



Faith news

fbc

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALEDO | FEBRUARY 2017

Counting the Cost

“Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?” Luke 14:27-28

At 6pm, on Sunday, January 22nd the Building Committee of First Baptist Church presented one and a half years of hard work, prayerful discernment and professionally developed building plans to a full sanctuary. The first half hour of the meeting was reserved for the annual report. The next hour and a half was spent laying out, in detail, the findings of the Building Committee. Steve Struble began by sharing the original intent of the building committee, which was to discover, objectively, what the needs of the church are, and the possible solutions to meeting those needs. I spent a few minutes talking about the history of First Baptist and our heritage of taking leaps of faith to move locations, and add building space as our church as continued to grow over the years. I also projected our growth potential for the future. From 2007 till now we've grown by 80%. We've grown by an average of 7.25% per year. We've grown from a congregation of 190 to over 350. If we continue to reach our county for Christ like we have for the last decade we could see over 600 people at First Baptist in the next ten years. I spelled out the space restrictions we are already facing for the adults and teenagers in virtually every aspect of our current building. Mollie then continued to outline the space restrictions and overwhelming need for the children's ministry. Kevin Ricke then unveiled the building proposal that was unanimously approved by the Building Committee, which is primarily a new sanctuary with a 500 seat capacity, with additional classroom space, and

an expansive remodel of the current spaces, which provides dedicated space for children, youth, adults, and offices. There was a good-natured discussion, with a lot of questions asked and answered. By God's grace we voted unanimously to proceed. The proposal that we voted for was to secure professional consultation to begin a capital campaign. The question is not, "should we build?", but rather, "can we afford to build?". My sense, from the meeting, and all the discussions I've had since the meeting, is that our church believes God will provide the 3.5 million dollars it will take to accomplish this grand vision. We simply need to trust Him and be faithful to do what He is calling us to do. What God is calling us to do is to proclaim His Word to our community, and grow disciples. The church building enables us to do this to the utmost of our ability and to the glory of Christ. So, for the month of February, as we research and discern who God might bring to our church to help us count the cost financially, we are planning on a prayer meeting on Sunday the 19th at 7pm. We invite the whole church to join together to pray for God's Spirit to be poured out in power, giving us wisdom and strength, revealing His plan, and releasing His resources for the future of our church. I invite each Sunday school class to spend some time at the start of their class praying together for the building project, and for everyone to join together Sunday February 19th at 7pm, and also to be in unceasing prayer for all that God has in mind as we trust Him together. In Christ, Pastor Luke

Church Events

- Jan 31-Feb 6—El Salv Mission Trip
- Feb 4 – No Women's Think Tank & No Men's Ministry Council
- Feb 5—Communion Sunday
High School Collide Super Bowl Party-5pm @ Whitenacks
- Feb 11- Women's Min Think Tank-9am
- Feb 12—Safe Families Sunday
Trustee Meeting-11:30am
Movie Matinee at the Aledo Opera House—3pm
- Feb. 14-Happy Valentine's Day
God Loves you!
- Feb 13-Deacon Meeting-6pm
- Feb 17– Ladies Meet & Mingle-6:30pm
at Heather Qurioz' home
- Feb 19-Prayerforce Game Night-4pm
Prayer Meeting-7pm @ FBC
- Feb 20 – Tour of Women's Choice Ctr

Collide Youth Ministry

There's this student who has really come alive recently. A couple of months ago he came to youth group, mostly to be with friends and, from what I understood, to see a certain girl. I could tell he seemed distant, guarded, angry and hurting. He just kind of sat in the back and didn't talk to anyone. One of our small group leaders reached out to him and shared his phone number with the student. Later that night the student reached out and shared his struggles- how far he was from God and how he probably didn't even really belong at a place like Collide, because of the things he was doing in his life. This small group leader shared the love and hope of Christ with this student and of how we would be there to support him as a youth ministry. I followed up with the student as well to encourage him and let him know we very much valued him

being with us and would accept him for where he was in life.

After that day, something softened about him. He could tell we meant it when we said we were there for him and that we genuinely cared about him as a person. I love those moments when I see a student's demeanor change. It brings me such joy to see them soften their hearts and start to let us in. Since this small group leader shared Christ's love with this student, he has been to youth group every week and he's no longer coming just for the girls. I can tell; he's coming to get to know Jesus. I can see a true difference in him, it's like he trusts us and feels safe with us. He's so talkative. I had no idea how talkative and light-hearted he was until recently.

