

Family Ties

First Baptist Church of Saint Paul
499 Wacouta Street St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 222-0718 www.firstbaptiststpaul.org

•November 2016•



December Events



Sunday, November 27th

10:00 am

First Day in Advent

*This is a period of spiritual preparation
in which we get ready for the coming,*

*or birth of the Lord, Jesus Christ.
We celebrate Advent not only by
thanking God for Christ's first coming
to Earth as a baby, but also
for his presence among us
today through the Holy Spirit.*

Sweet December Celebration

We will begin our Christmas Season celebration with a tradition from Burma that FBC has also adapted.

Wednesday, November 30th

- 7-10pm - Games & food in the Fellowship Hall
- 10-11pm - Music Concert
- 11pm - Worship with communion
& soup at Midnight

Saturday, December 3rd

- 10am-1pm - Clean Up & Decorate
- A few volunteers
will prepare the church for Advent Season*

Friday, December 16th

- 7pm-10pm -
TLC Christmas Party



Wednesday, December 21st

- 6pm-8pm -
KFC Christmas Party



Saturday, December 24th

- 10am - 11am - FBCK children support
- 11am - 2pm - FBCK youth support
- 5:00 pm - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
- 7pm - FBCK Christmas Celebration



*This meditative service of worship
concludes with the lighting of candles
and singing Silent Night, Holy Night.*



Sunday, December 25th

10am - 12pm
Christmas Program

FBC, FBCK and FBCC will celebrate Christmas together.

Saturday, December 31st

- Midnight - New Year Service



HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER 2016



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 - Marina Naw
Carol Tun Baw | Tin H Thaning
Plar See Sher Kwe
Moo Wah
Paw Wah Soe
Kee Slay |
| 2 - Thoe Pay Lo
Paw Bar Shwe
Dah Eh Ray | 16 - Eh Pah Do
17 - Cree Sai
18 - Courtney Sebo
21 - Hellen Paw
22 - Klee Klee Ku
Bethlehem Gyi
Soe Gar
Ywahihso Pei |
| 3 - Mo Sica
Lay Lay | 23 - Annita Thaw
Ta Baw Kwa |
| 4 - Ta Kwah | 24 - Tha Taw |
| 5 - Thoo Thoo
Kwa Lah | 25 - Zin Zin Htoo
La Say Moo
Mu La Kaw
Cinthia Win |
| 7 - Judy Say | 26 - Cecilia Oberg
Paw Kyaw |
| 9 - Hay Jew
Kae Blut Moo | 27 - Psaw Paw Kasuh
Tulip Tun Baw
Kaw Paw Wah
Air Khel Leh
Say Kler Thaw True
Tuesday
Thu Moo |
| 10 - Rosaline Kyaw
Hsa Nobel | 28 - Anna Paw
Christy Mway |
| 11 - Zipora Tun Baw
Paw Blut
Berry Paw
Banyan Doh
Eh Hser Ku Gay
Kimberly Say | 29 - Ready Htoo
30 - Kenny Aung
Eh Moo
31 - Tee Kyaw
Htoo Baw |
| 12 - Christina Shin
Say Ka Paw
Henry Tun
Mark Wenninger | |
| 13 - Saw Clay
Pleh Wah | |
| 14 - Aehbel Moe
Dun Lwe Htoo
Say Eh | |
| 15 - Ta Hsi Po | |

OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Mary Cisneros Shirley Sweum
Earl Swanlund Carol Ann Johson
Luchene Donazal

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NON-ADVENT EVENTS.
ALL ADVENT EVENTS ARE LISTED ON THE FRONT COVER.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Friday, December 2 | 7:00 pm — TLC
Youth Room |
| Saturday, December 10 | 10:30 am— Deacon Meeting
Library
12:00 pm— Church Council
Meeting
Library
5:30 pm— Trustees Meeting
Library |
| Monday, December 12 | Church office closed in
observation of Christmas |
| Monday, December 26 &
Tuesday, December 27 | Church office closed in observa-
tion of New Year's Eve |
| Friday, December 30 | |



*A devotion for November
by Geri Johnson*

Jesus Heals

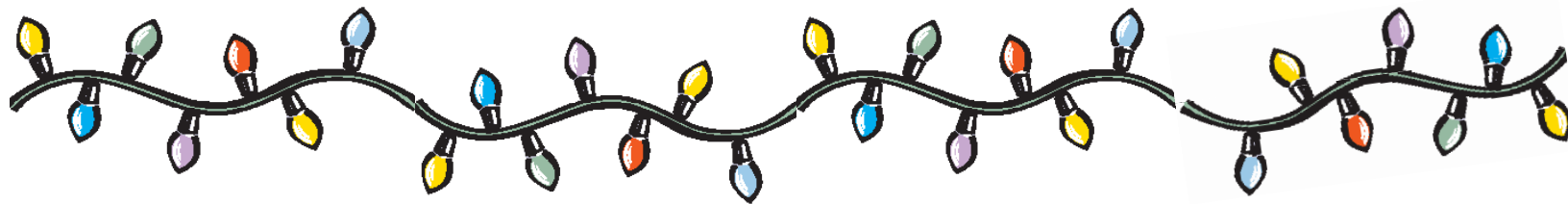
*Jesus said to the woman,
"You are now well because of
your faith. May God give you
peace" (Luke 9:48)*

