**First Baptist Church
of Sturgeon Bay**
("Like" us, too!)



FBC's Food Pantry gets used...a lot! Your donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome. We could use more soup and dry cereal and peanut butter, too. Just bring in your items and leave them on the floor by the pantry (just across from the church office). Thanks for sharing!

Associate Pastor Search Committee Update

The committee has met a half-dozen times and made significant progress. An "Associate Pastor Application" has been developed and is available through our church's website and at various other organizations and ministries (such as the Great Lakes Baptist Conference and Desiring God Ministries). We anticipate gathering application packets through March 1.

Please continue to pray for the committee (Chad Andreae, chairman; Lizabeth Bies, Darren Duckart, Doug Kurschner, Wanda Mango, Ruth Pearson, Pam Schulz, Pastor Cory) and pray for our next Associate Pastor for Education and Youth. Contact Chad Andreae if you have questions – 920-743-8166.

~ First Baptist: How we aim to "do church" ~

In order to become the people of Christ our Lord intends
and to meet the challenges of future ministry,
we covenant together
to pray,
to teach and preach the Word,
and to trust in the sovereignty of God.

Let's Go...Haiti!



**2012 FBC Youth Mission Trip
June 16 - 22, 2012**

www.prayingpelicanmissions.org

Pray! Commit! Go!

- **35 team members** will engage in relief work, children's ministry, worship and ministry opportunities with a local church
- **Keep praying** for the team, for Praying Pelican Missions, for our financial goals, and for the Haitian people
- **Commitment reminder:** Next payment of **\$175 due Feb 5**. (Make checks payable to First Baptist Church. Turn in your payment to Ria for accurate accounting; talk to Ria for fundraising totals)
- **Save the dates!** Fundraising opportunities – bagging for tips at econo foods **Saturday Feb 4** (8am-4pm) and **Saturday, Mar 31** (8am-4pm)
- **If you're going...**do you have your passport?
- **Thankful** for God's goodness & blessings!

Lutz & Ria Buesing, Ruth Pearson

Let's Go...Haiti Trip Leaders

*Sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Tell of His salvation from day to day.
Declare His glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!*
1 Chronicles 16: 23-24 (ESV)