

First Baptist Church

1325 Chatburn Ave.

Harlan, IA 51537

The Extender

Mailed September 29, 2009

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September 28, 2009

Kelsey, our 12 year old Labrador Retriever, has been very sick; covered with tumors and one growth on the side of her head that eventually grew down her neck to the point where she could no longer eat or breath.

Last week, Jodie and I prayed over her, asking God to help us do what we had to do to ease her pain. We prayed, pleading with Him that, though God's Word doesn't make it clear whether our pets will be in Heaven or not, we would see her again. We thanked Him for the wonderful times and feelings she had brought to our family since we brought her home at 7 weeks old.

Then, I took her to the vet and held her precious head in the crook of my arm as she looked up at me, struggling to breathe, with trusting eyes that pleaded for me to do something. In less than 30 seconds it was done. She simple relaxed, as if falling asleep. There was no more pain and suffering.

About five years ago I had the same experience with my younger sister, Marcy. I held her hand as she succumbed to years of suffering from cancer. I saw her last breath and felt the last beat of her heart as she drifted off to sleep. There was no more pain and suffering; only peace and joy remained.

One big difference for me between the two passings was that Marcy and I had talked quite a bit about her faith in Jesus, and she and I both knew exactly where she was going. Her death occurred with us both filled with the hope of Jesus Christ. When Kelsey left it was with a whole different kind of hope; not a hope that is the fulfillment of a promise from the creator, but a begging kind of hope, that somehow, Kelsey too would be in Heaven with us and our Father.

My dear brothers and sisters, how I thank God for that hope -- that assurance of everlasting life -- that comes with faith in the cleansing blood of His Son and my Savior, Jesus. Oh, how I desire for each and every one of you, my family and friends, to have it too. I shutter at the thought of loosing even one of you, not knowing what lies ahead when it is so simple to accept the free gift of God and trust in Jesus.

SERVICE TIMES & WORSHIP HELPERS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship in NFH

Greeters: Terry and Connie Arentson;

East Doors: Gene and Darlene Arentson

Nursery Attendants: Howard and Luke Lansman

Next Week: Mike and Tammy Kolbe

Ushers: Dan Lucas' Family

9:15 a.m. Sunday School For Youth

Prayer Time for the Adults in NFH

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for Adults

10:30 a.m. Blended Worship in the Sanctuary

Greeters: Myron and Bonnie Sorensen

Nursery Attendants: Cherie Eckhoff

Next Week: Dan and Tina Olson

Ushers: *John Gilliland, *Rowly Burton, Stan Martens, and Dan Martin

FOR THE RECORD

September 27,

2009

Sunday School.....88

Previous Sun-

day.....none

Morning Worship - 8:00 a.m ...98 10:30 a.m....104

Previous Sunday - 8:00 a.m...none 10:30 a.m....???

Morning Worship A Year Ago.....229

BYF Wednesday September 16.....161

TITHES & OFFERINGS September 27, 2009

2009 Budgeted Gen. Fund \$5,879.25

8-31-09 General Fund Offering \$7,822.24

Missions \$ 85.00

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, October 5

6:00 a.m. Promise Keepers Bible Study
6:30-8:00p.m Grief Share in the Library
7:00– 9:00p.m. Fresh Start - Sr.High Rm.

Tuesday, October 6

2:00 p.m. Town Hall Discussions- Seekers
Rm. "Loving Little Costs a Lot"

Wednesday, October 7

6:00p.m. Meal for Sr High
6:40-8:00p.m. Preschool-Sr High BYF
6:40-8:00p.m. Women's Bible Study in
the library

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Viola Waddell

Family of Ernie Plagman

Marie Arentson

Lori Fast (Lucille Paulsen's granddaughter)

Geraldine Hansen

Darlene Blakely

BYF Ministry

Our troops

SCCO

Our sister churches in Latvia.

White Cross

There are **SEVERAL** airplanes left on the White Cross poster. You can take an airplane off the poster and sign your name underneath and bring your items to the church office with the price of the articles included. Look for the poster in the Fellowship Hall foyer. Deadline for returning the items are November 8.

Thank you, Marie Arentson

Women's Bible Study

Please join us for a women's Bible Study group that meets on Wed night at 6:45 to 8 pm-during BYF. We are meeting in the library and studying "Divinely Designed"- a focus on the family book. All women are invited.

Small Group

Are you interested in joining a small group but don't know where to go? Then have we got a place for you. Joel and Karla would love for you to meet with them every other Sunday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This will be a DVD series "Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ" by John Piper. Please contact Joel or Karla Berndt for more information.

Focus on Parenting

Make your reservations today for the parenting seminar that is coming here to First Baptist Church. This simulcast will be Saturday November 14, 2009 from 8:00-3:30 p.m. The cost for the event is \$20/couple or \$10/person. Register today by going online or call the church. For more information please contact the church at baptist@fbcharlan.org or 755-2711

Items Needed:

The ABW ladies are in need of clean, used sheets to tear up for roller bandages. If you have any worn sheets that you want to get rid of please bring them to the church and mark them for the ABW. They can be white or colored. Thank you.

From Marjorie Plagman

A very big and heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone for the rose, prayers, food, and cards during Ernie's long illness and following his death.



Did you know that October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Why don't you express your appreciation to ours this week? You can send him a card; invite him and his lovely wife over for a meal. Anything that says thanks and I know what you are doing for our church!!

**The purpose of the First Baptist Church is to bring people to Jesus
and to develop them to Christ-like maturity.**