

January 31, 2018

fbc Faith News

*Love Christ.
Love Others.
Think Biblically!*



February 2018 | Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church

Mark Your Calendar

2.3

Men's Ministry Council-7:30am

Women's Ministry Think Tank-
9am

2.4

Communion/Food Pantry
Sunday

2.6

Deacon Meeting-6:30pm

2.11

Trustee Meeting-11:40am

2.14

Happy Valentine's Day-God
Loves You!

Collide Agape Dinner-6:30pm

Kids Club Valentine Party-
6:30pm

2.17

Bridal Shower for Kathryn
Ricke-10am

2.18

Baptism Sunday

2.23

Secret Keeper Girl-6:30pm

2.25

Nursing Home Services-
1:30pm & 3pm

High School Hang Out-6:30pm

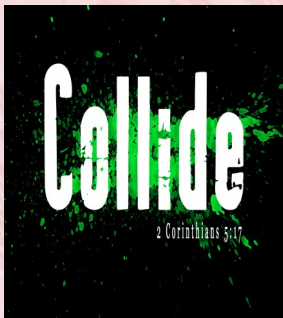
*Remember this, fix it in mind... I am
God and there is no other; I am God,
and there is none like Me."
Isaiah 46:8a & 9b*

Listen, listen, listen and wait, and when the time is right, then speak. This is what the Lord has been speaking to my heart. God's Word confirms it in the book of James where it says in chapter 1:19, "My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires." As most of you know (if you've been reading the newsletter cover to cover the past few months), we've been in a very difficult season in our church. It is impossible to understate the stress and the heartache I, not to mention many of you, and not least of all Heather and Rodrigo, have experienced through these months. Heather's leave of absence was intended for one sole purpose, which was to give the necessary time and space for healing in her marriage with Rodrigo. I have been almost entirely silent on the issue. Even now, as I write this, it feels very strange to be speaking of it openly, even though it hasn't been a secret in general terms. The details, however, have been private and (to me) confidential, and with respect, will continue to remain so. But I have listened, and waited, and God is doing what only God could ever have done, and it must be reported to all God's people. The hope, and the prayerful expectation was always that the marriage might find healing. I will try not to over speak, but Heather has reported that miraculous healing is occurring in her marriage. For that I hope we can all praise the Lord. It is no secret that it was costly. Our entire church, dare I say even our whole community has been impacted. However high a price it may have been, God is moving

powerfully in so many areas I cannot do anything but praise His Name and continue to wait with hopeful expectation for what He is going to do. I believe He is on the move. I have always been hopeful and expectant, but I'm on the edge of my seat. Maybe because this situation brought me to the breaking point (perhaps beyond the breaking point). But, as painful as it was, it has been worth it, and God is accomplishing more than I ever asked or imagined. So, I must also report, with mixed emotions that another result of this situation is that Heather has received a word from the Lord that her time of ministry at First Baptist has come to a close. She has tendered her resignation. This is a major event in the life of our church. Heather has been part of First Baptist her entire life, and for nearly a decade has served as our youth pastor. And so it is not a small thing that the Lord has released her from her calling at our church. I believe God has wonderful plans for Heather and will use her and her new found marital peace to do exceedingly great things in the kingdom. I also believe God is going to do wonderful and exceedingly great things at First Baptist. I say with some sadness, I wish we could continue to do ministry together, but it is not God's plan, and therefore no eternal good would come of it. And so, what more can I say? We have some healing to do but, I believe we are already beginning to see the balm of Gilead applied to a hurting body of Christ. Wait for the Lord. I am expecting great things. In fact, I believe 2018 will be a banner year. I am not claiming any prophetic gift, but I am hopeful that we are going to see dozens of people saved this year. I'm talking about radical conversions. Please pray for the lost. God's going to be bringing them into His Kingdom, and He wants to use you to reach them, love them, and help them grow. In Christ's Love, Luke

COLLIDE YOUTH!

