

First Baptist Church of Aledo



# May Newsletter

## Pastor's Corner

*“Then he said to his servants, “The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.”*  
 ~ Matthew 22:8-9

For several years the church has considered buying a van. The big questions have always been, what would we use it for, and who would be in charge of it? Because we've never had really good, clear answers for those questions, we've held off moving ahead with a van. Well, the answer to the first question has finally come about. We have been working with the YMCA this year and transporting kids from the Y to the church for Wednesday Night Live, Kids Club and Col-lide. This has become such a need that multiple transporters have been needed, and people are using their personal vehicles to get kids to the church, and then home to New Boston and the west end of the county. The Trustees were asked to look into a van and make a recommendation during the January business meeting. In a special business meeting in March the Trustees proposed a 15 pas-

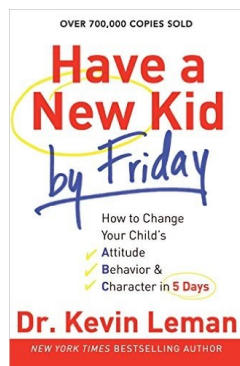
senger bus that had luggage space in the back, which would be a good feature for trips such as men's and women's retreats, camp, etc... The cost would be about \$50,000. The church would simply need to figure out way to pay for it, which was given to the Finance board. By God's grace and timing, the church was given some stock at the end of 2015 which will be sold in the amount of about \$40,000. The remainder of the cost of the van would be split between current expense and building fund. The van should be here and available to use around the end of May. The main use of the van is to go out into the highways and byways and pick up young people to bring them to church, and our prayer is ultimately to bring them to the Lord. It will also be used to

transport our people out into the world for missions, conferences and camps. It will be a great tool for the Lord to use at First Baptist to continue His work, and I'm excited for the possibilities we haven't even thought of yet. The second question has also been answered. Three different guys have said they would be willing to maintain the van. Everything we do requires many people to make sure it happens and happens well. I am encouraged that people are stepping up to the plate and volunteering. If you want to get involved, there is a place for you to serve, just let us know and we will find a place for you to get involved.

In Christ,  
 Pastor Luke

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## Save the dates—July Sunday Night Remix!

All parents are invited to this great video series during the month of July by Dr. Kevin Leman & hosted by Pastor Seth Bowker @ FBC. Beginning July 3rd through July 31st every Sunday at 6pm.

Have a New Kid by Friday shows parents how to reverse negative behavior in their children--fast! With his signature wit and encouragement, Dr. Leman offers hope and real, practical, doable strategies for regaining control and becoming the parents you've always wanted to be.

Watch for sign up beginning in June. Childcare is provided for infants-6th grade. There will not be Sunday Night Remix in the month of May or June.



**Collide  
is now complete for the  
school year.  
Watch and  
listen for  
summer activity  
details.**

*"Can you help me study the Bible more like one day a week outside of school so I can actually learn more about Jesus."*

These are the kinds of text messages I receive that warm my heart and revive my Spirit. I have been praying for this teen girl, asking God to intercede in her life to draw her to a deeper walk with Him. I am overjoyed by her desire to want to know Jesus more.

However, there are other times when I read messages like the ones we had on our prayer wall a few weeks ago that give me great concern. The students could go in anonymously to write a prayer to God and here is something a student cried out to God for,

*"Help me to deal with my self-harm and being stressed and depressed."*

There are so many students who are in a tremendous amount of pain. I know that God is with them. I'm so thankful the youth ministry has become a safe haven for them and a place where they can come and learn about the God who loves them with a fierce, everlasting love.

Then there are other stories like this one from a young 6<sup>th</sup> grade girl who said, *"before, I went to Fall Retreat this fall I was completely lost, we called ourselves Christians, but we knew nothing about what it meant to be a Christian. I used to go to church sometimes with my grandma, but honestly, I just went for the candy. Fall retreat, completely flip flopped my life, because I learned what Jesus Christ was and I learned about Collide and I started coming more and more and started learning more about Jesus. Then, my whole family started coming to church. Now, we pray together as a family and our lives are completely different."*

That right there is at the heart of what we do, ministering to see a family completely transformed by Jesus and God used a 12 year-old girl to do it. He got a hold of her heart and has now captured the hearts of that whole family.

I must say this was by far, one of my favorite years during youth ministry. The team of people I served with were tremendous, the atmosphere in youth group was fun, engaging and gospel-centered. I walked away this year with great joy knowing that God moved in our midst and He continues to bless the youth ministry as we seek to honor Him in all that we do.

In Christ's Love, Heather Q.

