

**Happy New Year!
January 2013**

Sunday

9:00 A.M. - Bible Study
10:00 A.M. - Morning Worship
6:00 P.M. -- Evening Worship
6:00 P.M. – Jr. & Sr. High Youth
6:00 P.M. -- AWANA

Wednesday

6:30 P.M. - Mid-Week Worship Service
6:30 P.M. - Jr. & Sr. High Youth

Greeters

East-Rex Tuttle & Carol Warner
West-Wayne & Sarah Hollingsworth

Special Music

6 **IBC choir**
13 **Cindy Miller**
20 **Rex Tuttle**
27 **Whitney Rhodes**

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January 2013

Dogs

Right in the middle of all the snow we got after Christmas, I saw something that made me laugh out loud. My son-in-law was driving us from my Dad's to my in-laws' house in his 4-wheel drive SUV. As we were making our way on a snow-covered country road toward our destination, we saw another SUV coming toward us. The rear window on the driver's side was rolled down, and out of the window stuck the heads of two of the happiest dogs you've ever seen in your life! They were *loving* the snow, and their noses in the wind, and just riding in the vehicle! After all the grim weather-casters predicting "snowmageddon", and people worrying and complaining about the snow, those two dogs were, well, a breath of fresh air. I don't currently have a dog (and no, I don't want yours), but I love dogs, and some dogs have been very old and dear friends of mine. So when one of my professors from college emailed me this column, it made me smile. And I think it's good enough to share with you.

Dog's Purpose: from a 6-year-old.

- Being a veterinarian, I was called to examine a ten-year-old Irish wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle. I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure as they felt that Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully

away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him.

What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. It has changed the way I try to live. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?"

The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

- **Remember, if a dog were the teacher you would learn things like:**
 - * When loved ones come home, always run to greet them;
 - * Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride;
 - * Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy;
 - * Take naps;
- - * Stretch before rising;
 - * Run, romp, and play daily;
 - * Thrive on attention and let people touch you;
 - * Avoid biting when a simple growl will do;
 - * On warm days, stop to lie on your back in the grass;
 - * On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree;
 - * When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body;

- * Delight in the simple joy of a long walk;
- * Be loyal;
- * Never pretend to be something you're not;
- * If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it;
- * When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently;

There comes a time in life when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it.

You surround yourself with people who make you laugh, forget the bad, and focus on the good, so love the people who treat you right.

Think good thoughts for the ones who don't ~ life is too short to be anything but happy.

I love that column! I have only a couple of things to add.

First, we don't become Christians by being "nice". The Sermon On the Mount in Matthew 5-7 was not given for us to know what we should *do* to become a Christian. The Lord Jesus gave that sermon to define what a born-again Christian looks like. You can't begin to live The Sermon On the Mount unless you have been born again by believing in Jesus...and only then if you rely on the power of God's Holy Spirit.

That being said, an awful lot of born-again people are some of the meanest, nastiest people I know. They would do well to get off of their blessed assurance and review what Jesus said in The Sermon On the Mount. One man said he came to the realization that, based on everything the preacher said Christians were *not* to do, his dog was a better Christian than he was!

Dogs can't become Christians, or live by The Sermon On the Mount. But I'm afraid that for too many professing believers, it may be true that their dog is a better Christian than they are! Don't let that be true of you. Now: go take your dog for a ride with the window down!

Soli Deo Gloria!
Pastor David

We're on the web!

Come visit us at:

www.firstbaptistlinton.org

Where you can check upcoming events, download archived sermons, or listen live over our streaming webcast Sunday morning! You can also learn more about our AWANA program and our dedicated youth ministry!