Pray this student would continue to pursue Jesus. If he hasn't already, pray he would embrace

Christ as Lord and Savior. Ask God to continue to chip away at the hardness of his heart. Ask God to bring healing in this young man's life. Pray God would grow our youth ministry in love for one another and for our students. There are so many students who desperately need to be loved. Ask God to help us create an atmosphere of love for students, in Jesus name.

Family Mission Trip DEADLINE is Feb. 12th. Also, ALL NIGHT OUT is March the 3rd and forms are currently out for that event and spots are filling up fast. Summer conference registration also opens up February 13th and the CollidePrayerForce Game night is Feb. 19th from 4-5:30pm at First Baptist Church.

In Christ, Heather Q.

Upcoming Collide Happenings

Collide is now happening! 6th-8th grade meet at FBC on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm, High School meets on Sundays from 6-7:30pm at the Whitenack home – 803 SW 2nd Ave., Aledo.

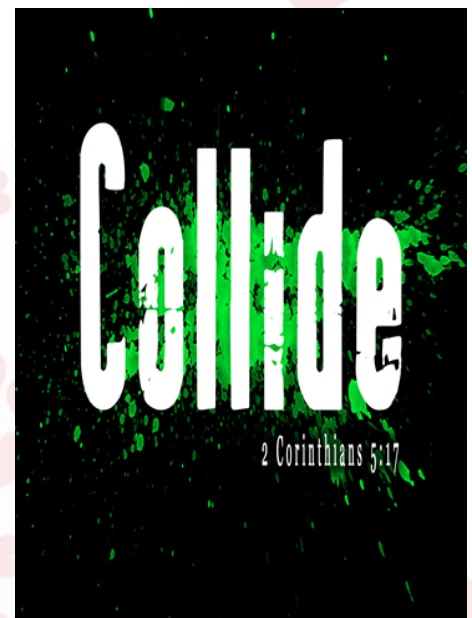
HS Super Bowl Party- Sunday, Feb. 5th at 5pm at the Whitenack house – 803 SW2nd Ave. Aledo (bring a side dish to share, nachos and drinks will be provided).

Prayerforce Boardgame night- Sunday, Feb. 19th 4-5:30pm in Fellowship Hall of First Baptist. All prayerforce members and students join us for games and snacks!

Collide "All Night Out" Event - Friday, March 3rd-6pm-Saturday, March 4th at 6am. Comedy Sportz, Pizza, Frosty at Wendy's, Movie at Aledo Opera House, Recreation time at the YMCA. Cost \$20. Maximum 45 students! Sign up today!

2017 Family Mission Trip- July 23-26th, 2017. For the whole family! Information packets can be found on the bulletin board near Heather's office. Deadline to sign up is Feb. 12th.

CIY Summer Conferences JH– July 30th- August 2nd in Holland, MI and HS July 10-15th in Wheaton, IL info packets will be out soon.



Volunteer & Giving Information

Date	Nursery	Kids Club
2/5/17	Betty Williams, Dianne Hessman, Jan Crutcher & Katie Loving	Brooke & Joe Loving & Joyce Thomas—*Mollie is gone
2/12/17	Betty Williams, Ronda & Veronica Moffitt & Crystal Clark	Kelly Higgins, Denise Kelly & Brian Rind
2/19/17	Betty Williams, Patsy Castor, Lisa Clawson & Maddie Dunn	Nadine Coulter, Alison Lafever & Jason Connell
2/26/17	Betty Williams, Sharon Moffitt, Susan Potthast & Bryce Moffitt	Melissa Struble, Haley Johnson & Jenny Dixon

If you are unable to serve the day you are scheduled in the Nursery, please make arrangements in advance to switch with another person on the schedule. Please contact **Ronda Moffitt, Nursery Coordinator**, for all concerns on her Cell:(309) 371-3021. Thank you! **Kids Club Worship**—PLEASE come to the Fellowship Hall by **10:00am** so you can help & prep. *Please continue to let me know if you are switching with somebody. I have it set up so there are two adults plus myself helping at a time. Please do not switch with a couple if you are an individual. Thank you so much for your service! ~Mollie. If you need to contact Mollie about Kids Club Worship, call –309-371-6962.