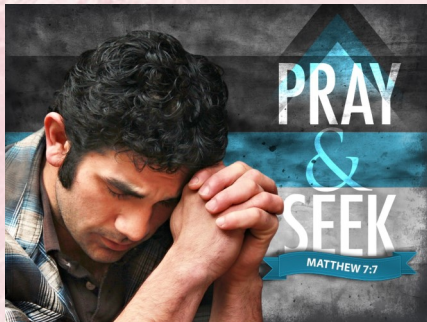
As this WNL session is getting underway, I have been encouraged by the volunteers.



We have many showing up to help and support the youth of our church. Thank you to everyone serving, teaching, cooking, cleaning, leading small groups, monitors on the bus route

and above all praying for these kids. I see that we have a short time to pour into this generation before they are our leaders of tomorrow.

The prayer that we must surround them with is my shout out for HELP. Some of these kids have seen more brokenness and despair in their young lives than I have in my 40 years and I'm just talking about the Jr. High Collide group.



Pray for the Collide program across the board. Please help me lift them up in prayer each day as God is meeting them in our building through the love and care of all of our volunteers. ~ Pastor Seth

UPCOMING EVENTS!

High School Hang Out Schedule for 2018

Feb. 25th-Movie Night at FBC at 6:30pm. Watch bulletin for details.

**High School hangouts are for all kids grades 9th-12th so bring a friend!

Collide All Night Out Coming in March!

Mark your calendar for Friday, March 2nd at 6pm through Saturday, March 3rd at 6am. We'll enjoy a performance at to Comedy Sportz, eat pizza at Hy-Vee, visit Youth Hope, watch a movie at the Aledo Opera House and end at the YMCA with some recreation. Cost is \$22 but scholarships are available. All Night Out is for kids grades 6th-12th! Maximum amount of students for this event is 50 so watch and listen for event registration!



CIY (CHRIST IN YOUTH) Summer Conferences Are Coming!

CIY MIX—IS A 4 DAY SUMMER EVENT OF AWESOMENESS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR SIXTH, SEVENTH, AND EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS.
JUNE 3RD-6TH IN ROACH, MO. COST \$145.

CIY MOVE—IS A FIVE-DAY HIGH SCHOOL EVENT DESIGNED TO AMPLIFY THE CALL OF CHRIST ON STUDENTS' LIVES TO BECOME KINGDOM WOKERS.
JULY 9TH-13TH IN WHEATON, IL
Cost \$173.

**CHECK YOUR CALENDARS AND
WATCH AND LISTEN FOR SIGN UPS!**

Before School Prayer Groups

Meet every week! Monday 7:45am at the High School in Mr.

Robertson's room, Tuesday 7:40 am at MCIS in the library, and

Wednesdays 7:45am at MCJH in the Chorus room.

Homeschool students are invited too!

Volunteer & Giving Information

Date

Nursery

Kids Worship

Feb. 4	Ronda Moffitt, Crystal Clark, Penny Dixon & Maddie Dunn	Denise Bowker, Cimion Norwick, Tina M. & Jenna Ruh, Mollie Dunn, Shelly & Jake Reusch & Melissa Struble
Feb. 11	Ronda Moffitt, Jessica Ruh, Susan Potthast & Veronica Moffitt	Denise Bowker, Brooke Loving, Lisa Litwiler, Katy Loving, Mollie Dunn, Joe & Kaleb Loving & Shay Litwiler
Feb. 18	Ronda Moffitt, Emily Baldwin, Dixie Bodeen & Katy Loving	Denise Bowker, Nadine Coulter, Sarah Kellett, Jacob Dennison, Mollie Dunn, Monica Dennison, Haley & Josh Johnson
Feb. 25	Ronda Moffitt, Sharon Moffitt, Lisa Clawson, & Bryce Moffitt	Denise Bowker, Leslie & Brady & Jason Connell, Joyce Thomas, Mollie Dunn, & Shannon Sedam

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

Feb.4- 8am-Mary Lee Finch, Peggy Johnson & Kurt Diesch-10:15-Tina McCaw, Anita Parkinson & Ron Moffitt

