

“Growing Spiritually as Individuals and as a Church”

Like most people my age, I have a pill sorter. Of course, I hate it because pill sorters are one of the many bridges to old age that once crossed, allow no retreat. They are a bridge of no return. In its own way it is kind of pretty with all the brightly colored pills filling the compartments. Every morning and evening I pour the contents from one of the compartments out and swallow the bunch with water. If I do that regularly, my health is stable. But also like most people my age, I sometimes forget and then the test numbers start heading every direction. Is it age related forgetfulness, or my stubbornness insisting that I am still young and vigorous, and need no assistance to maintain myself? I suppose it's a little of both.

I think this is how most people see church attendance and God's word. Most agree that the Word is attractive and works best when we regularly follow the "Manufacturer's directions." But we find reasons to forget or avoid regular doses of prayer and biblical wisdom. When we do, our life "test numbers" start going in all sorts of directions we later recognize were not helpful or productive. Why do we do these things when we know we should regularly take our spiritual medicine to maintain a stable life? This week's readings give us a hint. **Psalm 97** reassures us that those who follow the LORD are rewarded. **Acts 16:16-35** tells an amusing story of a fortune telling slave whose divining powers are taken away by the command of Paul. The owners are unimpressed by Paul's spiritual powers because they're focused on the loss of the tidy income they were collecting on their slave's powers.

What is holding you back from fulfilling the Word in your life? Come to church this Sunday at 9:30 in person or online to hear more of God's Word. And remember to take your meds, both physical and spiritual.

Blessings, Pastor Walt

Circle of Caring

Rev. Sarah Welton, Mike Soderberg, Marilyn Poff, Marilyn Massa, Robin Huffman, Robert Howe,
Kevin Hayden & Kevin Brown

(Names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks unless the office is notified.)

Church Family: you are all invited to celebrate the graduation of Daniel Lancaster on Sunday, June 8th from 2:00 pm -5:00 pm at 1153 Hinsdale Ave.

Camp Tamarack is a wonderful resource for Christian faith formation and development. Our camping season is about to open! June 5th -7th is the Renew Retreat to help prepare the grounds for camp. This year's theme for camp is WILD (Luke 4:1) and Rev. Mindi will be returning as Sr. High Camp Pastor June 15th -19th. Camp schedule and registration information can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex and at <https://camptamarack.org/2025-abcwi-camps/> If your church or small group would like to have a retreat, please contact Carolyn Dugan at carolyn.dugan@abcofwi.org to learn more.

2025 Scholarship Applications: are available in the Narthex. Due date has been extended to June 8th!

One Great Hour of Sharing: is used to provide emergency help to people around the world who have suffered from a natural disaster. Having the funds ahead of time, help is sent immediately when needed. Please consider a generous gift for this *important mission running during all 5 Sundays of June*.

One Night Without A Home: Experience Join us June 27th starting at 8:00 pm – June 28th at the Edwards Activity & Sports Center for an unforgettable overnight event that sheds light on homelessness in our community. As the event concludes, enjoy a continental breakfast to start your day. The flyer is posted on the bulletin in the Narthex.

Heart of Gold Raffle Fun-raiser is officially underway! They have an incredible lineup of raffle items and experiences this year; all generously donated in support of Beloit Meals on Wheels. Tickets are just \$5 each or 5 for \$20. You can purchase them from **Ed Hansen** or online. The drawing will take place on July 1st, and you don't need to be present to win! The flyer is posted on the bulletin in the Narthex.

Make your Bible study time more fun: with a coloring and journaling Bible. Each page has space for notes, illustrations, and reflections. Cost is \$20. See Pastor Walt for details.

Special Music Calendar: will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you would like to participate, please sign up. We would enjoy hearing your musical talents!

Donuts: Do you enjoy donuts at Coffee Hour? Please consider sponsoring a Sunday for \$40.

New Ways to Give: please read the Baird flyers in the Narthex. Questions, see Ed Hansen.

Facebook: please remember to like and share First Baptist posts to friends and family!

Prayer Requests: please fill out the green card in the narthex and put them in the offering plate or give them directly to Pastor Walt.

Caritas Needs: Soup, (Cream of Mushroom & Chicken).

2025 Worship Bulletin Recognition: Please sponsor a Sunday bulletin in memory or honor of a loved one or a special occasion. Fill out the white form in the narthex & drop it to off in the office. Include a check for **\$20**. You will be notified if the date is not available.

Feeling Ill: you can watch our Sunday service from home at www.facebook.com/firstbaptistbeloit

Calendar

Thursday	May 29	6:00 pm	Bible Study No Choir Practice
Sunday	June 1	9:30 am	Seventh Sunday of Easter Communion Sunday
		10:45 am	Coffee Hour

FREE FAMILY FUN

Carnival

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

All Free:
Games, Prizes, Drinks, Food,
and Pixar's Toy Store 4

June 14

Carnival 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Free Dinner @ 6:00 pm
Movie starts @ 6:30 pm

First Baptist Church Beloit / 617 Public Ave.