

“Growing Spiritually as Individuals and as a Church”

I can't deny that Summer's over when a pile of leaves sat on the hood of my truck this morning. Even if a summerlike heatwave is descending on our area, it's still September. While Fall is my favorite time of year, I usually welcome the harvest season with some ambiguity. After all, Winter is coming and I am no fan of cold weather. So, I've decided to change my usual attitude and look forward to all Fall has to offer.

Bible verses for this Sunday are *Exodus 3:1-15 and Matthew 16:21-28*

September 12th, we have Heritage Days here in Beloit and our church will be one of the featured buildings on the tour. We could use more volunteers to help showcase our beautiful church.

September 13th is the Rally Sunday Potluck. My heart and stomach always go to the dessert end of the counter. I'll bet you have friends and family members who like potlucks as much as I do. Why not invite someone back to church on the 13th to sit and eat, renew old acquaintances, or make new friends? Marshall and I will have the grill cooking brats and dogs all afternoon. Try to invite people who don't care for desserts.

September 16th is American Baptist Women's first meeting of the year here at church beginning at noon. Here is another great opportunity to serve while making friends.

September 26th will be the final Farmer's Market for First Baptist. As always, it is usually a good time because you get to see old friends and relatives you rarely see because life's too busy. Why not take a few hours to volunteer and greet community members you don't see regularly?

Choir has begun and Bible Study begins September 17th these are held every Thursday night at church from 6pm and 7pm. Bible study, led by Marshall, is a fun and informal way to ask the questions you never get to ask on Sunday mornings. And, because I am a member of the choir, I can assure you that no formal training in music or talent is required. If you can stand and breathe, you can qualify. Come and have fun.

As we lose the leaves every Autumn, we gain so many ways to live more fully into our faith-lives and explore new and exciting ways to do things we had never considered before. Please consider becoming involved in one or more of the above opportunities to grow in Christ.

Blessings, Pastor Walt

Circle of Caring

Kathryn Wall, Lois Strothman, Kevin Sors, Jane Rebone, Richard Poff,
Terrence Nolan, Brian McDougal, Ron Kelley, Cathy LaChance, Kevin Hayden, Pauline Hada, Pam
Gribou, Pat Egleston, Cathy Bown, & Mason Bartram

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

Caritas Needs: Canned pasta, Individual Applesauce & Fruit Cups, Microwaveable Individual Mac & Cheese. Personal Care Needs include: Shampoo, Toilet Paper, Bar Soap, individually packaged Toothbrushes & Toothpaste. Volunteer Needs: greeting neighbors at the Drive thru and loading the food in their car, assisting parents in the Baby room with clothing & diapers. Positions are 9:45-12 or 11:45-2:15 Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, or Thursdays 9:45-12. Also, looking for individuals to help unload the Second Harvest Truck on Friday mornings, usually between 7:30-9 a.m.

185th Anniversary Celebration: Please donate and shop our Red, White, & Blue sale and mark your calendars for September 12th & 13th! Free will donation.

Camp Tamarack: complete schedule and registration information can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex and at <https://camptamarack.org/2025-abcwi-camps/> Everyone wanting to attending camp will have the fee covered by the church. Please reach out to Pastor Walt with any questions.

Coffee & Donuts: Do you enjoy donuts at Coffee Hour? Please consider sponsoring a Sunday for \$60. Drop it in the basket or leave a check in offering plate and write “Coffee Hour” on the memo line.

Our Daily Bread Devotionals: mission is to make the life-changing wisdom of the Bible understandable and accessible to all. Please remember to leave a \$0.50 minimum donation.

Wear Red: please wear red on the first Sunday of each month to support our military and their 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 green card in the narthex and put them in the offering plate or give them directly to Pastor Walt.

2026 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	September 3	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sunday	September 6	9:30 am	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ Proper 18 No Coffee Hour ~Labor Day Weekend
Monday	September 7		Happy Labor Day ~ <i>Office Closed</i> Family Promise Rotation
Tuesday	September 8	10:00 am	Church Renewal Meeting <i>Office Closed</i>