Jesus healed many people. she was not named, but was referred to as a sick woman in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Her faith was amazing! She had said to herself, "If i can just touch his clothes, I will get well. "She believed that Jesus had the power to make her well. Jesus knew that someone had

A Closer Walk

touched him because he felt power go out from him. When Jesus asked who had touched him, the woman knelt down in front of Jesus. She told everyone why she had touched Jesus and that she was now healed. What a beautiful testimony! Jesus said to the woman, "You are now weak because of your faith. May God give you peace."

Faith means trusting in God. In the story, the woman believed that Jesus had the power to heal. She showed that she trusted God when she touched Jesus clothes. Even though she was afraid, she knelt down in front of Jesus. She told everyone why she had touched Jesus and that Jesus' power had healed her. May we each have the courage to tell others about our faith and God's power to heal.



SOMETHING TO KNOW

A Message From William M. Englund



At this time of exciting changes, I am proud of the way that Ebenezer Karen Baptist and First Baptist Church have worked together. I recognize that adapting to big changes is not easy. I hope that what we do and how we do it will always honor Christ and that we will continue to be partners in the work of the Kingdom of God.

I send my blessing with Ebenezer Karen Baptist Church as you begin worshipping in your new building. I am grateful that Karen traditions and values will be celebrated.

I am pleased that Karen people will be staying here at First Baptist and working to create a multicultural congregation where a variety of cultural traditions are observed. We need both churches to be positive role models for all the Karen churches in the US.

I am confident that good things will be happening in both congregations. We are members of the Body of Christ together even as we are members of two different congregations. We look forward to good fellowship and cooperation as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Peace to those who are beginning this new adventure in a new building. Peace to those who are remaining and building stronger relationships with American-born fellow Christians.

A Little Bit About Christian Poe

Christian Poe had been in Thailand refugee camps for ten years. She thought in her mind that if there is a chance for refugees to resettle to a third country, she could be among them too. God fulfilled her hope. She came directly to Minnesota. She has lived here for 9 years. Shortly after she moved to Minnesota, she met her husband and began their life together. They have two wonderful children. Christian is thankful for having the opportunity to work under God's shadow in this church.

A Little Bit About Pastor Chair Leh

Chair Leh has been working as a missionary for over twenty five years. He thanks God for this mission. He will continue working for God's mission in his whole life as he is supported by his wife and all six of his children. All of his family came from Thailand refugee camps. He is glad to continue working for God mission as an associate pastor in First Baptist Church Karen and traveling missionary pastor in different states nearby.

ယဟ်ကမာလာတသးလာအုၣ်ဘၣ်န့ၣ်ကညီဘျၢထံဒီး ဘျၢထံဆိကညီတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်မၤသကိးတၢ်တၢ်တုၤလၢတၢ်ဆၢကတီၢ်ခဲအံၤလီၤ.