Finance Board Member of the Month for February – Diane Nelson
Trustee of the Month for February: - Shay Litwiler
Prayer Team Assignments:

February 5– Kay Hedrick, MaryLee Finch, Peggy Johnson & Ron Moffitt
 February 12– Jeanne Barber, Barb Bryant & Kurt Diesch
 February 19 – Deb & Dave VanderHeyden, Troy Riddell, & Laurie Louck
 February 26 – Tina McCaw, Jason & Shelly Snyder, & Vickie Korn

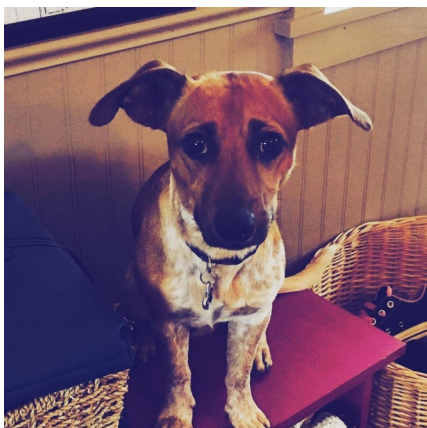
Weekly Attendance & Offering

DATE	1/1/17	1/8/17	1/15/17	1/22/17
8 AM	66	89	78	94
10 AM	227	261	268	252
TOTAL	293	350	346	346

Date	1/1/17	1/8/17	1/15/17	1/22/17
Current Expense	\$11,876.55	\$9,807.49	\$7,345.20	\$9,915.56
Designated Giving	\$945.85	\$490.66	\$487.00	\$687.02
Total	\$12,822.40	\$10,298.15	\$7,832.20	\$10,602.58

****Weekly Current Expense offering needed to meet 2017 budget - \$9,557.25**

Kids Club Ministry ~ February News



At the end of October our family welcomed a new addition in the form of a hyper, fun-loving dog named Tyke. While it's been a little bit of an adjustment for both him and us, he's added an extra dose of joy to our home. The thing about Tyke is because he can't talk to us (though I wish he could at times) he automatically puts himself into a position to receive

blessings throughout the day. An example of this, is when I start preparing food at the kitchen counter, he puts himself right under me so that he can catch whatever happens to fall from the counter. He does this faster than fast and just waits there patiently for an accidental morsel of food. While this isn't always ideal as I work around him under my feet, it reminds me of how we should be with God when we want to be blessed. Psalm 128:1 says, ***"Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in obedience to him."*** When Tyke wants food, to play, or to cuddle, he goes right to the source and waits patiently for an answer.

What does this mean for us humans when we want to be blessed by God? We need to put ourselves into position for his blessing and not waste any time doing it! We need to seek God out in prayer, trust that He know best, and obey him without making excuses. If we truly believe that God knows best, we should obey his prompting and leading in our lives.

As we begin the New Year, take time to ask God what areas you need to give to him and expect many blessings to pour out on you in the months to come. Thanks for reading! ~Mollie

Coming Up...

Kids Club Sunday School Party: On Sunday, Feb. 12th the Pre-k-6th grade Sunday School classes will be celebrating Valentine's Day in their classes. No need to bring anything, just show up!

Kids Club Valentine's Party: On Wednesday, Feb. 15th kids will be celebrating Valentine's Day with a fun party at Kids Club. No need to bring anything! Just show up. Friends are welcome to join us!

Easter Event Save-the-Date: Kids ages 3-5th grade are invited to our annual Easter Event on Good Friday (April 14th). More details TBA at a later date!

VBS Save-the-Date: Maker Fun Factory VBS will be the week of **June 19th-23rd from 9am-Noon** at FBC for kids ages 3-5th grade graduates. The VBS program will be Sunday, June 25th during the 10:15am service and the VBS Swim Party will be later that day from 6-8pm at the Aledo Public Pool.



Kids Club
Valentine's Party!

DATE: Wednesday, Feb. 15th
TIME: 6:30-8pm
PLACE: FBC during Wed Night Live!

Friends are welcome to join us!

Women's Ministry Announcements



Women's Ministry Think Tank—All women are invited to the February Women's Ministry Think Tank meeting. The meeting, which is normally the 1st Saturday of the month, has been moved to Saturday, Feb. 11th at 9am in the Enon Room.