Feb. 11-8am-Marty South, Jon & Lindsay Ricke-10:15-Jeanne Barber, Robyn Bottens & Laurie Louck

Feb.18- Troy & Tish Riddell, Lisa Litwiler & Britni Ewing

Feb. 25-8am-Doug & Diane Hessman & Barb Bryant-10:15am Jason & Shelly Snyder & Vickie Korn

Weekly Attendance & Offering

DATE	12/31/17	1/7/18	1/14/18	1/21/18
8 AM	51	60	60	71
10:15AM	175	225	229	219
TOTAL	226	285	289	290

Date	12/31/17	1/7/18	1/14/18	1/21/18
General Fund Giving	\$6,386.00	\$14,265.00	\$8,107.45	\$8,850.51
Designated Giving	\$3,618.00	\$3,289.00	\$223.00	\$597.00
Total Giving	\$10,004.00	\$17,554.00	\$8,330.45	\$9,447.51

****Weekly Current Expense offering needed to meet 2018 budget - \$11,281.15**

Kids Club Ministry



One afternoon when I was in high school I walked into the kitchen and my older sister (Sharon) had my twin sister (Eileen) pinned up against the kitchen counter, trying to rip the shirt off of her (not exaggerating, here). Eileen was in full spastic mode, fighting her off and screaming

at the top of her lungs. Now, I know Eileen isn't perfect. In fact, she was wearing Sharon's shirt without asking her. But I have what I would call the "twin bear" syndrome. I don't care how much she deserves it, what she has done, nobody messes with my girl. I all of a sudden found myself on the back of my older sister like a crazy person, pulling her off until she fell to the ground. She fell hard (who knew I had the strength?!) and she cried out that I broke her arm. I may have said, 'No I didn't, you big baby, and get up.' But, well, she did break her arm (whoops) and for the next hour we forgot that we were mad at each other as we banded together to launch a master cover up plan. FYI, our parents saw straight through it. We can laugh about it now but it totally wasn't funny at the time.

Just like real sisters and brothers, our church family can occasionally act like real siblings. Hopefully we're not breaking any arms, but the closer we grow together we can get on each other's nerves, let each other down, say things that hurt, and act selfish when we know we shouldn't. Now put your thumbs in the air and point them at your chest. We're all guilty of this sometimes. Take a look at James 4. I'll highlight just a few verses from this chapter.

James 4:1, *"What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?"*...vs.7 *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*...vs.10 *"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."* ... vs. 11 *"Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law."*

Satan is the master deceiver. He disguises himself behind our family and friends and wants us to believe they are the enemy, not him. Guess what? Even if our trusted loved ones disappoint us (and they will), they aren't the enemy. He wants to pull us away from each other and from God. He wants to knock us apart because we're weaker when we're not united.

We're going to have issues. I haven't met a family

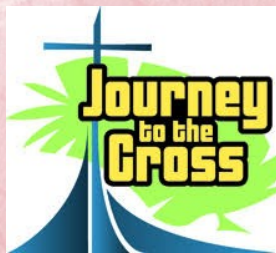
or church family who hasn't! But at the end of the day, God wants us to work out our differences and come together. If we can't (which that happens) we need to seek God's will and direction so that we don't become bitter and resentful.

Pray hard for those you're struggling with. When we put away our expectations of others, fall on our faces, and ask God to point out the fault in ourselves, not others, we start to see others and their mistakes through humility and grace, not bitterness and judgement.

Lastly, don't jump to conclusions. Seek out the whole truth. Don't project. Don't assume. If you have a concern, it's your responsibility to go to that person. When we have the courage to humbly address our concerns in a non-confrontational way, we usually have a renewed clarity and it allows us to see the whole picture. Peace, love, health, and God's direction for you this month. Thanks for reading! ~Mollie

Save the Dates

SKG Mom & Me Dessert Night & Tips from Mrs. Modesty: Friday, February 23rd 6:30-8:30pm for moms & their daughters K-8th grade. Registration now open at www.firstbaptistaledo.com



Journey to the Cross Kids Easter Event: Good Friday, March 30th 9am-Noon for kids ages 3-5th grade



GROUP VBS 2018: SHIPWRECKED
RESCUED BY JESUS

Shipwrecked Vacation Bible School: June 25th-29th 9am-Noon VBS is for all kids ages 3-5th grade grads.