ယနၢ်လၢတၢ်ဆိကလဲၤဖးဒီးအံၤတမ့ၢ်တၢ်လၢအညီဘၣ်. ယမ့ၢ်လၢတၢ်လၢပမၤဒီးမၤအိၣ်လဲၣ်န့ၣ်ကမ့ၢ်တၢ်ဟ့ၣ်ကနၤထီၣ်ဆူပကစၢ်ယုၣ်ရှုးခရံၣ်အအိၣ်လီၤ. မံၤကမ့ၢ်ပုၤမၤသကိးတၢ်လၢပကစၢ်ယုၣ်အဘိမ့ၢ်အဂီၢ်တက့ၢ်. ယဆၢဂ့ၤဒီးဆိၣ်ဂ့ၤဆိၣ်ဝါဘၣ်အုၣ်ဘၣ်န့ၣ်ကညီဘျၢထံတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်လၢအတၢ်စးထီၣ်ဘါသကိးယုၣ်လၢအတၢ်သူထီၣ်သီအပူၤလီၤ. ယသးမ့ၢ်ဒီးမးလၢကညီဖိဟ်လုၢ်ဟ်ပုၤဒီးမၤလၢကပီၤအလုၢ်လၢ်ထူသန့ဒီးတၢ်ဆဲးတၢ်တၢ်လၢလီၤ. ယစံးဘျုးဘၣ်ကညီဖိလၢအကအိၣ်တုၤဖဲဘျၢထံဆိတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အံၤဒီးကဲထီၣ်တၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်တဖုယီၤလၢကရုၢ်လိာ်သကိးယုၣ်အသးဒီးကလုာ်န့ၣ်ကလုာ်လုာ်လၢတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အံၤအပူၤလီၤ. ယအိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်နၢ်လၢတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ခံဖုလၢကဘၣ်ဆိၣ်ဂ့ၤလီၤ. ပမ့ၢ်တၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ခံဖုဘၣ်ဆၣ်, ပမ့ၢ်ပုၤတကၤယီၤဒီးတဖုယီၤလၢခရံၣ်အပူၤလီၤ. မံၤကအိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်ရုၢ်လိာ်မုၢ်လိာ်ဒီးတၢ်မၤသကိးအဂ့ၤကတၢ်လၢခရံၣ်အပူၤတက့ၢ်. မံၤတၢ်အမုၢ်အိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ဖိတဖုလၢအကလဲၤဆူတၢ်သူထီၣ်အသီတက့ၢ်. မံၤတၢ်အမုၢ်အိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ဖိတဖုလၢအကအိၣ်တုၤမၤသကိးတၢ်ဖဲဘျၢထံဆိတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အံၤတက့ၢ်. ဒီးတကးဘၣ်, မံၤကသူၣ်လီၤအါထီၣ်တၢ်ရုၢ်လိာ်မုၢ်လိာ်သးကဲကဲဒီးအမဲရကၣ်ခရံၣ်ဖိလၢအအိၣ်တုၤယၣ်လဲၣ်တၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အံၤပူၤတက့ၢ်.

Recurring Service

Ebenezer Karen Baptistum is moving to their new place and they will start their services on November 27th. There will be a Karen language service on November 27th at noon at FBC.

အဲၣ်ဒီးဒုးသ့ၣ်ညါဘၣ်ဒီပုၤဝဲတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ဖိ တဖုလၢအဟ့ၣ် တၢ်မၤဘျီအကလုာ်ကလုာ်ဆူ ပတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အံၤလီၤ. နမ့ၢ်ကွဲးလီၤန မံၤလၢလံာ် ဒၢအလီၤ, ဝံသးစူၤကွဲးလီၤယုၣ်ဒီးနတၢ်အိၣ်တၢ်ဆိးအလီၤတက့ၢ်. ပမ ၁ အီၤခဲအံၤမ့ၢ်ဒီးသိးပမၤလီၤတၢ်ပုၤဟ့ၣ်တၢ်အနီၢ်ကစၢ်ကသုအဂီၢ်, မ့ၢ်လၢ တၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ဖိအမံၤဒီးသိးလိာ်သးအိၣ်အါမးအယီၤန့ၣ်လီၤ.

2017
Stewardship
Campaign

The Joy of Giving

Each year at this time, we ask that all members of this congregation prayerfully consider what they intend to give to First Baptist Church in the coming year. These pledges are not a legal contract. Pledges help the Budget Committee as they put together our 2015 budget (how much we expect to spend, how much we expect to receive.) Thank you for all your support of the ministry of First Baptist Church.



Name (s): _____

Address: _____

2017
Stewardship
Campaign

In order for me to give what I believe God wants me to give, I express my intention to give to the ministry of First Baptist Church during 2017:

\$ _____ ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ yearly



မိန့် _____

အိတ်ဆီးလိက် _____

2017
Stewardship
Campaign

First Baptist Church 2017 Pledge Card

ဒီးယတ်နာအသီးယကဟာယဲဒ်တို(၂၀၁၇)
မၤဘူဟာတၢ်လၢတၢ်သးခကစီၣ်အဂီၢ်ဆူဘျၢထံဆိလၢ၂၀၁၇နံၣ်အဂီၢ်
\$ _____ ☐ တနံ ☐ တလါ ☐ တနံၣ်

We are asking all members to be in prayer at this time. We are praying for revival and renewal.

Would you join us praying for our:

MISSION (who we are and what we do together as a congregation),

OUTREACH (getting outside of our building and into the neighborhood and world),

NURTURE (how we minister to one another, how we grow in the sense of community) and

FINANCES (recently we have spent a lot of money on building maintenance and improvement – now we need to improve our giving to general operating expenses. We also need to seriously develop other sources of income.

