

THE CARILLON

First Baptist Church

January 2018

Church Officers 2018

Treasurer – Edna Moore
Mission Treasurer – Deanna Thomas
Church Clerk – Judy Conner
Financial Secretary – Cathy See

S.S. Supt. – Barbara Moore
Ass't. S.S. Supt. – Shirley Blair
S.S. Secretary - Diane Johnson
Head Usher – Malcolm Thomas
Assistant Usher – Joe Zavatsky
Eric Johnson
Harry Moore

Auditors
David Johnson
Patty Conner
Kathy Zavatsky

Permanent Council Delegates
Dick Higginbotham
Justin Johnson

ABCNJ Convention Delegates
Dick Higginbotham
Justin Johnson

Deacons
Bob Moore
Tony See
Dick Higginbotham
Justin Johnson
Carl Wlodarczyk

Trustees
Harry Thompson
Don Blair
Jane Conner
Joe Zavatsky
David Johnson
Ed Moore

Deaconesses
Donna Vars
Patsy Shontz
Juanita MacPherson
Joan Parker
Patti Moore
Diane Johnson

Thank you to the nominating committee: Ed Moore, Dick Higginbotham, Judy Conner, Joan Parker, and Kathy Zavatsky

The annual congregational meeting was held on Friday, January 19.

The business meeting began with Pastor Vars opening with scripture and prayer. The minutes from last year were included in the annual report and were reviewed and approved. Annual reports from Pastor Vars and the different church boards and committees were reviewed and approved.

The financial reports showed a 2017 ending balance of \$481.28 in the missions account

and \$6,387.66 for the general fund account. Missions and general fund budgets were discussed and approved for 2018. The missions budget for 2018 is \$23,410 and the general fund budget for 2018 is \$95,200.

The nominating committee report was reviewed and new officers for 2018 were elected. The meeting was closed in prayer.

Full copies of the annual report are available in the back of the sanctuary and at the Sunday School counter.

February Birthdays

Shylia See	3
Donald Blair	8
Joan Parker	9
Howard Kohler	10
Donna Vars	12
Helen Borsina	16
Francisco Morfin	18
Marian Phillips	27
Pat Taylor	28

February Verse of the Month

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13

Join in!

Soup Collection

Movie Night on
February 2

Super Bowl Party
on February 4

Chili Cook-off on
February 24

God's Box of Chocolates

~written by LauraLee Shaw

Everywhere I look near Valentine's Day, there's chocolate: boxes of chocolate in all the stores, chocolate on TV promising to be the only love you need, chocolate Girl Scout cookies--CHOCOLATE! I even saw chocolate Altoid breath mints in the grocery checkout aisle the other day! I think that's what led me to remember the famous quote from Forrest Gump: "Life is like a box of chocolates...you never know what you're gonna get."

In reality, that phrase can be true in many ways. We wake up every morning completely unsure of what the day may hold for us. We've made our plans. Sometimes they even happen the way we make them. But we never know for sure, do we?

The days that come with caramel in the middle are my favorite. The ones with the strawberry goo are just so so--but the ones with coconut--YUCK! I'd rather go back to bed. Then there's the days where tragedy or difficult times come out of nowhere, and the chocolate sits in the pantry untouched...there's no sweetness to be had in those moments, it seems.

God knows that life as it pertains to circumstances is uncertain for us. That's why He comforts us and reminds us so many times that He is our constant companion, our steadfast friend, our consistently loving God and Savior. He doesn't keep promises the way we do:

"When people make promises, they guarantee them by appeal to some authority above them so that if there is any question that they'll make good on the promise, the authority will back them up. When God wanted to guarantee His

promises, He gave His word, a rock-solid guarantee--God can't break His word. And because His word cannot change, the promise is likewise unchangeable." (Heb. 6:16-18, the Message)

You see, no matter what chocolate we are "in the middle of" right now, He is there--with the certainty of His promise today as well as His hope of heaven in the future. Listen to how the verse above continues to encourage us: (vs.19-20)

"We who have run for our very lives to God have every reason to grab the promised hope with both hands and never let go. It's an unbreakable spiritual lifeline, reaching past all appearances right to the very presence of God where Jesus, running on ahead of us, has taken up His permanent post as high priest for us, in the order of Melchizedek."

I love the visual picture of grabbing on to Him with both hands as He runs ahead of me to the Father. That makes me able to get up today and praise Him for whatever comes my way. This faith, this confidence, this hope is our unbreakable spiritual lifeline--HIS love for us no matter what, when, how or why. Let's binge on His priceless box of chocolates today...the sweetest and most satisfying of them all.

"Taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him." Psalm 34:8

For God so loved the world,
That He gave
His only
begotten
Son
That whosoever
believeth in Him
Should not perish
But have everlasting life."
-- John 3:16

A Christ-centered, community serving, Biblical church

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Church phone: 609-859-8967

To:
«Primary Name»
«Secondary name»
«Address»
«City/State/Zip»

«F1»

Here's your newsletter for January 28, 2018