## Upcoming Collide Youth Events!

**Taco Dinner and ComedySportz Fundraiser.** Sunday, May 1st at FBC, dinner served anytime between 5:30-6:30pm. Show starts at 6:30pm. \$15 for tacos and the show and \$10 for just the show! You can purchase tickets at the door. Proceeds go to the Summer Youth Mission Trip.

**HS and JH Summer Conferences!**- JH "Mix Conference" June 6-9th, cost \$140 (normally \$274, but church pays half) only 12 students can go. HS "Move Conference" July 25-29th cost \$145 (normally \$289, but church pays half) only 12 students can go. Forms can be found at the connection center. To reserve a spot please turn in your registration form with a \$50 non-refundable deposit.

**Incoming 6th graders Collide Initiation!**- Thursday, June 2nd Noon-1pm at Heather's house. For any and all incoming 6th graders. We'll eat Tacos, hangout and you'll get to meet some other Collide students. Please RSVP to Heather at [collideyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:collideyouthministry@gmail.com) or text 217-552-5253 if you're coming!

**Rhubarb Needed!** The students will be making Rhubarb pies for our yearly fundraiser at the Rhubarb fest and we need LOTS of Rhubarb! If you have some please let Heather know, 217-552-5253, cut it in 1 inch pieces and place in the one of the refrigerators downstairs before May 23rd. Thank you!

## 2016 WEEKLY INFORMATION CENTER

| Date    | Nursery   | Kids Club Worship   | Greeters                                  |
|---------|---|---|---|
| 5/1/16  | Betty Williams, Lisa Clawson, & Crystal Clark   | Brooke, Joe & Caleb Loving, Denise Bowker, Haley & Josh Johnson     | Bill & Marsha Loving<br>Shay Litwiler     |
| 5/8/16  | Betty Williams, Ronda Moffitt, Veronica Moffitt | Nadine Coulter, Alison Lafever, Jason & Brady Connell, & Brian Rind | Linus & Cathy Griswold<br>Rodrigo Quiroz  |
| 5/15/16 | Betty Williams, Connie Mattson, Diane Hessman   | Denise & Eli Kelly, Kelly Higgins, Jen Miller, & Shannon Sedam      | Paul & Kay Hedrick<br>Monica Dennison     |
| 5/22/16 | Betty Williams, Paul Hedrick, Susan Potthast    | Sarah Kellett, Tina McCaw, Paul Hedrick, Cora Whitenack             | John & Sherry Huffstutler<br>Troy Riddell |
| 5/29/16 | Betty Williams, Sharon Moffitt, & Bryce Moffitt | Shay & Lisa Litwiler, Beth Whitenack, & Todd Baldwin                | Gene & Krista Bear<br>Jeanne Barber       |

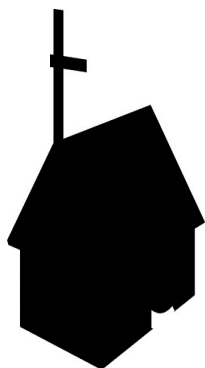
If you are unable to serve the day you are scheduled in the Nursery, please make arrangements in advance to switch with another person on the schedule. Please contact **Ronda Moffitt, Nursery Coordinator, for all concerns on her Cell:(309) 371-3021.** Thank you! **Kids Club Worship**—PLEASE come to the 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 May — Diane Nelson**  
**Trustee of the Month for May — Shay Litwiler**

## Weekly Attendance & Offering



| DATE         | 4/3/16     | 4/10/16    | 4/17/16    | 4/24/16    |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 8 AM         | 91         | 92         | 84         | 92         |
| 10 AM        | 249        | 252        | 228        | 253        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>340</b> | <b>344</b> | <b>312</b> | <b>345</b> |



| Date                      | 4/3/16             | 4/10/16            | 4/17/16           | 4/24/16            |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Current Expense</b>    | <b>\$11,660.50</b> | <b>\$11,122.55</b> | <b>\$8,206.30</b> | <b>\$7,876.81</b>  |
| <b>Building Fund/Mem.</b> | <b>\$4,430.00</b>  | <b>\$3,815.00</b>  | <b>\$540.00</b>   | <b>\$3,510.00</b>  |
| <b>Benevolence</b>        | <b>\$1,179.00</b>  | <b>\$591.00</b>    | <b>\$465.00</b>   | <b>\$1,016.00</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>\$17,269.50</b> | <b>\$15,528.55</b> | <b>\$9,211.30</b> | <b>\$12,402.81</b> |