Heather's Letter to our Church Family

*See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.- Isaiah 43:19*

This has without a doubt been some of the most difficult, challenging and humbling months of my life. Even in the midst of all of it, I knew God could do a new thing. That is what I clung to; the hope that God could take two broken people and restore them for His glory. I am happy to say that God has done that. Honestly, I'm in a bit of disbelief, but God and only God has done it. A marriage restored by God. This is certainly something to celebrate.

God has changed both of us into different people through this experience. I have learned how to better care and listen to my husband's heart and He is doing the same for me. We believe God used the ministry of Wayne and Jeannine Allen through Freedom Ministries in Moline, IL to bring about a major breakthrough in our relationship. We highly, highly recommend them if you are experiencing struggles in your marriage. We were on a waiting list and weren't able to get in for their marriage intensive until June of 2018, but God miraculously opened a door and seven months of waiting turned into two weeks. Thanks to a cancellation we were able to go through the program this past December. All glory and praise to God.

Now that we are walking hand in hand together, God has rapidly been showing us our next steps. That being said, it is with great sadness, but also with great peace in my heart, that we know God has closed the door for us here at First Baptist Church.

Although it is the right decision, it is an extremely painful one for me. I am deeply grieved over this loss as I have grown to build deep connections in this church and community. I have a deep love for everyone at this church. Rodrigo and I want the church to be strengthened as we depart and so we want everyone to know that we are OK, and this is a decision we came to together. We are moving on with a marriage restored by the Lord Jesus and we want the church to celebrate and praise God with us over it.

We wanted to personally thank those in the church who have supported us throughout this journey. Thank you for the cards, phone calls, text messages, and the time you spent to invest in our lives. Thank you as well for praying. I believe God worked through His people praying on our behalf, so thank you.

We know this has been a hard and difficult journey for the entire church. We are sorry if we have caused anyone undue pain or heartache through this experience. Would you forgive us if that's the case? Our desire is that this church would continue to reach people for Jesus, be

strengthened and grow in its love for one another. We are hopeful and excited for the future of First Baptist Church.

This newsletter article will also serve as my official resignation. Therefore, I want to take the time to say thank you and farewell to a few groups of people.

To the students:

I am not sure how to put into words what I am feeling. I am deeply saddened that my time here has come to a close. It is a deep, painful grieving that I am experiencing. I will miss all of you so very much as I have shared a piece of my heart with you and many of you have shared a piece of yours with me. You will always be dear to me. I will miss seeing your faces, seeing your smiles, and hearing your stories. I can only hope that whoever steps in to fill this role next loves you just same, if not more. You all will forever be in my heart. Always know that I am here for you even though I won't be in your lives like I have been.

To my church family:

Thank you for praying for my marriage. Thank you for believing with me that God could restore us. Thank you for supporting me over the past nine years. Thank you for being more than just a church. Thank you for being a family to me. You all are a blessing to me. I am a woman who was given a great gift in such a tremendous church family.

To the staff:

I have had the joy of working with such tremendous people. Thank you, Pastor Luke, for believing in me and giving me a chance almost a decade ago to lead this youth ministry. Thank you to Seth, Pam and Mollie for being such a great team of people to work with for the Kingdom. You will all be greatly missed.

In closing, this is not the end my friends. God is doing a new thing for all of us. As the Lord brings healing for all of us, we'll get to see a great movement of His Spirit. I'm excited to hear about the future work God is going to do through all of you for His glory. I'm praying for all of you as you continue to love one another and grow up in Christ together.