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 21 Larry & Linda Morton
- 31 Gary & Cindy Miller

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Lisa (Tuttle) Brewer
- 2 Brenda Wellington
Linda Heaton
- 5 Connie Sloan
- 6 Sarah Hollingsworth
Mary Gravemier
- 7 Willard Winters
Clayton Kendall
- 11 Barbara Butler
Becky Mitchell
- 12 Mike Thornton
- 13 Rae Anne Tyra
Tracy Hunt
- 15 Margaret Jones
- 18 Larry Morton
Stephanie Abel
- 20 Savanna Neal
- 23 Jo Haun
Linda Taylor
Ruth Wilkes
- 26 Linda Morton
- 28 Brent Hollingsworth
- 29 Olivia Kendall



Let It Snow!

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 David & Claudia Hensley
- 18 Don & Sharon Jones
- 20 John Correll

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 David Tyra
- 6 Don Rhodes
- 8 Jim Davis
- 9 Micki Church
- 11 Jennifer Kincaid
- 12 Wayne Hollingsworth
- 14 Sharon Jones
Brent Mccammon
- 15 Teresa Greenwood
- 16 Ray Correll
Kerry Heath
- 18 Dale Goddard, Sr.
- 20 Melvin Payne
Joshua Tyra
- 21 John Frayseer
- 22 Lana Heath
Priscilla Crosier
- 26 Clarence Miller



What's Happening at 1BC.....

AWANA Happenings

- January 6-Jammie in your Jammies night
- January 13-I "AWANA" be night (dress up like what you want to be as a grown up)
- January 20-JUNK night (bring "Junk" from a drawer at home)
- January 27-TREASURE night (bring something you treasure)

If you would like a record of your 2012 giving, please sign up at the east board.

We are in need of Greeters for 2013. There is a sign up sheet at the welcome center if you are interested in helping with this form of ministry.

- Jan. 6- Deacons meeting following the am service in the BYKOTA classroom.
- Jan. 6-Board of Christian Education meeting, 4:30 pm-Sharon Payne's room.
- Jan. 7 Sarah Mission Circle meeting, 1:00 pm in the library.
- Jan. 13-Youth after Christmas party.

Please be in prayer for our new Children's Church ministry, and for those involved, as it begins this year.

2012 Bible Readers: Please watch for future announcements concerning this achievement.

In Sympathy....

First Baptist Church extends love and prayers to the family of Martha Lemonds.

Thank you...

Analee Heady wants to thank everyone for prayers and cards during the time of Jack's injury and her illness.

"Thank You" goes out from Lorene Frank and the Kendall family for all the Christian love, caring and support shown for their family during their recent bereavement. Also, Lorene is grateful for prayers, cards, etc. during her rehab. She also enjoyed the Christmas caroling very much.

2012
MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

From ...

Aaron & Christy Knapp

Michael & Pam Robertson

The Families of.....

**Ann Hensley & Family,
Doris Thornton & Family**

**Ann, David & Breck Hensley
& Families**

The Wall Family

**Doris, Mike, Tamyra & Shane
Thornton**

Marge Frayser

Delores Lechien

Margo Good

In Memory Of ...

**Don & Cindy Baldwin
(Christy's grandparents)**

**Jean Bullock, Marion Chapman
(sisters of Pam)
Penny Wonder (Michael's mother)**

**Sue Leigh
Red & Vivian Landis
Maxine Correll
Donna Correll
Jesse & Jewell Correll**

Clyde & Emily Breck

Wes Hensley

**Tom, Sarah, Jennifer, &
Little Grace Wall**

Keith Thornton

**Robert & Marie Haumesser
Delores Haumesser
(Parents and sister of Marge)**

Marjorie Winters

Family members

Bonnie Hutchison

Marc & Kathy Walton

Faye Underwood

**Mary Shepherd
Claudia Hensley & Family
Hal Shepherd & Family**

Jack & Analee Heady

Derward and Lisa (Tuttle) Brewer

**Agnes, Donnie Ray, Teresa,
Taylor & Kelsey Sloan**

Edward, Gary, Errol Hutchison

**Jack & Betty Walton
Richard & Jeannine McKee**

Katie Dunning

Haldon Shepherd "Grampy"

Our Family

**Dane Land
John & Iris Tuttle
Pat, Ethel O'Hern**

**Jo Vene Sherer
Dollis Sloan**

