

About Faith Bible Church...

Faith Bible Church began in 1960 when the Sauk Trail Sunday School decided to merge with a local Bible study that was meeting in the Chicago Heights home of Mrs. Mae Lee. This class was taught by her son, Pastor Douglas Lee, a recent graduate of the old Milwaukee Bible Institute. Bernie and Lenava Mack, Lola Talamonti, Stella Eighnor, and Elektra Harrison were among the founding members. Some of these folks originally attended Grace Bible Church in Riverdale, but wished to start a grace church in this area.

The church flourished under the ministry of Pastor Lee, a gifted Bible teacher, and the tiny building was expanded soon after, with many of the members pledging the needed funds and doing much of the construction work themselves.

Pastor Lee was also the scoutmaster for his sons' Boy Scout troop, and occasionally needed to be absent from his pulpit to conduct weekend campouts. A few such times he called on Ricky Kurth, then a student pastor at Grace Bible Church in Riverdale, to fill in for him. Faith Bible Church called Pastor Kurth to the pastorate on Feb. 4, 1979.

In 1981, Pastor Kurth met Barbara Potter here at Faith Bible Church, and they were married in June of 1984. Pastor Kurth and Barb now live a block from the church with their daughter Melanie (15) and son Jesse (9).

FBC ministries over the years have included Sunday School and Morning Worship services, Sunday Evening Services, a Thursday evening series, a radio broadcast, Friday night youth nights, and now a Wednesday night mid-week Bible study, a cable television program, and an internet website. We have financially supported Berean Bible Society and foreign missions, and for years paid half for our children to attend Northern Grace Youth Camp. Tapes of our Bible study messages can be purchased, as well as a good supply of sound Bible study literature.

Some of our people helped establish Shorewood Bible Church South. One of our men now pastors Falls Bible Church in Menominee Falls, WI, and several of our young people are attending Berean Bible Institute.

Activities over the years have included: skating, skiing, rafting, bowling, hayrides, Six Flags Great America trips, Sox games, picnics, spaghetti luncheons, and annual Spring cleaning days. Projects over the years have included expanding the parking lot several times, an addition to the building in 1993, a new roof, new carpeting and seating, a new piano, etc. We have survived burglaries and vandalism, frozen pipes, floods, blizzards, and deep freezes.

But, our time and effort has been primarily focused on the teaching of God's Word. The page numbers in our pew Bibles are keyed to the pastor's Bible so that even visitors can follow the teaching of the Scriptures. We have taught through all of Paul's epistles verse-by-verse (many of them two or three times!) as well as Genesis, Joshua, Esther, Daniel, Jonah, Malachi, Matthew, Mark, Acts twice, Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, and Revelation three times. Many topical messages and themes have also been addressed.

Only a handful of churches in the entire Chicagoland area teach God's Word rightly divided as we do (2 Tim. 2:15). This unique approach to Scripture differentiates between God's earthly program for Israel and His heavenly program for the Body of Christ found in Paul's epistles. This approach helps clear up apparent countless contradictions in Scripture, and makes the Bible an understandable book.

Finally, we teach salvation by grace through faith as the gift of God (Eph. 2:8, 9; Rom. 6:23). If you are not saved, you can be! The Bible teaches that none of us is good enough to go to heaven (Rom. 3:10-12), that all of us are bad and need a Savior. Thankfully, God has provided us one in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. The gospel we preach is "Christ died for our sins" (1 Cor. 15:3, 4). Acts 16:31 says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." It doesn't say, "Believe and be good." It doesn't even say, "Believe and be religious." It says believe and be saved.

*****Why not trust Christ as your Savior and be saved right now!*****