Please continue to pray for me and my husband. Ask God to continue to show us our next steps. Pray we would walk completely by faith, in Jesus' name.

In Christ's Love, Heather Quiroz

Men's Ministry & Women's Ministry

Men's Ministry Council

We will Meet Saturday, Feb. 3rd at 7:30am in the Enon Room.



IRON
SHARPENS
IRON

Men's Conference-Davenport, Iowa
Saturday, March 24th
8:30am-4:55pm

Attention Men! We will be attending the Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference in Davenport on March 24th as a group. This one-day conference is for men of all ages; beginning with men age 13 and older. Cost is \$55 (\$40 for students) and includes an on-site lunch. There will be sixteen different seminars for men at this conference so we know there will be something for every one of us. Visit: ironsharpensiron.net for more details. Sign up on today's Connection Card. Registration Fee can be left at the church office or in the offering marked "ISI Men's Ministry" in the memo of the check. Once registered you'll receive information about departure time, carpooling etc.



Men's Momentum
Conference
April 27th-29th, 2018
Cost: \$100
@ Life Action Camp
in Buchanan, MI

Men do not thrive on bread alone (although the food is great at a Momentum retreat!) Food, fellowship, and spiritual recharging mark these men's times together. Guests are challenged in their Christian walk, prompting many to make life-changing decisions. We encourage men to lead their families—and ultimately our nation—with deliberate action, resisting the role of passive onlooker. This retreat is designed for men ages 16 and older.

Women's Ministry

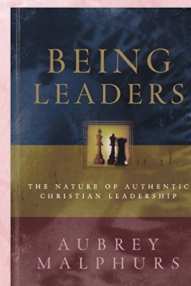
Think Tank

Ministry Think Tank Meeting will be February 3rd at 9am in the Enon Room. All ladies are welcome to join us.

You're Invited To A
Bridal Shower
For Kathryn Ricke



Saturday, Feb. 17th at 10am
At First Baptist Church
In The New Addition
Kathryn and Andy Retherford
are registered at
Bed, Bath & Beyond and Target
No need to RSVP



Recommended Read
Being Leaders
Aubrey Malphurs

What makes a leader a Christian leader? Too many churches and parachurch groups operate under secular leadership principles and strategies without considering what Scripture teaches. In this accessible and comprehensive book, leadership expert Aubrey Malphurs articulates a working definition of Christian leadership based on the Bible and his own extensive research. Malphurs begins by defining a uniquely Christian leader from the inside out, from godly character and commitment to pure motives and a servant attitude. He examines the leaders of the first-century church and then discusses qualities such as credibility, capability, and influence that are essential for successful leadership.

A few copies of this book will be available for \$11 each.
Books can be found at the church office window or

Baptism/New Sunday School/Thank You

Baptism Sunday at FBC Sunday, February 18th



Baptism is an important event in the believer's walk with Jesus Christ.

The Bible talks about water immersion baptism in which a believer makes a public confession of their faith. Jesus led the way in example of water baptism! If you are wondering what it means to be baptized in the Christian faith, here are a few verses that can look up that can help explain baptism.

Romans 6:1-18, Act 2:38-41, Luke 3:21-22, Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 22:16, Colossians 2:12 & Galatians 3:27

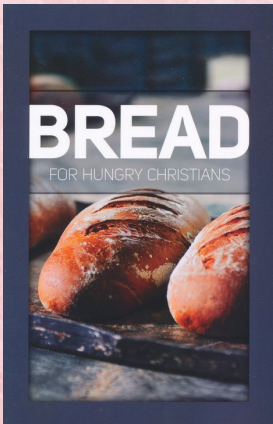
Have you been considering “officially joining” First Baptist by becoming a member, verses an attender but you were not sure what your next steps are? For some, it may mean transferring membership from another church, for others who have had a believer’s baptism it may be making a statement of faith but for some it is taking that first step of obedience and getting baptized. Whatever your circumstance is, if you would like to learn more about becoming a member at First Baptist, Pastor Luke or Pastor Seth would be happy to sit down and talk with you about it. Call the church office at 582-7812 to make an appointment.

