

First Baptist Church of Oakville
 6741 Telegraph Road,
 St. Louis, MO, 63129

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Vision
 20/20



Vision 2020 Capital Campaign Dates

- Deacon Prayer Ministry—February 10th thru 29th
- Announcement Sunday—March 1st
- Communication Phase—March 8th thru 29th
- Advance Commitment Event—March 24th
- Vision Banquet at Andres—March 29th
- Commitment Phase—March 20th thru April 18th
- Celebration Sunday—April 19th

American Red Cross
BLOOD DRIVE
 Saturday, March 16th
 Give Blood • Give Life



February, 2020



JOHN'S JOTS

February can be a confusing month as we struggle with the last gasps of winter. I can accept the cold weather of Winter, but I sure don't enjoy shoveling it!! I am glad that February is the shortest month of the year, and that groundhogs only predict weather—they don't control it. But then again, forsythia comes back in February—I love bright yellow.

Our VISION 2020 capital campaign begins this month. We have talked, prayed, dreamed and envisioned this expansion project for our Church. A capital campaign is a systematic three-month effort, Biblically based and spiritually motivated, to inform and challenge our membership to give designated capital gifts over a three year period, over and above tithes and other offerings.

The goal of our capital campaign is to provide the additional funds needed to help make the vision of our new multi-purpose building a reality. Over the next two months, we will share more information about the building, and about the capital campaign. If you received this newsletter by e-mail or got a copy at Church, you will see the campaign calendar on the back page.

The first step in a successful capital campaign is to lay a spiritual foundation of prayer. Our deacons have agreed to contact every family in our Church this month, to call our Church family to prayer to ask for God's help in our capital campaign, to ask your family to pray about your response in the campaign, and to pray for your family and any personal needs or concerns you may be dealing with. I appreciate our deacons' help in this first step.

The Communication Phase of the campaign will be in March. Throughout the month, we will cast a vision for our new building, and more importantly, the ministries it will facilitate for our future. We will use printed media, testimonies, and messages to help convey that vision. The keynote event of the Communication Phase will be our Vision Banquet, at Andre's Banquet Center on Sunday, March 29th. Please mark that date on your calendar—it will be a time of celebration and fellowship.

The Commitment Phase is the last step in the campaign. Your family will have an opportunity to prayerfully decide what you are willing and able to give, over the next three years, to help with the cost of that new building. We will ask you to share your decision on a confidential commitment card. The total of all commitments will be announced at our Celebration Service on Sunday, April 19th, the closing event of the VISION 2020 capital stewardship campaign.

On a personal note, Brenda and I are being loved and ministered to in so many thoughtful ways. We are very fortunate to share this journey with such a wonderful Church family. I trust you know we are grateful—you can't imagine how much! Thank you.

Gratefully, Your Pastor
Pastor John

Offering Envelope Boxes are available
 If you need a new box of offering envelopes, they are now available. We appreciate your faithful giving of tithes and offerings. Having your own envelopes is both a convenience and a reminder.



February Birthdays

- Jackee Glasgow, Gail Tolcou.....1
- Margie McBride.....2
- Al Camden, June Berghold.....6
- Chris McGinnis, Ron Borghesi.....8
- Tim Berghold.....9
- Kim Vandiver, Pat Donnelly.....11
- David Lewis, Linda Robbins.....12
- Laurie Lamping, Rebecca Seligman..... 17
- John Gorse Sr.....18
- Nancy Stanley.....20
- Ann Gorse, Margie Robbins.....22
- Mark Vandiver.....23
- Sue Moravec.....26
- Abby Jacobi, Paulette Meyer.....28

*God Bless You
 on Your Birthday!*

February Calendar

- Fellowship Breakfast.....2
- Church Council Meeting.....2
- Special Called Business Meeting.....2
- P.E.P. Club Fellowship.....6
- W.M.U. Meeting and Blanket Making.....8
- Deacon Ordination.....9
- Wayne Allen and John Stanley
- Deacon's Meeting.....9
- Deacon Intercessory Prayer Ministry....10-29
- Happy Valentines Day.....14
- Vision Committee Meeting.....16
- Three Stooges Marathon.....29

Mid-Winter Bible Study each Sunday evening in February
Jeremiah—Faithful to the Mission

GWEN'S Gallery

***The Way of the Brave* by Susan May Warren**

Haunted by the memory of a rescue gone wrong, former pararescue jumper Orion Starr has no desire to join Hamilton Jones's elite rescue team. But he also can't shirk his duty when the call comes in to rescue three lost climbers on Denali in Alaska.

Jenny Calhoun's yearly extreme challenge with her best friends is her only escape from her guilt. The former CIA profiler and psychiatrist green-lighted an operation against the Taliban that ended in ambush and lives lost. When her cathartic climb on Denali turns deadly, she'll be forced to trust her life to the most dangerous of heroes—the man she nearly killed. Orion and Jenny will have to put their wounds behind them to save their friends . . . and their hearts.

