

from front cover

In these verses of Scripture: (2 Corinthians 4:16-18), Paul tells us this: the “outward person” is perishing, we cannot control the natural deterioration of human nature. Yet, the “inward person” is experiencing daily spiritual renewal!

As Christians, we must learn to live a day at a time. God provides for us “day by day” as we pray to Him (Luke 11:3). He gives us the strength that we need according to our daily requirements (Deut. 33:25). **Yard by yard, life is hard! Inch by inch, life’s a cinch!** When you live by faith in Christ, you get the right perspective on suffering.

The Invisible World: Dr. A.W. Tozer reminds us that the “invisible world” described in the Bible was the only “**real world.**” If we would only see the visible world the way God wants us to see it, we would never be attracted by what it offers (1 John 2:15-17).

The great men and women of faith, mentioned in Hebrews 11, achieved what they did because they “saw the invisible.” The things of this world seem so real because we can see them and feel them; but they are all temporal and destined to pass away. Only the eternal things of the spiritual life will last.

Of course, the unsaved world thinks we are odd . . . perhaps even crazy. . . because we insist on the reality of the invisible world of spiritual blessings. Faith is “the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1).

Pray this prayer with Fran and Pastor Jim: **Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life; creating us to serve You and others. Lord, be near us, as we do Your will and look forward to Your coming for Your church. Amen.**

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Jim & Fran



First Baptist Church
201 South Main St.
Benton, IL 62812
618-438-7661

March 2025

The Herald

THE INVISIBLE WORLD

“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (2 Cor. 4:18).



The month of March is known for several things, including weddings. But, many weddings occur in March because they usually get better deals, and also, the potential for beautiful spring weather and the blooming flowers that come with it.

March facts: The first Wednesday of March “**Ash Wednesday**” begins the season of **Lent**. Daylight savings time begins in March. March is the time of year when animals start waking up from hibernation. On March 10, 1876, Alexander Graham Bell made the first-ever phone call. Coca-Cola was invented by John Pemberton in March of 1886. Daffodils have been designated as March’s “birth flower.” On March 31, 1889, the Eiffel Tower was ascended for the first time, no elevators, by foot; it took over an hour. Another important and wonderful thing happened in March; the marriage to my beautiful bride and wife, Fran, 52 years ago! “**The Lord works in mysterious ways.**”

All of these things happen in the “temporary” world we live in. But there is an “**unseen world**” that the Word of God tells us to focus our eyes on.

continued inside





Sing 'n Share will be held Wednesday, **March 19**, at 4 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Come join the fun!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

Ken Whittington, chairman

- ❖ Officers for 2025 are Leon Sanders and Ken Whittington, co-chairs; John D. Aiken, secretary (Ken Bolen, back-up).
- ❖ Ken Whittington is authorized to renew the CDs coming due on February 28 and March 12.
- ❖ Annette Campbell is retiring on April 30. The Trustees express their thanks and appreciation to Annette for her contributions to the church. A committee consisting of Mary Ellen Aiken, Mary Bolen, Leon Sanders, Pastor Jim, and Ken Whittington has been appointed to find a replacement.
- ❖ Thanks to the Builders Class for paying to have the toilet replaced in the men's restroom.

During March, we take up the *America for Christ Offering* to support American Baptist ministry efforts throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|--------------------|
| 7 | Ginger Prior | 25 | Vicky Sanders |
| 16 | Joyce Cunningham | 26 | Krisley Langston |
| 23 | Jim & Fran Jenkel | | Robert Lowery |
| | Ebriessa Casey | 30 | Melody Aiken Smith |
| 24 | Myrna Eubanks | | |



COMMUNITY
Lenten Luncheons

Meal served at 11:30 A.M.

Both locations are handicap accessible

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5 ~ 11:30 A.M.

First United Methodist Church
203 West Church Street, Benton

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18 ~ 11:30 A.M.

First Christian Church
302 South Main Street, Benton

Sponsored by Benton-West City Ministerial Alliance

Faith & Fellowship



Ladies' Coffee: Wednesday, Mar. 5
9:30 A.M. at The Buzz
Bring a friend!

THIS MONTH

Mar. 5	9:30 A.M.	Ladies' Coffee
	11:30 A.M.	Lenten Lunch
		1st United Methodist Church
Mar. 6	9:00 A.M.	Brown Bag Packing
Mar. 7	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Heritage Woods
Mar. 12	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
Mar. 13	9:00 A.M.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Mar. 19	4:00 P.M.	Sing 'n Share
	5:00 P.M.	Board of Deacons Meeting
Mar. 21	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Helia Healthcare
Mar. 26	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study

WEEKLY

Sun.	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service



March Offering
Dry Spaghetti

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

201 South Main Street ~ Benton, IL 62812
Phone: 618-438-7661
E-mail: bentonfbc@gmail.com
Web: bentonfirstbaptist.org

Staff

Rev. Jim Jenkel, Pastor
Annette Campbell, Administrative Assistant