



## Pasquale Commissioning

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By Earl Pomeroy

On Sunday, October 3, 2010, First Baptist Church of Lowell held a commissioning service for Dr. Michael and Monica Pasquale, setting them aside under God for missionary service. It was the formal recognition of their calling to ministry. God has used them all around the world and here at home training missionaries and churches to use classes, sharing English as a Second Language, as a tool for serving people and reaching them for Christ.

Dr. Pasquale gave testimony to the significant part First Baptist Church of Lowell has played in their lives, noting the heritage we share in the Great Commission. He noted that English is a powerful tool for reaching people all over the world. He challenged us to be open to God's leading and to thinking outside the box.

Dr. Joe Stowell, President of Cornerstone University sent his greetings, blessings, congratulations, and affirmation via DVD. We watched a video "Reaching the World Through English". The video emphasized that teaching English is about being a friend and reaching out as an act of service.

Following this, Monica shared thoughts from II Corinthians 2:14-17 on being the aroma of Christ. Then she and the Pasquale boys sang the song "Something to Say".

Rev. Burland Margesson read expressively from II Corinthians 5:14-21 on carrying out the ministry of reconciliation.

The choir sang "Send Me" based on Micah 6:8.

Duane Early, from the home office of the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism joined the service through Skype. He spoke briefly from I Thessalonians 1:2,3. He mentioned the Pasquale's work of faith, labor of love, and endurance of hope and that he is excited to continue partnership with them in ministry. He rejoiced that he has experienced first hand their ministry on the field.

Dr. Dick Gascho, of Greater Europe Mission (G.E.M.), presented the commissioning message. He counted it a special privilege to affirm the calling of Dr. Michael and Monica to Christ's service. He had a significant role in the Pasquale family's development as followers of Christ, having led Michael and his parents to the Lord. He read Psalm 96:1-6 and spoke of singing to the Lord and publishing his deeds among the nations. He read from II Corinthians 4:1-8 and emphasized carrying the message in jars of clay so that the glory goes to God.

Dr. Gascho noted that when one receives a commission, he derives his authority from a Sovereign Power. The commission received by the Pasquales is one from God and from the Church. We, as God's people, say YES, you are called by God and by the Church!

He told Dr. Michael and Monica that they will be joining hands with amazing people – people who are adventurers and risk takers. He noted that people of faith bleed hope and always live over their heads. They live in the realm of mystery, never knowing how they will do what they are called to do. There are two mysteries here.

1. The mysterious wonderful relationship

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Prime Time Corner

Here's a new regular feature for the Community FBC Newsletter – the **Prime Time Corner**.

On Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, the Prime Timers of FBC had a fabulous time of fun, fellowship, and food. They took a hay ride around the trails behind the church on a tractor drawn wagon with Herb Whorley at the helm.



There was singing, led by Jim Moore and his guitar. There was story telling and laughter. Gayle Blanchard grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and chicken, made salad, baked beans, potato soup, and an apple oatmeal bake. Anyone 60+ years old who wasn't there missed a great time. Plans are already being hatched for next year's hay ride at the Whorley ranch.

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## **\*\*Community Day\*\***

We've been hearing about *Community Day* for a couple months now. We've heard it in announcements, in the bulletin, in bulletin inserts, in a special family talk by Pastor Phil, in our ABFs, and by word of mouth. Did you catch the excitement? Or were you sleeping?

*Community Day* is about:

1. Making visitors feel welcome and providing an atmosphere where they can get to know people on a deeper level.
2. Providing *scheduled time to be purposeful* with community.
3. Providing opportunities to invite friends to church followed by dinner. If they will not come to church, it's a setting for just inviting them to dinner where they can meet some church people.
4. Building deeper relationships among the congregation and encouraging people to get to know others in the church that they don't know too well by having dinner or doing things together..

Well, it actually happened! The first *Community Day* was Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. *Community Day* will happen again the third Sunday of every month. Plan for it.

The grape vine reported some good things happening this first time. Pastor Dave and Gayle had the whole new member class and some other interested people over for the evening. They had a great time. PT and Bev had lunch with a couple and dinner with another. Great! Pastor Phil also cashed in on some great connection making opportunities. Earl and Ilajean went out to lunch with a couple from church and then finally made a neighbor connection they've been trying to make for a long time. The free Sunday evening made that possible in a unique way.

What did you do for Community Day? Did you make plans for it? We are sure that many other things were going on for *Community Day* that we just haven't heard about yet. Tell your friends what you did and what a blessing it was to you. Talk about it in your ABFs. Make it part of our body talk.

What are you planning for

**Community Day on November 21<sup>st</sup>?**

(Continued from page 1)

God offers us – The Good News. We ask, “Who am I?” and find our identity. We ask, “How can I become who I think I ought to be?” and find the Power of God. The Gospel gives us foundation – the simple unchanging Gospel in a shifting world.