Hearts At Home Conference



Who's been to Hearts at Home in the past? Did you not love it??

Well, it's that time of year again! This refreshing conference is for ALL women in ALL seasons of life. The conference is in Peoria, IL on April 21st and 22nd. The church is graciously covering \$55 per lady towards registration. Registration forms are on women's ministry table in the foyer. There is a one day or a two day option. Please see registration packet for details.



Registration packets and fees are due by March 19th. If you have questions, see or contact:

Felicia Bonyng(937)620-2574
Brooke Loving (309) 738-2319 or
Crystal Clark (309)339-5586

Ladies Meet & Mingle! Friday, Feb. 17th 6:30PM At Heather Quiroz' Home

Ladies Meet & Mingle—All ladies are invited to come! Friday, Feb. 17th at 6:30pm at Heather Quiroz' home—408 W. Main St., Aledo. Heather and her mom, Dawn Douglas, are the hostesses for this Meet & Mingle.—The Meet & Mingle theme is “Love.” We are asking everyone to bring the snack they LOVE the most to share. We'll play some games that Heather and Dawn LOVE to play and we'll enjoy a time of fellowship as sister in Christ who LOVE one another.

Happy Birthday!

Troy Riddell	February 1
Lee Bell	February 2
Bradley Williams	February 7
Brian Dennison	February 8
David Cooper	February 9
Austin Reid	
Rosemary Reid	
Jeanna Potthast Swafford	February 11
Adam Reid	February 13
James Schultz	February 14
Kevin Ricke	
Marcia Kelly	
Aiden Monson	February 15
Alison Lafever	February 16
Carolyn McGuire	
Brian Rind	February 19
Dylan Sproston	
Erin Huffstutler	February 21
Pam Spangler	February 25
Jonathon Svoboda	
Natalie Finch	
Noah Louck	February 27
Bill Tracy	



Dear Church Family & Friends,
Bill passed away suddenly and unexpectedly while on vacation on January 11th. We would like to say thank you to the church family and friends for your support with prayers, memorial donations, cards, food and phone calls.

Thank you to Pastor Luke for your part in the funeral and all your past hospital visits. Thank you to the hospitality committee ladies for serving the lunch. All of your prayers bring us comfort. God Bless you.

Arlene, Daryl, Mary and Patsy Bewley & families

Wanted to thank you for your generous donation to One Eighty. There is no question that we would not be able to do all the things we do in the community without the help of people like yourself. Thank you for making 2016 a wonderful success for us and we look forward to an even better 2017! Also, I very much enjoyed the service Sunday morning.

~Rusty Boruff

I want to thank you for the Christmas plate, it was big and I enjoyed it. Also to Seth and kids for coming out. Pastor Luke for his monthly prayers.

Thank you.
Marge Goding

The churches of Mercer County Food Pantry would like to thank your church and congregation for all of your support in 2016, money, food items and volunteers at the food pantry. It was all very much appreciated. May God bless you all!

Dear Joy Circle:

We just wanted to say thank you from our hearts for your gift. We never expected that, we feel so blessed to have even been in your thoughts and to know we have prayer support during our rough times. So this gift was such a blessing! Our microwave went out literally the weekend we got the money, so the Lord provides. We truly appreciate your love and prayers and knowing I can reach out to good friends when I need prayers and guidance. Thank you again.

Sincerely, Brook & John Welch

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Are you looking for a place to get plugged in here at First Baptist? The choir wants to grow and we

would love to have you join us! We sing the 2nd Sunday of the month and practice on Tuesday nights at 6:45 pm. I have a cd with all the songs for 2017 you can listen to in the event you can't make practices. If you have any questions, please call me at 559-647-7626 ~ Robyn Bottens - Choir Director



Online Giving Is Now Available!

Use the QR Code above for easy access or go to www.firstbaptistaledo.com

Volunteer Opportunity Mercer County Food Pantry 1200 S. College Ave. Aledo



Volunteer Sign up
Tuesdays
5:30-7:30pm &
Fridays
8am-Noon

First Baptist has the opportunity to volunteer at the food pantry on June 6th & June 9th and October 17th & October 20th. Please sign up if you are able to help. See bulletin board by the church office for sign up sheet or call the church office at 309-582-7812 to sign up.