## May News—Kids Club Ministry



Last weekend I laid down and totally let Satan beat me up. It all started with a dream I had about an old friend from 6<sup>th</sup> grade. When I woke up, I thought about a mistake I made that I hadn't thought about in a long time. I said something out of anger and it ended up hurting her deeply. Even though I didn't mean it, apologized several times, and tried to make it up to her, our friendship was never the same after that. Even though that was 26 years ago, and I had already asked forgiveness from her and from God many times over, I was reliving it in my mind and feeling bad all over again. Then it was one bad thought after another. A line-up of sinful, selfish, careless, hurtful, and negligent things I've said or done over my lifetime that snuck into my thoughts at random. By the time Sunday night rolled around I felt thoroughly beat up. Then I snapped out of it! I was under spiritual attack and instead of putting on my spiritual armor and filling up with God's truth, I just let it keep happening over and over again.

There I was, a child of the risen king, lying down and letting Satan beat me up with negative thoughts. Take a look at what **Romans 8:31-39** says, <sup>31</sup>... *If God is for us, who can be against us?* <sup>32</sup> *He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?* <sup>33</sup> *Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.* <sup>34</sup> *Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.* <sup>35</sup> *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?* <sup>37</sup> *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.* <sup>38</sup> *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,* <sup>39</sup> *neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Even though I should have called Satan out way before I did, it reminded me of a few things. 1) I am God's and He loves me. Just like how nothing would ever change the love I have for my kids, God feels that for me but a billion times more intensely. 2) When I start to feel sucked into negative feelings about myself, especially ones that lead to guilt and self-loathing, I need to take those thoughts captive and give them to the Lord right away. Those thoughts are from the enemy and I have no use for them. 3) The more I talk to God and fill-up with his truth, the less I have those thoughts, anxieties, and worthless obsessions. I need God every day and when I neglect him, I let my guard down and Satan attacks. Here are a few more passages to look up if this hits home to you: Isaiah 26:3, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 and Romans 12:2. Need a little extra encouragement right now, reach out to a Christian brother or sister. Tell them you're struggling and ask them to pray for you. Satan wants you wallow in and cover up your struggles. Bring them into the light and allow others to help encourage you. Thanks for reading and have a great month! Mollie

## What's Up in Ministry

**Graduation Sunday- May 29th:** During the 10:15 service on May 29<sup>th</sup> kids going into 1<sup>st</sup> grade and 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be recognized in service. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will receive their own Bibles and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will officially graduate from the children's ministry and will receive a small gift from their teachers.

**Sunday School Promotion- June 5th:** Kids going into the following grades will promote on June 5<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup>. Pre-k through 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes will go to their regular locations on June 5<sup>th</sup>, have a party with their class, and meet their new teachers. They will start attending their new classes the following week.



**Cave Quest VBS-June 20-24<sup>th</sup> 9am-Noon:** All kids ages 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade graduates are invited to join us for a great week of VBS. It's free so invite some friends and pre-register in the church office or foyer in June!

**Church Camp:** Are your kids interested in church camp? This year's Blackhawk Baptist Middler Camp for kids grades 1st-6th grade is the week of Sunday, July 31st-Thursday, August 4th outside of Oregon, IL. Mollie has taken a group of kids & stayed as a counselor but she will be taking the year off. We are, however, still sending a group of kids that week and hopefully can utilize the new church bus to transport them. Camp info will be out in the church foyer as soon as we get it. As usual, FBC will pay for half of the camp fee for all kids going with our group (It's about \$100 out of pocket). More details to come very soon! Please let Mollie know on here if you're interested in sending kiddos this year to this camp.

## Women's Ministry



**Women's Ministry Think Tank** Saturday, May 7th at 9am in the Enon Room. All ladies are invited to attend.

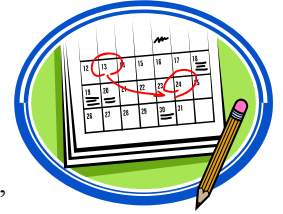
**Retreat Planning Meeting** – Women's retreat leadership planning meeting Thursday, May 12th at 6:30pm in the Enon Room.

**Single Ladies May Outing**— All Single Sisters are invited on Saturday, May 14th to go to the Davenport Farmers Market. We'll carpool from the church parking lot between 8-8:15 am and be back around noon. Questions, see Pam Spangler.

**J.O.Y. Circle**—All ladies are invited to JOY Circle (Jesus, Others, Yourself)—Tuesday, May 24th at 7pm in the Enon room.

**Ladies Night Out in JUNE**—Tuesday, June 14th at 6pm at the Aledo Depot—catered meal & craft. Dinner Cost will be \$15, \$25 for dinner and craft. Watch for sign up.

