



# Baxter Signpost

A newsletter of Baxter Road Bible Church

February — April 2009

Volume 2, Number 2

**Our Vision: “For Baxter Road Bible Church to be a place where people come to know the Lord and that people who already know the Lord come to know Him better.”**

## *A Message from Pastor Bob Mather*



**Dear Church Family,**

*“Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its*

*inhabitants. It shall be a*

*jubilee for you; each one of you is to return to his family property and each to his own clan.”*

Leviticus 25:10. On June 8<sup>th</sup> Barbara and I are celebrating 50 years of marriage, we are calling 2009 our year of jubilee. We will be visiting our “own clan,” our family in Washington, Oregon, California and Mississippi and then in August our son and daughters are renting a sea front home on the Oregon coast for a week. Then our children and their spouses and our grandchildren will meet us there.

My prayer is that this will also be a year of jubilee for Baxter Road Bible Church. We got a great start in January when, because of your faithfulness, we were able to pay off the mortgage on the church building. The Lord has continued to bless us and we are now looking at building a larger auditorium or finding a larger building.

As I write this I am thinking of some of the events that will happen here at Baxter. Right away, on Sunday, February 15 the elders are

going to be available to anoint and pray for people as described in James 5:14-16. In March there is a series on Jonah and then for Easter the drama team will be presenting an Easter drama in the evening on Good Friday, again on Saturday evening and a scaled down version Easter day to go with the message.

On Easter Sunday we are kicking off a series called “Doubters Anonymous” or maybe we will call it “Unspoken doubts” or something like that as we look at nagging doubts that may pop up in our minds every so often.

We will have some visiting speakers during some of the summer months and then in the fall I plan on doing a series on how to hear God speak, how God talks to us, how to recognize God’s voice and how to receive guidance from God.

Then there will be a series called “Practical Atheist” followed with a short series on Habakkuk. By that time we will almost be to the Christmas holidays and wondering where did the year go.

I am looking forward with great expectation to what the Lord is going to do this year in the church and in my and your lives.

**May the Lord Bless you,  
Pastor Bob**

## Dates / Events

- ➔ Spring Break March 8-14
- ➔ First weekend in March — Youth Leadership Team Retreat (see Youth News)
- ➔ April 10 — Drama Team presentation on evening of Good Friday
- ➔ April 11 — Drama Team Saturday evening
- ➔ April 12 — Easter Sunday with Drama Team presentation

## Elders' Notes

The Elders of BRBC are Gary Jones, Mike Miller, Robert Nelson, Wayne Starr, Pastor Bob, and Phil Lielasus. We meet every other Saturday morning. At our last meeting we discussed the following:

- ✓ On January 13, 2009, the building mortgage was paid off! The final payment of \$35,752.99 was taken from reserve funds.
- ✓ We have begun preliminary investigation of a possible future building expansion. We have maxed out our present capacity.
- ✓ Another large expenditure was \$15,000.00 for a down payment on the replacement of our upstairs heating and ventilation unit.

We are grateful for recent additions to ministry, such as expanded small group / Bible study

## ✝ Women's Leadership Council ✝

Currently the members of the Women's Leadership Council are Barbara Mather, Donna Jones, Jayne Barker, Ann McIlhargie, Lucila Ting, Sue Lee, Joann Miller and Shari Gilbert .

The following events will be held at the church:

- ◆ February 14 at 4:00 PM – Single Sisters in Christ first meeting. Contact Ann McIlhargie. Saturday meeting dates: February 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25.
- ◆ Sunday, February 22 at 12:30 PM – Baby Shower for Hannah Ting-Barnheart and baby Vanessa after second service
- ◆ Saturday, February 28 at noon — Ladies' International Food Pot Luck Lunch
- ◆ Saturday, May 2 — Spring Tea (details later)

These events will be held at other locations:

- ◆ March TBA — Cooking Class (details later)
- ◆ April 18 — One Day Women's Retreat at Lazy Mountain in Palmer (details later)

# BRBC Youth

## 2008 was a great year...

Bible Studies, encouragement letters between students, thank you letters to parents, a canoe trip, a Jell-O Night, numerous lock-ins, service projects, concerts, flag football, ultimate Frisbee, \$1,300 raised for Covenant House, a lip sync contest, man night, numerous student baptisms, and many other things.