2. The mystery of how we can represent God in a desperate world. God made his light shine in our hearts. When we are walking in uncertainty, we need the light of God for stability. We walk into a dark world and bring it light. We become the face of God to people.

Following the commissioning message, Dr. Michael and Monica were committed to God’s service by the laying on of hands by our pastors and deacons.

After the service the congregation, the Pasquale family, and their guests rejoiced with a carry-in dinner in the fellowship hall.

## Pot Luck ?

By Earl Pomeroy

“Good luck at the doctor”, we say. “I was lucky I didn’t get killed”, she says. “I had bad luck on my test”, he claims. Really?

Rex Rogers, in a recent article in the Christian News, noted that luck is a defining belief in the everyday lives of millions of people. But is it a defining belief of yours? Do Christians have luck? Are our lives governed by chance?

Consider some of the names of God in the scripture.

*Elohim* – the creator God. The one who made you as you are, in every detail.

*El Elyon* – The Most High God. The sovereign ruler of the universe through whose hand everything must pass to reach you.

*El Roi* – the God who sees. The omnipresent God who is there and sees your circumstances.

*El Shaddai* – God almighty. The all sufficient one.

*Adonai* – Your Lord and Master.

*Jehovah* – The self-existent, covenant keeping God.

*Jehovah-jireh* – The Lord will provide.

*Jehovah-rapha* – The God who heals.

*Jehovah-nissi* – The Lord our banner. The one who gives victory.

If that is who our God is, the word “luck” should disappear from our speech patterns, as Christians.

## Fall Family Fun

Here are a few ideas of things to do with family and friends to welcome in the new season:

- Rake all the fallen leaves into a massive pile and jump in them... maybe even start a leaf war!
- Visit your local orchard and pick some delicious Michigan grown apples. Don't forget to take the wagon tour and sample fresh cider and doughnuts.
- Wander through a corn maze- Michigan has some wonderful ones to offer.
- Make autumnal place mats for the dining table: Collect beautiful fallen leaves of all colors, shapes, and sizes. Arrange them in attractive but varying patterns and press them between two sheets of clear wax paper. Steam them closed with a warm (not hot) iron and trim them with colorful autumn patterned fabric.
- Invite friends and family over for a bonfire- nothing welcomes the fall season better than enjoying the warm flicker and snap of a fire in the crisp autumn air with great company
- Go to a football game!

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**November 11 is the next date to remember for Prime Time.** This will be a chance to strut your stuff as *a Pilgrim or an Indian*. It will be a Pilgrims and Indians Thanksgiving Feast with everyone dressing accordingly. You can look in the Grand Rapids telephone book for places to get costumes, and Kathy Casler has Pilgrim hats she will loan out. Prior to the Thanksgiving feast cooked up by Gayle Blanchard, the group will be packing Operation Christmas Child boxes.

It will be a great time. Don't miss it!

Please remember that the Prime Time luncheons are free-will-donation events. There are baskets on the tables for contributions.

Thanks from the Prime Time Crew.

# Summer Children's Ministry Report 2010

## Q & A News from your Maturity Team at Work.

Q Attendance each Sunday

A We generally had about 18 to 20 children each Sunday. For the bigger trips, zoo, fishing, West's cottage, we were over 30. I think the biggest was 34 for the zoo.

Q Did we have visitors or just our regular church kids?

A Most of the children were church kids; either children of members, or kids that regularly attend. There were times we had member grandchildren.

Q Ratio of helpers to kids attending

A We generally had one helper per four kids. If we had a lot of help that day, I would put two helpers with a larger group of kids. There were usually at least three people who were not responsible for a group. Those people could help set up snacks, round kids up for the lesson, etc.

Q Overall, how did you think the summer went

A I think the summer went well. I kind of liked not "going" somewhere each Sunday. It was nice to have the whole time for activities and not have the travel time to account for.

Q Do you think it would be a good thing to do again next summer

A I enjoy the summer ministry, so I definitely think it's a good idea and would support doing it again next year.

Q What would you change

A For the Sundays we stay at church, I would add more crafts. We did a few, but mostly just puzzle pages, or simple crafts. It might be fun to have a craft project we worked on all summer that went along with the theme.

Instead of having snack donations, I might just buy snacks for each week to simplify coordination. I don't know what the final budget figure was, but since we only went three places (I think) that charged, we were probably under budget.

I'd also like to get the teens of the church more in-

involved if possible. We had Andy Johnson as a teacher this year and that went well. There is a balance between them going for their own purpose and going to actually be there and helpful with the kids.

Q What would you leave the same

A I would definitely leave most of the same trips. Branch Adventures was a fun new place we went this year. Fishing and the zoo are always popular, so I wouldn't change those trips.

