



## FELLOWSHIP BUILDER ~ MARCH 2026

*“Growing Spiritually as Individuals and as a Church”*

### *FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH*

I usually have a series of jokes and observations about our readings for this Sunday’s Bible passages, *Exodus 17:1-7* and *Romans 5:1-11*, but I’m not in the mood because I am already exhausted by the thought of turning my clocks ahead an hour and losing one, wonderful hour of sleep. Why do they do this to me? Research reveals the energy “savings” amount to about one percent of our total, national energy consumption. Come on people! This is crazy! We experience a national jet lag headache for one percent off our electric bills. What if we all agree to leave our porch light off instead? How about turning the AC thermostat up one degree? This is crazy. They’re persecuting me.

Our government passes new laws every year. They even repeal bad laws occasionally. What say we demand they repeal a law (say, daylight saving time) before they pass a new one? Could we make this thing voluntary? Are these Washington DC based doofs going to punish me forever?! I demand an immediate repeal. I demand action on this mess before Sunday morning and I will not accept delays, excuses, or whatever else those weasels think up. I want it Now! Now! Now!

Ok, I feel a little better and I can get back to the Bible passages. Apparently, The Exodus 17 reading is about the Israelites complaining non-stop because they wanted water for themselves and their animals. In fact, they demanded it so angrily that Moses went directly to God, asking for an answer right away because he was a little bit afraid of what might happen. Aren’t you glad we aren’t like those Israelites, always demanding things of Moses and his brother Aaron, without delay? Well, they weren’t like us. We believers are so much more patient and submit to God. Take for instance, the church Paul addresses in Romans 5:1-11 where he reminds them that believers grow through suffering that produces endurance. I’ll bet they were complainers unlike me.

Some people annoy me by complaining about anything and everything. Even today, although they live better than the kings and queens of old – they still complain. Well, other people do, but not me. I never complain – except about important things like daylight saving time, weather, my medical maladies, the repair on the tire that cost me almost 40 bucks this morning, my medical maladies, the cost of prescriptions, road construction, dings on my car doors, taking down the Christmas tree, bad movies that waste an hour and a half of my life, all politicians, stale junk food that costs me calories and provides none of the enjoyment (but I eat it anyway), those little splits on the ends of my fingers when it gets really cold and dry and they hurt like crazy, and a few other things. After God gets done with this list, I’ll have more suggestions. See you Sunday at 9:30

*Blessings, Pastor Walt*

*P.S. Tickets for the Spaghetti Splash are on sale now. It is a perfect way to introduce new people to our church family or get a member who has stopped attending to come back. I’ll even buy their ticket.*

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### *Circle of Caring*

Fred Woodard, Curt West, Margaret Robinson, Pam Penewell, Richard Poff,  
Brian McDougal, & Ron Kelley

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

Here to Serve in Ministry

Walt Hoshaw, Pastor

Alyssa Higginbotham, Office Administrator

Kathy Mentele, Choir Director

Peggy Pleasant, Organist

Worship Service 9:30 am

Contact Information

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[www.facebook.com/firstbaptistbeloit](http://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistbeloit)

**America for Christ Offering:** is used to start new ABC churches, train pastors, & make educational training workshops for our ABC leaders. Last year we raised \$876. Our goal this year is \$975. Please consider a generous gift to this important offering.

**Lent:** Join Pastor Walt on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Emmanuel Baptist Church ~ 1151 E. Grand Ave. The complete schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex

**Daylight Savings Time:** Remember to turn the clocks forward 1 hour on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Spaghetti Splash:** on March 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Adults \$10, Ages 6-12 \$5, under 5 are free. A dessert & beverage are included. All proceeds go to Family Promise.

**36th Annual ABW Sharing of the Bread:** will be held on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30 a.m. Wanda Sloan will be speaking on how Beloit has changed her life.

**Scoopie Night:** March 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 8:00 pm

**Movie Night:** March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Movie will be “Rabbit Picnic”. Free food and fun for everyone!

**Save the Date:** Game Day April 26<sup>th</sup> more details to follow!

**Bible Study:** Thursdays at 6:00 pm

**Choir Practice:** Thursdays at 7:00 pm

**Family Promise Walk:** I’d like to sincerely thank the congregation for their generous support of my fund-raising goal for Family Promise of Greater Beloit. Your support helped me surpass my \$500 goal by over \$70. I am humbled by your generosity. God Bless Ed Hansen

**Caritas:** Current pantry needs are canned: Fruit, Vegetables, Meat, Cereal, Shampoo, & Laundry Soap.

**Donuts:** Do you enjoy donuts at Coffee Hour? Please consider sponsoring a Sunday for \$60.

**Worship Leaders:** We need more volunteers. Worship leaders are people who lead others in worship & glorifying God. Let Diaconate know if you are interested in learning more.

**Wear Red:** please wear red on the first Sunday of each month to support our military families.

**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 gold card in the narthex and put them in the offering plate or give them directly to Pastor Walt.

**Board & Committee Chairs:** Please to turn in a copy of your minutes to the church office.

**2026 Worship Bulletin Recognition:** sponsor a Sunday bulletin in memory or honor of a loved one or a special occasion. Fill out the white form in the narthex, include a check for **\$20**, & drop it off in the office. You’ll be notified if the date is not available.

**Youth Group Fundraiser:** Don’t forget to buy your eggs. All proceeds go to our youth!

**Midweek Message:** If you would like to receive the Midweek Message, please contact the church office or visit our website [www.firstbaptistbeloit.com](http://www.firstbaptistbeloit.com)

**Feeling Ill:** you have the option to watch our Sunday service from home at [www.facebook.com/firstbaptistbeloit](http://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistbeloit)

## March Birthday's & Anniversaries

3 Kent Van Galder	13 Janet Gill	20 Sadie Yeadon
4 Weston Brunner	13 <i>Dennis &amp; Brenda Allen</i>	23 Olivia Smith
8 <i>David &amp; Dena Parr</i>	14 Karen Herek	24 Jodi Sanders
8 Hunter Jones	16 <i>Tim &amp; Jodi Sanders</i>	24 Jodine Saunders
9 Tim Huffman	19 Steve Mentele	24 <i>Andy &amp; Jen Yeadon</i>
13 Lauren Tilsner	20 Jody Reetz	29 Lois Strothman



## March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Communion Sunday  Trustee Meeting 8:15	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  PEO 11-2	<b>4</b> Pastor Walt at Emmanual Baptist 7:00pm	<b>5</b>  Bible Study 6:00 pm  No Choir	<b>6</b>  TOPS 8-10 am	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>  Daylight Savings Time	<b>9</b> Diaconate 10:00am  Church Council 7:00pm	<b>10</b>  Renewal Meeting 10:00 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Bible Study 6:00 pm  Choir 7:00 pm	<b>13</b>  TOPS 8-10 am	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>  Spaghetti Splash 11:00 am – 1:00 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Mission Board 6:30 pm	<b>18</b>  ABW <i>Sharing of the Bread</i> 9:30 am	<b>19</b>  Bible Study 6:00 pm  Choir 7:00 pm	<b>20</b>  TOPS 8-10 am	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>  C.E. Board 10:45 am	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Scoopie Night 4:00 – 8:00 pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  Bible Study 6:00 pm  Choir 7:00 pm	<b>27</b>  TOPS 8-10 am	<b>28</b> <i>Movie Night</i> 6 pm <i>“Bunny Picnic”</i>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				