An observation of 2008 might be that there are too many fellowship activities. While fellowship will always be an integral part of the Baxter Road Youth Ministry, this year we plan on offering more opportunities for students and leaders to serve, grow, lead, and develop accountable relationships.

The Youth Leadership Team is taking the reins that God has placed in their hearts for mentoring and disciplining. **Small Groups** are forming with the goal of nurturing the students in a safe and open environment. Students will have a chance to express, question, and dialogue each week about hot topics from relationships to sports, and other topics which need prodding such as serving, forgiving, and purity.

Also, this year it is our goal that a **Student Leadership Team** takes flight. Responsibility and ownership will be given to students who desire to take part in planning and organizing of some activities. It will be a monthly gathering.

Also, the first weekend in March there will be a **Leader's Retreat**. This weekend will focus upon being refreshed in God and in Christian fellowship. Prayerfully consider this weekend as an opportunity to serve, because we are looking for cooks for meals.

Keep in mind as you prayerfully consider your involvement in the lives of those that surround you. There is a place for you! If you feel that you would like to serve **on** the Leadership Team, serve **the** Leadership Team, or **serve the parents** of the teens in the youth group, this could be a ministry for you.

Please contact me personally with any questions or suggestions on how we can better serve you, your children, and the community.

...2009 will be even better!

**Meetings:** All 7-12<sup>th</sup> graders meet Thursday from 7-9 pm, with Small Groups on Sunday from 6-8 pm.

**Tim Lee**

**Email:** [timoteoleeak@gmail.com](mailto:timoteoleeak@gmail.com)

## Volunteers Needed

**Greeters:** Volunteers are needed to be Greeters at each entrance of the church for both services. The additional Greeters are needed to fill in when others are ill, or on vacation. If you are interested in being a Greeter, contact Wayne Starr at 337-2137. It doesn't require any training to pass out bulletins to folks as they come into our church and to welcome them with a smile. It is a great way to meet people and get to know them better.

**Youth Leaders' Retreat:** Cooks need for the first weekend in March. Contact Tim Lee for details.

### Sunday School Assistants and Substitute Teachers

Kathy Tuttle would really appreciate having two assistants in her class. She has lots of kids and needs some extra help with potty breaks, craft time, and snacks. She also needs a couple of substitute teachers to fill in for the regular teachers if they get sick or go on vacation. Please contact her at church to sign up and help!

**Vacation Bible School Volunteers:** Contact Phil Lielasus.

## Missions Committee at Baxter

Current Missions Committee members are Shirley Moe, Mike Miller, Nancy Hummer, Chris Jas, Wayne Starr, and Shari Gilbert.

Recent missions activity includes a visit from Lisa and Amber Stark. After Amber spoke during Sunday services, the Missions Committee met with her and Lisa to hear more details of her new ministry opportunity. Mike and Joan Miller and Chris Jas represented BRBC at a dinner put on by Lazy Mountain Bible Church, honoring the Starks for their 25 years of missionary service.

Please be in prayer for all our missionaries. In particular, pray for Elena Lehman. For eight years, she has been battling Lyme disease, a tick borne infection. Her condition is worsening and she will be traveling from Spokane to Seattle to see a new specialist.

If you are interested in joining us please talk to one of the committee members.

## *The BRBC Marlow Manor Ministry*

*This ministry to the elderly residents of Marlow Manor continues every Sunday at 2:00. Members of BRBC are supporting the outreach with music, testimonies, sermons, and prayer. If you would like to join us to minister or just to visit, please just show up anytime or contact Robert Nelson at [ALASKAHGC@hotmail.com](mailto:ALASKAHGC@hotmail.com) or 242-0048*

### Newsletter — Comments / Suggestions / Articles / News / Other

Please let me know if you have ideas for the newsletter. I am going to need other short articles like the one at the top of this page highlighting your ministry. You write it and I'll edit it to fit. Thanks [judyhargis@gci.net](mailto:judyhargis@gci.net)