***Promised Land* by Robert Whitlow**

Despite their Israeli citizenship, Hana and Daud cannot safely return to their homeland because a dangerous terrorist ring is threatening Daud. Hana is perfectly fine remaining in the United States, working for a law firm in Atlanta, especially when she learns she's pregnant. But Daud can't shake the draw to return home to Israel, even if it makes him a target.

Hana is helping her boss plan a huge Middle East summit in Atlanta when Jakob Brodsky, her old friend and former co-litigator, asks for her help with a case. His client is attempting to recover ancient artifacts stolen from his Jewish great-grandfather by a Soviet colonel at the end of World War II. Because the case crosses several national borders, he needs Hana's knowledge and skill to get to the bottom of what happened to these precious artifacts.

Meanwhile, Daud is called in to help a US intelligence agency extract a Ukrainian doctor from a dangerous situation in Egypt. While overseas, he can't resist the call of Jerusalem and thus sets off a series of events that puts thousands of people in danger, including his wife and unborn child.

Best-selling author, Robert Whitlow explores the meaning of family and home—and how faith forms the identity of both—in this breathtaking sequel to *Chosen People*.

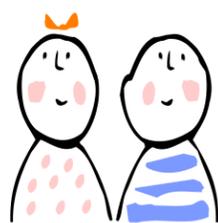
Kidz Kollege

Since September 2019, we've enjoyed good attendance with about 14 or 15 kids most Wednesday nights. Several of our kids do not belong to one our church families, and that's okay, because we hope to be an outreach ministry to our community as well as an internal ministry to our church family.

Indeed, two of our regulars in Kidz Kollege, Trenton and Trevor Moravec, recently made a profession of faith and have joined our church along with their grandparents.

As we always say, Kidz Kollege is for all kids, ages 4 years old thru 5th grade. All you have to do to qualify for this Kollege is JUST COME, every Wednesday 6:30-8:00 P.M.

Ed & Pauline Maness



Kidz Praise . . .

This month, we are finishing our 6 week look at worship. We will then start a 6 week study on the who, what, when, where and why of Bible study.

We praise God by loving one another, and we show that love through RESPECT.

Cyndi Harmon



John's Notes

Greetings Everyone,

2020 is looking to be a busy year for FBCO as our church seeks God's Will in preparing for and laying the foundation work to build a new multipurpose building through a capital campaign. I pray we all do our part as we are led by the Holy Spirit in this endeavor. One of the most important parts of this equation is that we as a church must be growing, and thus have an active Outreach Ministry. We are blessed to have Rich and Shelba Townsend on staff to be leading our Outreach Ministry, providing several opportunities a month where we can reach out to our community either with service work for others or partnering with other ministries such as the bunk bed *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* ministry or many others. Our Facebook Live and Online video feeds of our Sunday morning services and Sunday evening Bible Studies under the direction of Jim Boxx and Tony Pezzo and their crews have vastly expanded the outreach of our church in numbers as those bed ridden or sick can watch the services live or later and in distance as we have had viewers from the other side of the planet watch. At one time it was thought to be perhaps too costly or no one would watch or "that's just not how we do things here" when the idea was raised to stream our services and activate Facebook Live. But it was researched and our church took the step to implement it and it has become a very valuable tool in reaching out to our church body and the community. I feel we must never stop being creative in our outreach and seeking new ways to connect with people. Our Pioneer Harvest Dinner along with the spinoff Friendship Fall Festival were creative ideas that have really been successful in reaching many from outside of our church. Our church has grown over the last few years for a lot of reasons starting with having Pastor John and Brenda Hessel's leadership in seeking God's Will for our church. Some have joined because of how our church has been there in times of trial or loss, some because of our children's and youth ministries. Some because of our music ministry to be part of the band or choir and there are many others that have joined because of the fellowship and the friendliness of the people here. We just need to be open to the Spirit's leading to how we can do our part.

So why the long discourse on Outreach? This month on Saturday, February 29th, from noon until 7 pm FBCO will be having its 2nd Annual *3 Stooges Film Festival*. I know many would say that's preposterous. Why would our church want to be involved with anything as ridiculous as that? The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 9:22-23: *To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.*

The *3 Stooges* do not connect with everyone and I understand that completely; but it just may connect with someone that would never come to our church for any other reason. Please be praying for this "out of the box" creative outreach ministry. All are invited come and bring snacks, and enjoy some good slapstick humor. Hope to see you there.

Do Unto Others as Jesus has done Unto Us and I LOVE YOU ALL,

John Gorse

Help make no-sew blankets for needy children.

Everyone is welcome on Saturday, February 8th, at 11 am in the Activity Center. W.M.U. is sponsoring the activity, but anyone who can tie a knot in a piece of fabric is welcome to help! (This includes children, since they learn early what it means to care about others in need.) We will have instructions /videos/helpers to teach you everything you need to know to complete a blanket.

What to Bring:

Sharp scissors for cutting fabric if you have a pair Ruler, yard stick, or tape measure
2 1/2 yards of fleece fabric that is 54"-60" wide -

**ONLY IF YOU WANT TO ADD TO WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE ON HAND.
THIS IS NOT REQUIRED!**

Sack lunch - WMU will provide drinks and dessert.