Q Anything else you feel would be helpful to the Maturity Team in making decisions for next year

A Overall, I think it is an important ministry for the church. Besides the fact school year teachers need a break, it's good for the kids to have a break and do something a little different. They are still hearing the Word, but maybe in a little different format.

Submitted by Cheryl Runstrom

## last days notices

### Missionary Christmas

**Today**, Sunday, October 31, is the last day to participate in the *Missionary Christmas* project. Our goal is to encourage our missionaries with a Christmas gift of \$100 per family, \$75 per couple, and \$50 per single. The total goal is \$1,350. If you haven't picked up a box from under the Christmas tree on the credenza in the foyer, be sure to get one **today**.

Put in a contribution, and get it turned in **TODAY**.

### Reclaim the Night Trunk 'N Treat

**Today**, Sunday, October 31, is Trunk 'N Treat evening at FBC. If you haven't yet made your plans to have your car trunk full of goodies and parked outside this evening, you still have time to get ready. Reach out together with Christ's love and light to our community. It all happens **tonight** 5:30 to 7:30. Don't miss the fun.

## Christmas Banquet

Get a marker and put a big bold red square around December 3<sup>rd</sup> on your calendar and write in “Christmas Banquet”. OK, so your calendar is electronic—then forget the marker. If you have never come to a Christmas Banquet at FBC, make this the first one.

There will be a great meal catered by chef Ben Gerard. The festive tables will once again feature all the beautifully varied Christmas tableware brought in by our FBC ladies. A special thanks goes to all the ladies who have already excitedly agreed to bring their Christmas dishes. It’s always exquisite.

The evening will feature magnificent vocal and instrumental music. There will be group singing. **Don’t miss the fantastic special surprise entertainment.** If you don’t come, you will kick yourself when you hear about it later.

***Tickets will go on sale the first Sunday of November.*** (Ooh! That’s next Sunday.) The cost is \$15 per person. Child care will be provided for \$5.00 (including meal) per child for the evening. That’s a bargain for a great evening out! Come celebrate Jesus with the FBC Community.

## Five Finger Prayer

Submitted by Dawn Milley

1. *Your thumb* is nearest you. So begin prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a “sweet duty.”
2. The *next finger* is the pointing finger! Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The *next finger* is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God’s guidance.
4. The *fourth finger* is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly comes your *little finger*, the smallest of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, “The least shall be the greatest among you.” Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

### Too Much T.V.?

Television can be a source of learning and entertainment. But studies have shown that too much TV can make kids more likely to be obese – and, depending on the content, more aggressive. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) suggests that older kids not watch more than 1-2 hours of TV or video per day. Kids under 2 should not watch any television. They also recommend that the shows children watch be nonviolent and educational.

\*\*\*\*\* Remember to Vote\*\*\*\*\*

Tuesday, November 3

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## FBC Mission Statement

*We endeavor to...*

### ***Magnify***

*The Lord, by bringing people to Jesus Christ and*

### ***Membership***

*In His Family, seeking to develop them to Christ-like*

### ***Maturity,***

*Equipping them for their*

### ***Ministry***

*In the Church.... And their life*

### ***Mission***

*In the world.*

## November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Name	Happy Birthday to..	Happy Anniversary to..
Wendy Pham	11/01	
James VanderMeulen	11/02	
Richard Onan	11/03	
Alexander Pasquale (M.K.)	11/03	
Sheila Lemmen	11/04	
JoAnne Schreur	11/04	
Bev Taylor	11/05	
Richard & Mary Intrain		11/06
Matt Reed	11/06	
John Sinning	11/06	
Terry Tarchala	11/06	
Pat Kaufman	11/07	
Roger & Carrie Thomas		11/07
Bobby Hile (Missionary)	11/10	
Roger & Karen Onan		11/11
Willow Cramer	11/12	
Grace Green	11/12	
Dave Deans	11/13	
Brian Gerard	11/13	
Lori Gregory	11/15	
Kile Mitchell	11/16	
Geri Conner	11/17	
Carrie Thomas	11/17	
Cheryl Haines	11/18	
Rev. Eric Hossack (Missionary)	11/18	
Jean Fote (Missionary)	11/19	
Monica Pasquale (Missionary)	11/19	
John & Dee Gabrion		11/21
Bill Johnson, II	11/21	
Roger Onan	11/22	
Lisa Crain	11/23	
Dale Reed	11/23	
Ben Taylor	11/23	
Dick Beach	11/25	
Don & Sheila McQueen		11/25
Matt Rosenberger	11/26	
Gabriele Thomas	11/26	
Jerry & Teresa Buckingham		11/27
Jim & Kathy Moore		11/27
Steve Nauta	11/28	
Matthew & Liane Sobie		11/28

***I have set the Lord always before me.  
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.  
Psalm 16:8***