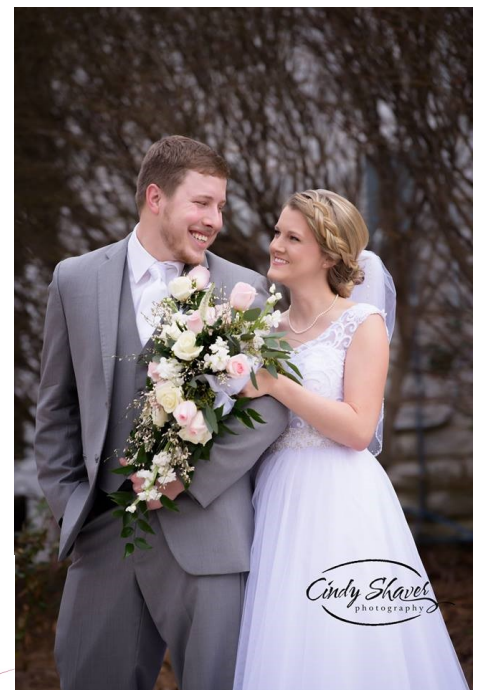
Join Us for Prayer Meeting!

Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, Feb. 19th at 7pm in the sanctuary at First Baptist. Come join us as we pray about the new building project.

You're Invited!

In celebration of Jon & Lindsay Ricke's marriage we cordially invite our church family to an open house for the couple.

Date: Saturday, February 11th
Time: 2:00-4:00pm
Place: First Baptist Church Aledo
New Addition



Preliminary Building Proposal Plan

If you would like to see a larger version of the drawings, you can find them in the lobby at the church.



Birds eye view of the completed church project.



A note from Pastor Seth

Out of the Mouth of Babes Mark 10:13-16

After our church business meeting, my children were questioning my wife as to what was happening upstairs. My wife began to explain to my children that we were discussing a new church option. We talked about money needed to buy a bigger building that could hold more people. We talked about how other kids could come and hear about Jesus and other adults could fit into the sanctuary to hear about Jesus. Without skipping a beat my kids were all in to help. Natalie said she could go pick up sticks in the yard for money and give it to the new church. She said that she could start walking dogs for money and then give to the new church. Jadon said we could have his money jar in his room for the new church. This was a wonderful blessing to my heart to hear them but it was also followed by a conviction or slight jealousy. They only heard the results of what we wanted to do as a church they did not hear a price tag. They simply were ready to do what their little hands could do, just to make this happen. I desire such a vision found in these little hearts. A simple vision of stepping in to what we can do.

Lord, I pray that we could be that Church. Help us to be all in on what is in front of us and what we can do. Help us to catch this vision and simply to do what we can as our part. Thank you that it's not about our pocket book but it's about our heart attitude to jump in and play a role. Help us to see and hear the echo through eternity as souls are changed and moved into your kingdom. In Jesus Name, Amen. ~ Seth



New sanctuary. The stain glass window will face east.



The view of the overhang which provides for covered drop off and pick up.