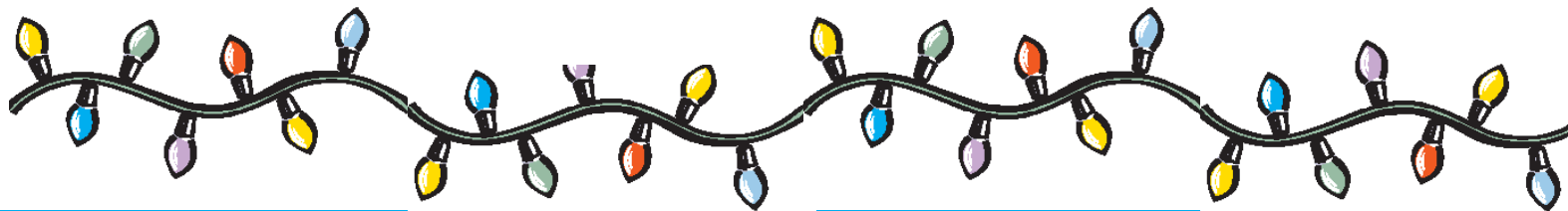
Karen New Year 2017

Join the Karen community in Minnesota for the largest Karen celebration during the year! The event will take place on Saturday, December 31st at 10 a.m. at Washington Technology Magnet School (1495 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55117). For more information, please visit www.mnkaren.org or call 651 788 7593.

As of October 31, 2016

Basic Giving	\$14,967.00
Expected Giving	\$15,268.15

Get warm in Winter



Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering

"We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." — 1 Thessalonians 1: 2-3

Faith through Gratitude — According to the dictionary, faith is a noun. But in practice faith is closer to a verb, an action word. Through our faith in God, and our gratitude for the salvific actions of Jesus Christ we are called to be faithful servants of the gospel and to live out the ministry of Jesus in word and deed. The gratitude that we have for Jesus' gift to us is the seed from which springs the gratitude that manifests toward the people of God. Therefore, we understand that actualizing our faith matters. And faith expressed through gratitude for others matters — to those who are hurting, and to those who are in need.

In the scripture from 1 Thessalonians, the apostle Paul commends this community for their service that is grounded in their faith, love and hope in Jesus Christ. As Christians we recognize that thousands of years later we too, must serve just as the Thessalonians before us. The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) replicates the important message of the Thessalonians passage. Through

RMMO, American Baptist congregations are given the opportunity to express their gratitude to the many servants who stepped forward and said, "Here am I, send me."

In 1948, Churches began donating to the November Communion Fellowship Offering, providing financial assistance to the denomination's to continue this practice of gratitude, in 1977 American Baptist Churches USA formally introduced the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering.

We continue this tradition each year and provide assistance to those who have devoted their lives to God's service by providing a "Thank You" check. Through your generous giving, in 2015 RMMO provided checks to more than 3,436 recipients and distributed \$1,105,147. Our goal for RMMO in 2016 is to raise \$1.2 million. Will you help us with this appeal? We hope you will join us in honoring God's committed servants.

This year's RMMO materials were developed to support the wonderful work you do and to help you to conduct a successful campaign.

We'll receive RMMO at FBC on Sunday, December 11 & 18, 2016

WHAT'S GOING ON FBC?

- The latest Baby Celebration was held on October 22nd. Forty five mothers showed up to this FBC event which two of whom were pregnant. Please pray for the health of the mothers, babies and their families. Thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered towards this great cause.

- On October 8, there were six women attending ABW Biannual Meeting in Ames, Iowa.

- Sheila Ahlbrand worked with the youth and organized the different activities during the month of October.

- There were three wedding in October.

- We had a small Farewell for Raquel Bibbs. Raquel is leaving us as our church secretary. We thank her for her hardwork for our church.

- We had Bible study every Tuesday in October, and will continue this Bible study every Tuesday.

- Quarterly Business Meeting was held on November 20th.

- Last month, Pastor Bill and his wife Lori drove out to New York State and were privileged to visit the Taber-

nacle Baptist Church of Utica, New York. There is a large Karen population in Utica and many attend Tabernacle. Utica is home to many ethnic refugee groups and much of the revitalization of the city is because of the arrival of new immigrants. Pastor Mark Caruana and Pastor Bill Englund have been good friends for 15 years. Mark has visited FBC a couple of times at conventions and gatherings. For several years our congregations were the two major hubs of Karen activity in the US. Now there are Karen people in most US states. Serving the Karen community at Tabernacle is Pastor Daniel. He was a pastor to many of the Karen from the Tham Hin camp in Thailand. Many people now in St. Paul still consider Daniel their pastor. Pastor Bill preached at Tabernacle on Sunday, October 16th. Lori and Bill had a pleasant visit with Pastor David and Geri Johnson in Ithaca, New York (about 3 hours from Utica). They also visited Niagara Falls for the first time getting drenched on the Maid of the Mist as it chugged its way close to both the American and Canadian falls. It was an early 35th wedding celebration. It was about 2600 miles round trip.