

First Baptist Church

"To Know Him and Make Him Known"

April 2018
Monthly Newsletter

Pastor's Paragraph

Billy Graham's Amazing Lineage

In last month's newsletter, we reflected upon the life and ministry of Billy Graham. Now, I would like to share the rest of the story. Before Billy Graham could preach the gospel to millions of people, God had to save him and call him to ministry. Billy was a young teenager when he attended a revival meeting by a well-known evangelist and radio preacher, Mordecai Ham. That was the night that God changed Billy Graham forever. But, what about Mordecai Ham? Why was he preaching in Charlotte, North Carolina, the night that Billy Graham was saved? The answer is simple. He had been invited by another legendary evangelist, a former baseball player named Billy Sunday. Years earlier, Billy Sunday had been saved in Chicago while he was an outfielder for the Chicago White Stockings. He quit the major leagues in order to share his testimony and preach the gospel. He was recruited by a famous evangelist, Wilbur Chapman. Wilbur Chapman had also started his ministry in Chicago, having been mentored by D. L. Moody. It was an extraordinary sequence of events. What D. L. Moody started in Chicago continued through several generations of successful evangelistic ministries. But, did D. L. Moody really start this entire sequence? Not exactly.

Somebody had to share Christ with D. L. Moody before he could become a great preacher and evangelist. If you are keeping track of our history lesson, you are probably waiting to hear the name of yet another famous preacher who led D. L. Moody to the Lord. Sorry to disappoint you, but our chain of famous evangelists ends here. Moody was led to Christ by his Sunday School teacher, Edward Kimball. Mr. Kimball had a burden for the teenage boys in his class, especially young Dwight who slept through much of his teaching. What Mr. Kimball lacked in teaching skills, he made up for in determination. He persisted in praying for his students and persuading them to receive Christ as their savior. Since it wasn't working so well in class on Sundays, he went to the shoe store where 18-year old Dwight worked. He put his hand on Dwight's shoulder, put his foot on a shoe box, and pleaded with Dwight to be saved. The rest is history!

So, to all of you Sunday School teachers, AWANA leaders, and VBS volunteers out there: take heart! You might be tempted to despair when you see the lack of results from all of your faithful service for God. But only God knows what fruit might be harvested in future generations because of the seed that you planted. You might be responsible for a future evangelist! ~Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter 	2	3 Deacons' Mtg. 7:00 PM	4 AWANA 6:30-8 PM	5	6 NARBC Spring Conference Gretna Baptist— Friday Evening-Sat. WCBC Spring Banquet— Saturday PM	7
8	9	10	11 AWANA Outdoor Night 6:30-8 PM 	12	13	14 Trustees' Mtg. 8:00 AM
15 AWANA awards order due-	16	17	18 AWANA 6:30-8 PM	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 AWANA Final Store 6:30-8 PM 	26	27	28
29	30					

'Chuckles' . . . Mike was studying for a test one evening. He was very quiet for a long time. So, naturally his parents became curious. When they checked on him, they overheard this prayer, "Now I lay me down to rest, and hope to pass tomorrow's test. If I should die before I wake, that's one less test I have to take."

HAPPY EASTER
Sunday Services
 8 AM Communion
 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast
 9:15 AM Sunday School Hour
 10:30 AM Cantata

Christian Unity
"Fundamentalism is particularly concerned with Christian unity and fellowship"
 Kevin L. Baader in Four Views on the Spectrum of Evangelicalism

NARBC Spring Bible Conference
 April 6-7, 2018 at Gretna Baptist Church

Dr. Kevin Baader
 speaker and author
 shares his biblical and
 practical wisdom for
 godly fellowship in and
 among churches.

Don't miss the
 Saturday evening
 camp banquet!

Directors, please have your awards order ready and turned in by Sunday, April 15th. Awards night is Wednesday, May 2nd!

CAMP MOOSE ON THE LOOSE
 DISCOVERING GOD'S FOREVER FORGIVENESS

Vacation Bible School!
 June 4-8th
 9 AM—Noon
 Ages 4yrs.—6th Grade

February Finances	
Balance Forward 2/1/2018	
Deacon's Fund	\$698.29
Designated Fund	\$2,008.38
General Fund	\$38,126.57
Checking Account	\$40,833.24
February Income	\$11,828.41
February Expenses	\$15,514.10
Net Decrease	(\$3,685.69)
Balance 2/28/2018	
Deacon's Fund	\$634.54
Designated Fund	\$1,426.84
General Fund	\$27,731.16
Checking Account	\$29,792.54