



First Baptist Church

November 2015/Monthly Newsletter

"To Know Him and Make Him Known"

Pastor's Paragraph

Ezekiel's Dry Bones

"So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them." Ezekiel 37:7-8

I just returned from an unexpected pilgrimage in Israel, and it was indeed a life-changing experience. I'm not entirely certain, but I think I saw some of Ezekiel's bones! God showed Ezekiel a valley of dry bones, and He explained to the prophet, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel . . ." (Ezekiel 37:11) When Ezekiel delivered God's message to the bones, they began to come together into bodies. But, still, there was no breath in them. The final step was when God breathed into the bodies, and they came to life as a great army. Ultimately, this prophecy will not be completely fulfilled until Christ returns to establish His Kingdom. But, I wonder if we may be witnessing the beginning of this fulfillment. In 1948, Jews returned to Israel from nations all around the world, and the skeletal form a nation appeared. The last time I visited Israel was 1983. At that time, it was still a pretty dry and bony place. Israel had survived three major wars that threatened their existence. God had miraculously preserved His people. But, compared to America, Israel still looked and felt like a third-world country in 1983. Since then, the bones have been coming together, the sinews have been connecting, and flesh and skin have been taking shape. The infrastructure is much better. Roads, buildings, technology, agriculture, and security have all made remarkable improvements in the land. Israel had been a skeleton in 1948, and was a body with sinews and flesh in 1983. Today it is a fully formed body with skin and everything necessary for life. Yet, there is one thing missing. There is still no breath. God has not yet breathed life into His people Israel. Israel needs a spiritual revival. The majority of the people in Israel are secular, they just want to live their lives in peace. They are unaware of their need of salvation. Among this secular majority, there are visible minorities of those who are devoutly religious. The orthodox Jews wear their phylacteries and recite their daily prayers. Professing to worship the God of Abraham, they have rejected God's Son. They have not yet recognized Jesus as the promised messiah. Then, there are the devout Muslims who answer the call to prayer every day. Yet, they wage holy war against Jews and Christians. They acknowledge Jesus as a prophet, but they do not receive Him as Savior. There will be a day (probably during the tribulation) when God breathes upon His people and sends them a revival. His people will turn to faith in Jesus, and those old dry bones will spring to life! I saw the bones and the body of Israel. The body is ready, but it is waiting for God's breath of life and salvation. ~Pastor

NOVEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Choir Practice [Daylight Savings Time Ends]	2	3 Election Day Deacons' Mtg 7 PM	4 AWANA 6:30-8:10 PM	5	6	7 Trustees' Mtg __ 8 AM __ WCBC Fall Fixin's 5:30 PM
8 Choir Practice Pastor shares Trip to Israel 10:30 AM	9	10	11 Veteran's Day!  AWANA 6:30-8:10 PM Bad Hair Night! 	12	13	14
15 Choir Practice Missionaries Luke & Bethany Snell (Germany)	16	17	18 AWANA 6:30-8:10 PM	19	20	21  9-11 AM Coffee w/ The King @ Tommie's
22 Choir Practice Harvest Dinner 5:30 PM 	23	24	25 NO AWANA	26 	27	28 
29 Choir Practice No Youth Group Tonight	30	<p>Memory Verse: <i>"For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep." 1 Thess. 4:15</i></p>				

Ministry Opportunities: We will soon be placing the sign-up sheets on the back table for the 2016 ministry opportunities (committees, flowers, greeters, etc.). Be watching and praying for what areas God will have you serve in the new year!

T H A N K Y O U

My church family means so much to me! Thank you to those who visited me in the hospital and at home, and for the plant and balloon. The many cards and phone calls were a blessing. Most of all thank you for your prayers. We have a great God! Ron Booth

Thank You to my church family for the flowers, cards, visits, and phone calls. That all meant so much when I was in the hospital and in skilled living. I am now back in assisted living- Praise the Lord! Freda D.

Dear First Baptist Church Family, Thank you for the flowers, cards, phone calls, well-wishes & prayers! I appreciate all of you! In Christ, Cindy Patton

Teen Progressive Dinner

Saturday, December 5th
Meet at the church at 5:15 PM
[Bring: empty stomach and \$5]

Adults- there is a sign-up sheet on the back table, if you would like to host a course.

Congratulations

To Richard & Sharon Gygi on
50 years of marriage!!!

Annual Harvest Dinner

Sunday, November 27th

5:30 PM

Watch the bulletin for
more details!

September Finances

Balance Forward 9/1/2015

Deacon's Fund	\$730.92
Designated Fund	\$1,095.29
General Fund	\$27,959.60
Checking Account	\$29,785.81

September Income	\$22,270.95
September Expenses	\$14,791.39
Net Gain	\$7,479.56

Balance 9/30/2015

Deacon's Fund	\$730.92
Designated Fund	\$1,322.90
General Fund	\$35,211.55
Checking Account	\$37,265.37