

HEAVEN'S WEARHOUSE

A ministry of **Church Street Commons** offering gently used clothing and toys for those in need.

Operating Hours
Monday – 4 to 7 p.m.
Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. to Noon
2nd Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Location:
202 W. Church St./Canal St.
Alexandria, IN
(Annex of Old Baptist Church)

CHURCH STREET COMMONS

CHICKEN NOODLE DINNER

MAY 11th – 11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. \$6.00 per person
Proceeds go to Heaven's Wearhouse, Campus Life, and Church Street Commons

CHURCH STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Dr. Michael Deutsch, Senior Pastor mishana826@yahoo.com
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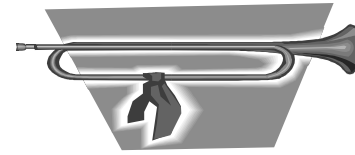
Please feel free to use the e-mail addresses for church and family related communication. No junk e-mail please.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
2107 South Park Avenue
Alexandria, IN 46001

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PASTOR MICHAEL'S BLOG – <http://michaelddeutsch.blogspot.com>



THE BUGLE

“Sound the Call”

ALEXANDRIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 2 Issue 5 May 2009

Michael Musings . . .

I was at a store on the Monday after Easter and the Mother's Day cards were all up and ready to be sold. As a side note, remember Mother's Day is the second Sunday of May, May 10.

What strikes me about this is how quickly we move on from one momentous, joy-filled event to our everyday lives. Why is it we move on so quickly? And when we do, what are we missing by not reveling in the joy of Easter? My take on Easter is that while we celebrate it once per year, Easter is an everyday event, a time when we remember who Christ is in our lives, and we try to the best of our God given abilities to demonstrate His power and influence in our lives.

Remember, Easter reminds us that God wants to have a relationship with you and me. We do not need to move through rules and regulations to get there. All it takes is faith in Jesus.

God blesses us in a number of ways . . . He forgives our past. How great is that! Everyone makes mistakes, everyone sins, everyone has some of those skeletons in the closet — things we wish never happened. Then God comes along and says, 'When you trust Jesus Christ with your life, I take everything you've ever done and wipe the slate clean. You get to start over with a brand-new life.' Remember the blessing of Jeremiah 31:34, when God says, "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." That is what our God does for us. This statement is repeated in the New Testament in Hebrews 8:12 and 10:17. That isn't good news, it is great news!!!

God also seeks to give us a purpose. We are not an accident. God created us for a purpose. But we're never going to know God's purpose for our lives until we first get to know God. On our own we struggle, but God can't wait to show us how He has gifted us so that we can experience His amazing love, joy and peace. This helps us to live the abundant life today.

Lastly, God offers us a future, a home in heaven. Remember, you will not get into heaven on your own power, just because of all the good you do. Instead, know that there is only one way we can get into heaven . . . through faith in Jesus, the Christ. Since none of us are perfect, God came to earth in human form as Jesus and He lived a sinless life. Jesus died on the cross, paid for our sins, rose from the dead, and returned to heaven and sent the Holy Spirit for us.

All this is great news. It is a gift we must open and should really celebrate every day. Do you know Jesus? Have you accepted, really accepted His love and grace? If yes, great, now share that great news. If not, make today the day you pray and ask Jesus to be your leader, redeemer, Lord and Savior. He's waiting for you.

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A Look Back

What a great week of worship we had. I heard many great comments about the powerful Maundy Thursday worship called Tennebrae or Service of Shadows. It was really meaningful for me to sit in a darkened sanctuary and concentrate on the stories of Christ being led to the cross and ultimately His death. What a great hope we have in Jesus.

Easter morning was spectacular. The Spirit, the music, the fellowship, the joy of the day was great. Even the weather cooperated for a change and gave us a glorious morning. Wouldn't it be great if we psyched ourselves up for every Sunday morning to worship the King of kings and Lord of lords as we do on Easter morning? Imagine the power we would experience.

Upcoming Sermon Series

So many people, even conservative Christians talk about the Ten Commandments (if they know them), as if they are totally irrelevant. Well, they are not. They are very relevant to our world today and over the upcoming weeks, Pastor Michael will lead us to learn why they remain relevant in our world today.

God never gives up on you!

"You hem me in--behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me." Psalm 139:5

To the Faithful Alexandrians,

I heard an interesting story about a bus driver. When he lived in London, he was assigned to shuttle passengers to special crusade services with Billy Graham at Wembley Stadium. When one of them invited him in to listen, he declined. The following year this man moved to New York, and when Billy Graham was speaking at Madison Square Garden the man's job again was shuttling people to the meetings. As he got off the bus a lady asked if he'd like to join them. Once more he politely declined.

