

First Baptist marks 175 years

The First Baptist Church of Farmington will celebrate its 175th anniversary on Sunday, Feb. 11.

In 1826, 11 individuals met to "fellowship us a church in gospel order," according to records. It seemed more practical to start a church in Farmington than to travel the 16 miles by ox cart to the Baptist church in Pontiac.

Meetings were held later that year. The church moved to its present location at the corner of Shawwassee and Farmington roads in 1860, constructing a wood frame building. An educational wing was added in 1929 and a new auditorium was built in 1959.

The Rev. Fred Froman has served as pastor since 1988. He is assisted by the Rev. Scott Mikel, a native of Farmington Hills.

Average weekly attendance is 140 members. There is 9:45 a.m. Bible study on Sundays, followed by worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Ministries abound

In house ministries include Awana, a boys and girls club with Bible memorization and games for children in kindergarten through sixth grade, and Word of Life, a teen group for seventh- through 12th- graders. Both groups meet on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. There is also a Bible study group for adults that meets on Wednesday evenings.

SPREADING THE WORD

Each summer, the church has a summer vacation Bible school.

The church's mission statement is "First Baptist Church exists to honor God by making and maturing disciples for Jesus Christ."

First Baptist supports five missionaries around the world, including one missionary family in Thailand who are members of the church. With other local churches, it is also involved in supporting a Bible Institute in Russia.

Officials have been invited to a testimonial service beginning at 9:45 a.m. in the church auditorium on Feb. 11. Dr. Doug McLachlan, senior pastor of Fourth Baptist Church in Plymouth, Minn., will be keynote speaker at the morning worship service at 11 a.m. A church dinner marking the 175th anniversary, with the showing of a video about the history of the church, is slated for Saturday, Feb. 10.

For more information on First Baptist Church, call 474-0350.



Historic church: First Baptist Church of Farmington is celebrating its 175th anniversary next month. The congregation was established in 1826.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRADLEY

BELIEFS Values

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNATIONAL

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of your children as well as the school they attend? Moms In Touch International is an interdenominational, non-profit organization where two or more moms meet together for one hour each week to pray for their children and their schools. If you would like to know more about this life-changing organization, come to the Moms In Touch Informational on Thursday, Jan. 18, from 7 to 9 p.m., at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23816 Power Road, Farmington, in the Church Hall North. For more information, call Mary at 473-0499 or Kathie at 737-0062. If you are not praying for your children, who is?

ADAT SHALOM

Adat Shalom Synagogue is at 29901 Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills. Phone 551-5100. Clergy includes Daniel Novins, rabbi; Herbert Yoskowitz, rabbi; Jay Strear, rabbi; Efray Spectre, rabbi emeritus; Howard Glantz, cantor; and Larry Vieder, cantor emeritus.

Services: Friday at 5:15 p.m., Saturday at 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Weekdays at 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., and Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah of Elysa Gualita, daughter of Marilyn Novice and Benjamin Gualita.

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST

Nardin Park United Methodist Church is on W. 11 Mile Road, just west of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Child care and nursery are provided. For more information, call 476-8860.

NOVI UNITED METHODIST

A women's health seminar sponsored by Providence Hospital and Medical Centers will be held on Sunday, Jan. 28 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile, just west of Middlebelt.

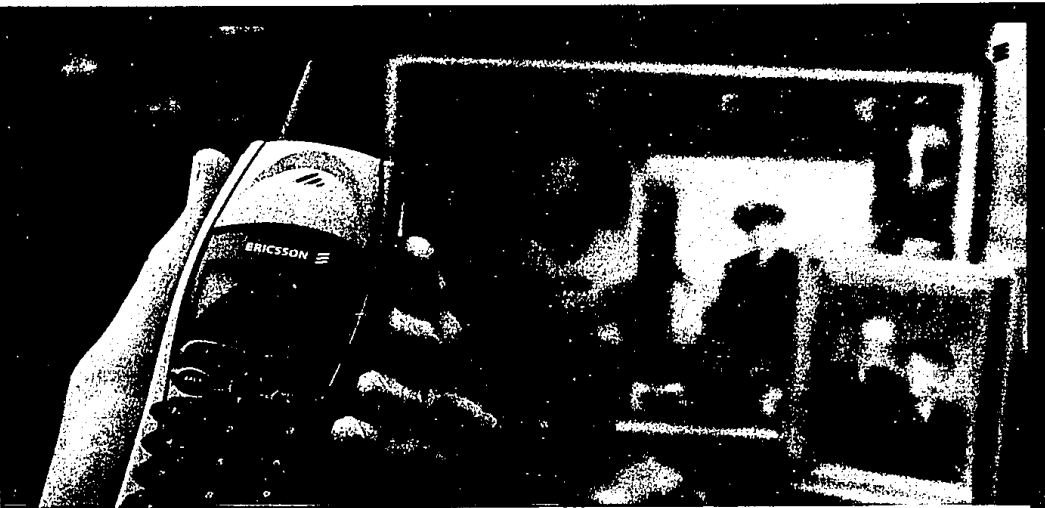
It will include information on osteoporosis, perimenopause, menopause, women and heart disease, breast cancer prevention and detection. There is no charge. Call 349-2862 for more information.

FARMINGTON LIGHTHOUSE

Welcome Aglow's southeast area president Phyllis Bargo on Monday, Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Best Western Hotel, 31625 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, corner of Orchard Lake. Dinner will be served promptly at 7 p.m. Dinner reservations (\$10.50) are necessary; or just come to the free meeting. Aglow International's mission statement is: To lead women to Jesus Christ and to provide opportunity for Christian women to grow in their faith and minister to others. Call Linda Boone at 476-1053 for more information.

WILLIAM TYNDALE COLLEGE

Tyndale College will sponsor two *SonLife* seminars: a strategy seminar for youth pastors and a foundations seminar for adult students; leaders to learn how to facilitate a ministry's vision and philosophy. Feb. 10 from 9 to 5 p.m. campus, 35700 W. 12 Mile, west of Drake. Registration is necessary. Call Jenni Knowles at 553-7200, ext. 529.



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