First Baptist Church Aledo, Illinois, Contacts

Feb 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
		El Salvador Mission Trip	7:30am - HS Prayer-Radical 11am - Vashli Bible Study With 6:30pm - Wed Night Live @	7:45am - Jr. High Prayer @ 10:30am - Prayer at Brookstone 8pm - Guitar Clinic 7pm - Praise Band Practice	9:15am - Home School Co-Op @ 6:30pm - Jail Ministry @ MC Jail	6am - Men's 33 Study 7:30am - NO Men's Ministry 9am - NO Women's Ministry
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
El Salvador Mission Trip Communion 7am - Men's Study Breakfast @ 8am - Traditional Service 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Contemporary Service 5pm - Collide Super Bowl Party	7:40am - Intermediate School 1:15pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Genesis Women's 2:15pm - Women's Bible Study @ 6:45pm - Choir Practice @	7:30am - HS Prayer-Radical 11am - Vashli Bible Study With 6:30pm - Wed Night Live @	7:45am - Jr. High Prayer @ 6pm - Guitar Clinic 7pm - Praise Band Practice	9:15am - Home School Co-Op @ 5pm - Decorate for event @ New	6am - Men's 33 Study 9am - Women's Min Think Tank 2pm - Open House For Jon &	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Deadline to sign up for Family Safe Families Sunday 7am - Men's Study Breakfast @ 8am - Traditional Service 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Contemporary Service 11:30am - Trustees Meeting 3pm - War Room Movie @ Aledo 6pm - High School Collide @	7:40am - Intermediate School 1:15pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Genesis Women's 2:15pm - Women's Bible Study @ 6:45pm - Choir Practice @	7:30am - HS Prayer-Radical 11am - Vashli Bible Study With 6:30pm - Wed Night Live @	7:45am - Jr. High Prayer @ 6pm - Guitar Clinic 7pm - Praise Band Practice	9:15am - Home School Co-Op @ 6:30pm - Jail Ministry @ MC Jail 6:30pm - Ladies Meet & Mingle		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
7am - Men's Study Breakfast @ 8am - Traditional Service 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Contemporary Service 4pm - Prayerforce Game Night @ 6pm - High School Collide @ 7pm - Prayer Meeting @	7:30am - HS Prayer-Radical 6pm - Women's Choice Center	7:40am - Intermediate School 1:15pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Genesis Women's 2:15pm - Women's Bible Study @ 6:45pm - Choir Practice @	7:30am - HS Prayer-Radical 11am - Vashli Bible Study With 6:30pm - New Women's Study 6:30pm - Wed Night Live @	7:45am - Jr. High Prayer @ 6pm - Guitar Clinic 7pm - Praise Band Practice	9:15am - Home School Co-Op @	9am - MC Initiative Servolition 6:30pm - Love Unlimited @ Eron
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
7am - Men's Study Breakfast @ 8am - Traditional Service 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Contemporary Service 6pm - High School Collide @	7:30am - HS Prayer-Radical	7:40am - Intermediate School 1:15pm - Staff Meeting 1:30pm - Genesis Women's 2:15pm - Women's Bible Study @ 6:45pm - Choir Practice @				

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www.firstbaptistaledo.com

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**PRAYER AND CONCERNS—IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PRAYER CHAIN
PLEASE CALL: THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 309-582-7812**

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Herb Bowker, The Buttgen Family, Family of Everett Moreland, El Salvador Mission Trip Team, Family of Larry Sims, Family of Bill Bewley, Helen King, Richard Rockhold, Family of Danny Lloyd, Darlene Mayhew, Family of Pam Retherford, Dianne Hessman, Marilyn Zielke, Stephanie Murphy, Sherry Brown, Bettie Monts, Vickie & Terry Kondora, Nadine Coulter, Janet Rind, Family of Mary Crowell, Darla Ball, Megan Klauer, Landon McIntosh, Sandi Williams, Paige Johnson, Scott Yager, Maddie Wells, Martha Bernridge, Yvonne Roos, Aiyle Edwards, Donna Fisk, Betty Adams, Mary Rillie, Kathleen and Dennis Carlson, Matt Martin, Allen & Mary Jo Retherford, Donna & Brian Bushnell, Tiffanee Lloyd, Cathy Griswold, Howard Andress, AJ Artus, The youth of our church & community, Vickie Korn, Shirley McCormick, Larry Bull, Charlotte Thompson, William Little & family, Marc, Doris, Elizabeth and Alicia Dewey, Brenda Leng, Deb Corson, Karen Burnham, Connie Decounter, Susie Hall, Henry Leichty, Mercer County Jail Ministry, Jim Eager, John Atkinson, Merrick LeClere, Stew Klink, Vickie Anderson, Sutton Finch, Sharon McCormick, Judy Leighty, Jeannene McNall, Marilyn Staley, Gay Youngblood, Marilyn Heine, Bob Sell, Dave Olson, Colette Hawkins, Gerald Mitchell, Lauryn Russell, Chad Peterson, Connie Freeman, Alec Bowen, Jo Kernan, Matt & Lisa Hammill, Carol Schaefer, Buck Hedger, Amber Smock, Jennifer Franks, Shelly Upson & Tim Snyder

NURSING HOME

Bettie Monts, Bob Sell, Kathryn Baugher

MISSIONARIES & MILITARY

Danika Higgins & Rigoberto Cruz

John Klink, Jackson McKay, Joe Elliott, Spencer Zielke, Jon Szalonek, Christopher Schultz,
Austin Weir, Tyler Mattson, Kyle Mandle, Charles Schultz, Terry Schaefer & Matt VanderHeyden

OTHER CONCERNS

The church & all decisions