He married an Australian lady and eventually ended up working in Sydney, where (are you ready for this?) he was again assigned to drive people to the stadium where Billy was preaching! This time when he was invited he figured there was no escape, so he gave in! Looking back the bus driver said, "No matter where I went I was confronted with Billy Graham, so I went to hear him and committed my life to Christ. It was the best decision I ever made."

This man felt like the Psalmist who was "hemmed in behind and before." The Lord searches us through and through; He knows us and knows where we are. And God is everywhere we are. In Psalm 139 the questions are asked: "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?" (Verse 7) God is everywhere and His hand guides us. His hand holds us fast.

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MISSION MEMO

Greetings from the mission team:

Isn't Spring an awesome time of year, meditating on God's creation and seeing new growth in nature. Speaking of growth, it is our desire to encourage new growth in ministries at First Baptist of Alexandria. We encourage you to bring your ideas to us for support and encouragement. We want everyone serving in the mission that God has planned for you. Please come to the **Local Missions Fair** at First Baptist Church on **Sunday, May 3rd at 6:30 PM** to get a better understanding of what is going on in our community. We have invited representatives from, Angel Food Ministry, Beauty for Ashes, Church Street Commons, ERF, Heavens Warehouse & Travis Kauffman, plus Alexandria Community Center & Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. Each will share a 2-3 minute message and then they will be available for detail information at their mission table. Snacks will be provided. This event may help you hear God whisper his plan for you.

Speaking of missions, we want you to better understand the foreign missions. This will help families pray as you "feed" your mission banks:

Ruben and Lety Geytan, are our missionaries to the Tlapaneco Indians of Guerrero State, Mexico. Their ministry has grown to encompass 20 churches and 40 mission churches. They are presently holding the Annual Conference where they expect between 350 to 400 people to be in attendance.

Glen and Rita Chapman, our missionaries in Congo, Africa. Their mission is to train Congolese students and their spouses, preparing them for ministry in their hometown rural environment. Glen teaches pastoral students at the Kikongo Pastor's Institute and Rita directs and teaches at the Women's School. Glen also projects evangelistic movies as well as educational videos on medical and health issues such as malaria, HIV, dysentery, etc. in the rural areas where he travels by boat. Glen also has a new means of transportation, using a PPC flight which takes only 3 hours to reach the villages as opposed to 3 days.

Sarah Overmeyer is our missionary to Wellington, New Zealand; she works in Universities throughout the Wellington area with Campus Life for Christ.

Jim King, Friendship Sports International, team competitions draw people to an event - the Gospel is presented at half-time.

Ric Escobar, O. C. International, Field Director, Latin American, is responsible for facilitating ministry in the South American countries.

Erle Snobel, Chosen People Ministries, Canada: sharing the Gospel with Jews living in Canada.

Working together to "make a difference" is FUN!!!



Saturday, May 16th – 12:00 to 2:00

You are invited to a ladies picnic in the Family Life Center for women and girls of all ages.

Food will be provided for an indoor picnic (no ants!).

Wear your best picnic jeans and come to fellowship with each other. You can purchase a ticket with a food pantry item. We will have a table set up for registration starting April 26 in the foyer of the church. Contact Marsh Eden, Missy Swanson, Beth Dent or Connie Davenport for more information.

**Movie Night featuring
"Take the Lead"
May 24 – 6:30 p.m.**



Antonio Banderas stars as ballroom dance instructor hired by inner city high school principal to supervise detention for the school's most troubled students. The kids, full of anger and attitude want nothing to do with him and his classical moves. Join us to watch the movie and find out what happens when he takes a genuine interest in their hip-hop dancing and the kids themselves.



HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

Please contact Jennifer Crum at 765-661-7061 or Rita Carter at 724-2457 with your graduation date and the school that you are graduating from. If you are a college graduate please let us know what degree you are receiving.

Alexandria Monroe High School Baccalaureate

Thursday, May 28th

7:00 p.m.

Alexandria First Baptist Church

2107 S. Park Avenue



VBS HELPERS AND TEACHERS NEEDED!

VBS is just around the corner and many volunteers are needed for teaching crafts, lessons, recreation, music, providing skits, helpers and group leaders, snack preparers, decorations and general needs. Please let Sharon Hasty, Jenny Martin or Jennifer Crum know that you are able to help with VBS this summer. VBS will be July 26th – 30th.

God never gives up on you! (Continued)

We discovered again last month the lengths God would go to be with us: choosing to let His only Son die for you and me. He loves you and is patiently pursuing you. Peter tells us that God "...is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

God will follow you to a different continent, or to the ends of the earth to give you another opportunity to surrender your life to Him. **God never gives up on us.** How many opportunities has He given you and me?

It is time to stop running and surrender your life to Him!

It's the best decision you will ever make!

