First Baptist Church 308 E-Madison Ave Chrisman, IL 61924 (217) 269-2459 kgcoe@comcast.net



# THE VINE: October 2014

## On The Vine

On Sunday, September 28, I announced to the congregation of the First Baptist Church that I was resigning my position as the pastor of this great church. I put in much thought, sought counsel, and prayed repeatedly in the past couple of months before making this decision. It was not an easy decision but as I told the congregation on that Sunday it was the right one. My tenure here at the church has been positive and my hope is that the church is in a better position all around then when I first came here in February 1998. At that time I never anticipated remaining here for this many years.

In talking and working with the Deacon's on this decision, we are looking to stay on until at least the end of January 2015. I didn't think it would be wise to leave at the end of the year because Christmas is such a busy time for everyone. Leaving at the end of January will have given me almost 17 years of ministry here at FBC.

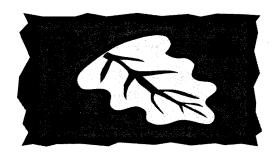
Our future plans included moving to Franklin, Tennessee, a community located just outside Nashville. I am currently working on obtaining my Tennessee real estate license via the internet. I felt like it was necessary to take time away from full time church work after 29 years. My prayer is that time away will help refresh and renew my soul. I trust that when God wants me back in full time church ministry He will open that door.

In the next four months, lets continue to commit to praying for the future of FBC. I know that there will be some time of adjustment and I will be working with the leaders to ensure a smooth transition when I depart. In 2015 this church will celebrate 185 years of ministry! God is still in control all these years later. In His Strength... *Xevia* 

# **Operation Christmas Child**

Since 1993 113 million shoe box gifts were collected in the U.S. and ten other sending nations by Samaritans Purse. These boxes were loaded on ships and planes and sent to over 150 countries. Every box represents a precious girl or boy in need of a Savior. Last year FBC collected approximately 32 boxes. If you would like to help with this project, please pick up a brochure and shoe box at the back of the church. On Sunday, November 16 we will be dedicating these gifts and taking them to Lake Ridge Christian Church in Paris the following week.

## **Sunday Morning Messages**



October 5: 1 John 2:1-2

October 12: 1 John 2:3-14

October 19: 1 John 2:15-17

October 26: Guthrie will be speaking

### Other Information

\*See You At The Pole Prayer event— Guthrie led a group of students who prayed around the CHS flagpole on September 24.

\*We want to thank everyone for their gifts to last month's World Mission Offering. This gifts go to support countless American Baptist Missionaries around the world.



\*Youth group meets every Sunday night at 6pm at Guthrie's house.

\*ABW White Cross items are due back by Sunday, October 19

### Operation Sleighbell

# In addition to collecting boxes for Operation Christmas Child, we also need to collect 25 pairs of underwear and socks for Operation Sleighbell. This ministry is located in Champaign and these items go to needy families throughout our area. A box will be set up by the west doors and we will collect these items in the month of October.

### Worship Attendance in September

September 7	Community Service	
September 14	68	
September 21	82	
September 28	58	

### Happy Birthday!

3: Sean Marvin6: Pam Ellis20: Mark Hoult

7: George Rogers 24: Kelly Gardner/Taylor Hoult

11: Levi Lewis28: Fran Glithero12: Carol Rogers29: Kay Fidler

13: Mary Marvin & Alexis Moran 31: Kelly Fender

Kevin Coe - Pastor

Guthrie Gardner - Youth

Debbie Sims - Choir

Shannon Ellis - Office

# CHURCH:

1 7:00pm Choir 8 7:00pm Choir 8:00pm Business Meeting Meeting 15  13 14 7:00pm Choir 15  20 21 7:00pm Choir 22  27 28 7:00pm Choir 29  27 28 7:00pm Choir 29	2 12:15pm FCA @ CHS 9 10 16 12:15pm FCA @ CHS 23 24 30 31 12:15pm FCA @ CHS	1 Let us not become we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9
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