New Adult Sunday School!

Pastor Seth will begin a new Sunday School Class called “Bread for the Hungry Christian” on Sunday, Feb. 11th at 9:00am. Pastor Seth’s class takes place in the basement inside Fellowship Hall in the Collide Room “F.”

All adults are welcome to attend.

Bread for the Hungry Christian—Bread is a universal staple. It's significant that Jesus Christ presented himself as bread that came down from heaven (John 6:51). An 8-session Bible study, it introduces the person of Christ - the Bread of Life - to Christians who are hungry to know Him. Use it to build your life upon the Cornerstone of the faith!



Dear Friends,
Thank you very much for the plate of cookies and fruit that you brought to me at Genesis Sr. Living. I appreciated being remembered.
Thanks again,
Sincerely,
Marjorie Goding

Dear Church Family,
We are deeply grateful to the Love Unlimited Class for the wonderful gift they gave us. Thank you to everyone for kind words, for all your support and for all the prayers! We really appreciate all the leadership in this church. We deeply appreciate the prayer team. We serve an amazing God! God Bless You, The Rinds



Birthday

Troy Riddell	February 1
Lee Bell	February 2
Bradley Williams	February 7
Brian Dennison	February 8
Rosemary Reid	February 9
Jeanna Potthast Swafford	February 11
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	
Noah Louck	February 27
Bill Tracy	



Thank you very much for donating to the Nursing Home Christmas Gift project again! The staff and residents of both nursing homes greatly appreciate being remembered during this Christmas season. I appreciate that all of your donations helped make this another successful year. I would also like to thank Vivian Kopp, Sherry Huffstutler, Joanne Anderson, Jeanne Barber, Carol Hill and Linus Griswold for their help in sorting, boxing, loading and delivering the gifts! Thanks also to Pam Ricke and Jenny Dixon for their help with the tables. It goes so smoothly when several people are willing to volunteer their time to help out. Thanks again! Cathy Griswold



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PLEASE CALL: THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 309-582-7812**

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Family of Polly Salmon, Family of Darlene Dodson, Jim Sproston, Amy Hess, Joel Noe, The family of Matthew and Kash Phelps, Ann Runyon, Betty Leslie, Dennis Downing, Family of Curt Downing, Family of Rodney & Frances Boruff, Family of Donnie Kenney, Les Banks, Rhonda Newton, Family of Christiana Marie Bogart, Nicole and Chrisopher Bogart, Family of Larry Johnson, Austin Loving, Dennis Sabel, Family of Helen Slater, Tracy Randolph, Evan House, Glenn Feldman, Kim Carlson, Jessica Ruh, Rod Lyttle and family, Trisha Hammond, Tricia & Rory Conway, Marshall Easley, Nancy McClay, Veronica Moffitt, Jacee Columbia, Lin McClay, Tony VanderSnick, Family of Angie Green, Connie Freeman, Lance, Bridget & Jared Wedekind, Travis Mitchell, Kelsey DeSplinter, Ruth Ann Young, Linda Hamilton, Allison Adams, Lisa Hammill, Bob & Myrna Sell, Bill McKinley, Steve Bowns, Kris Salmon, Gavin Swafford, Calvin Frye, Sheryl Robertson, Doris & Marc Dewey, Pastor Mark Harris, Lisa McWhorter, Marilyn Hessman, Francie Jane Easley, Barbara McPhinney, Henry Leichy & Lauryn Russell

NURSING HOME

Bill McKinley, Marge Goding, Betty Weeks & Bob Sell

MISSIONARIES & MILITARY

Danika Higgins & Rigoberto Cruz

Brad Olson, Holly Mattson, Joe Elliott, Spencer Zielke, Jon Szalonek, Christopher Schultz, Eric Nelson, Tyler Mattson, Kyle Mandle, Charles Schultz, Terry Schaefer, Matt VanderHeyden & Tara Helmick

OTHER CONCERNS

The church & all decisions