See you Sunday if not sooner!
Pastor Doug

BIBLE READING

Many people have commented how blessed they have been to read the Bible and receive daily thoughts. If you would like to join in this adventure, there is no time like the present. We usually read 3-4 chapters per day. This is a great opportunity to grow closer to becoming the person Christ calls you to be and better understand His Word.

All Pastor Michael needs is your e-mail address. You can email your address to me at mishana826@yahoo.com or write it in the Friendship Register on Sunday morning. The May reading plan is below:

May 1 - 2 Chronicles 33-36	May 2 - Ezra 1-3	May 3 - WORSHIP
May 4 - Ezra 4-6	May 5 - Ezra 7-8	May 6 - Ezra 9-10
May 7 - Nehemiah 1-2	May 8 - Nehemiah 3-4	May 9 - Nehemiah 5-8:1
May 10 - WORSHIP	May 11 - Nehemiah 8:2-10	May 12 - Nehemiah 11-13
May 13 - Esther 1-2	May 14 - Esther 3-4	May 15 - Esther 5-7
May 16 - Esther 8-10	May 17 - WORSHIP	May 18 - Job 1-3
May 19 - Job 4-7	May 20 - Job 8-10	May 21 - Job 11-14
May 22 - Job 15-17	May 23 - Job 18-19	May 24 - WORSHIP
May 25 - Job 20-21	May 26 - Job 22-24	May 27 - Job 25-28
May 28 - Job 29-31	May 29 - Job 32-34	May 30 - Job 35-37

Let's read the Bible together, encouraging one another!

DEACON DATA

For the month of April the Deacons have:

- Gone on visitation as needed
- Provided assistance to members as needed
- Served communion to the shut-ins
- Supported the Mission Team and Search Committee with prayer
- Licensing of Pastor Doug
- We continue to explore opportunities to expand our visitation in months to come.

The Deacons ask for everyone to pray for the Youth Pastor Search Committee in the upcoming weeks.

Congratulations to:

Erin and Andy Nichols on the birth of their daughter, Addison Jo
Rachel and John Jamerson on the birth of their daughter, Jade Elizabeth
Tiffany and Michael Beher on the birth of their son, Aaron Lucas

The Deacons would like to also recognize the work of Kim Gorman and his team in working with assistance requests made to the Deacons and reporting back on actions needed.

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

It is the time of year again to update our van driver list for our insurance provider Farm Bureau. Drivers currently on the driver list do not need to do anything. New drivers that need to be added to the list are required to provide a copy of their valid driver license. You may give the information to Rita in the church office or to Tim Watson, trustee.

The trustees are preparing to have the tile floors stripped and waxed in the FLC along with cleaning the carpets in the FLC and the sanctuary.

The board would like to thank everyone who helps with the many tasks required to keep our church in working order.

angelfood
MINISTRIES

M A Y O R D E R S

Orders due: Thursday, May 14th Distribution Day: May 30th

The May menu will be available April 25th. Orders may be placed at First Baptist Church M-F 8 a.m. – Noon, Sunday after morning and evening worship services, Wednesday evening, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. or on-line at angelfoodministries.com.



WELLNESS/FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING

Manage Stress

The Basics: You can prevent or lessen stress by: 1) planning ahead 2) preparing for stressful events. Some stress is hard to avoid. You can find ways to manage stress by: 1) taking time to relax – deep breathing is good way to relax, 2) relax your muscles – try stretching or taking a hot shower to help you relax, 3) getting active- physical activity relaxes your muscles and improves your mood, 4) eat healthy – give your body plenty of energy by eating fruits, vegetables, and protein, 5) talk to your friends – they may be able to help, 6) if your stress doesn't go away or gets worse, contact a therapist or mental health professional. What are the signs of stress? When people are under stress, they may feel: worried, irritable, depressed, unable to focus, tense muscles, weight gain or loss, upset stomach, problems sleeping, back pain, headaches.

What causes stress? Any unexpected change in life can be stressful. Running late, getting lost, or having an argument can all cause short-term stress. Changes that cause stress can be good or bad, such as a promotion at work, illness, planning a wedding or money problems. Our bodies react to change with faster heartbeats, tense muscles, sweating and increased blood pressure.

The Benefits – managing stress can help you: 1) sleep better, 2) control your weight, 3) lessen neck and back pain, 4) concentrate, and 5) get along better with family and friends.

Parish Nurses
Pam Blake & Nancy Chastain

WOMEN OF FAITH

It is time to purchase tickets for all those women who are interested in attending the **Women of Faith Conference** in Indianapolis **August 7-8**. The cost is \$99 per person and includes the conference and lunch on Friday and Saturday. Please see Debbie Deutsch to sign up.



Dear Congregation:

Thank each and every one of you for all of your prayers and support during my kidney donation and my slow recovery. Things are starting to progress and I think that my road to recovery has started to move along again! Again, thanks for all of your prayers.

*In Christian Love,
Tricia Ruben (Omer Heater's daughter)*