## What's Coming Up!



**Deacon Meeting**— Tuesday, May 3rd at 7pm.

**Trustee Meeting**— Sunday, May 8th following the 10:15am service.

**Church Council & Special Business Meeting** – The Church Council will meet on Monday, May 9th at 7pm and the church will have a Special Business Meeting on Sunday, May 15th after the 10:15am service. The discussion item for the meeting is a proposal from the building committee.

**5th Sunday Potluck/Cookout**—Everyone is invited to our Cookout/Potluck Sunday, May 29th on the front lawn of the church following the 10:15am service. Meat, table service and drink will be provided, watch for sign up sheets on what dish you will be bringing.

Lavender Springs  
spa

WHERE WOMEN REST  
IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS



**A One Day Women's Retreat**

@ First Baptist Church, Aledo

**Saturday, August 20th, 9am to 4pm**

*For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. (Psalm 100:5 ESV)*

**SAVE THE DATE!** Ladies, it is time to mark your calendars and save the date! Our annual women's retreat will be a one day retreat on Saturday, August 20th at our church. Watch the announcements, bulletins & newsletters for more information! You won't want to miss this one!



**Join us for a new women's summer study - Conversation Peace:** The power of Transformed Speech by Mary Kassian. This study will help revolutionize your speech habits and improve your relationships. Let God's Word change you from the inside out! Be transformed! Get Conversation Peace! Facilitated by Crystal Clark. Wednesday mornings at the church from 9:30am-11am May 25th-July 13th. (We will not meet June 22nd because of VBS.) Childcare is offered but we need a count of children. Sign up on Sunday's Connection Card.



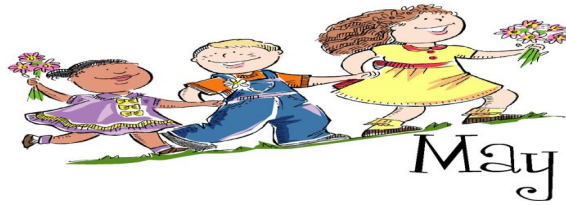
## Safe Families for Children Program Training—May 14th!

There is training for participating families at FBC, Saturday, May 14th from 9am to noon in the Enon Room. Please sign up on Sunday's Connection Card if you will be attending the training and if you need child care. It's never too late to become a "Safe Family." If you want more info about becoming a Safe Family, call Emily Baldwin our lead volunteer coordinator at 309-582-6953.

Dear First Baptist Church,  
Thank you so much for all your thoughts and prayers. I am feeling better day by day. Many blessings to you all,  
Lauryl Russell



Church Calendar will be on this page



**Birthday**

Joe Ringle May 1  
 May 2  
 Sheri Olson May 3  
 Barry Lafever  
 Ashlie Dellitt Fuller May 4  
 Beth Whitenack May 5  
 Paul Hedrick May 7  
 Beth Bowns May 8  
 Jeff Bewley May 10  
 Cole Frick  
 Laurie Louck  
 Sam Szalonek May 11  
 Nathaniel Klink May 13  
 Blair Baugher  
 Jackson Kelly  
 Logan Cooper May 14  
 Kaylie Schrock May 15  
 LaVeta Bear  
 Debbie Blaser May 16  
 Jordan Clark  
 May 18  
 John Kelly May 19  
 Camden Whitenack  
 Aaron Thompson  
 Beth Reid  
 Ron Moffitt May 20  
 Jason Loving May 21  
 Cindy King May 22  
 Carter Bruns  
 Andrew Cooper  
 May 25  
 Becky Whittington May 26  
 Heather Griswold Cooper May 27  
 Chris Whitenack  
 Brice Maynard  
 Sophia Latko  
 Halie Parkinson May 28  
 Renee' Lloyd  
 Ronda Moffitt May 31  
 Vivian Kopp  
 Janet Rind

**Anniversary**

Don & Vickie Korns  
 Bill & Arlene Bewley  
 Adam & Jennifer Russell  
 Carroll & Frannie Franks  
 Bob & Mindi Schultz  
 Troy & Tish Riddell  
 David & Susan Potthast  
 Don & Karen McConaughey  
 Rick & Jodi Ringle  
 Chris & Beth Whitenack  
 Clint & Robin Huffstutler  
 Steve & Renee' Lloyd  
 Corey & Karyn Smith

# Congratulations 2016 Graduates!

*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates from Mercer County Jr. High School  
Tyler Campbell, Elijah Kelly, Veronica Moffitt & Clayton Nelson*

*Mercer County High School Graduates  
Madison Coulter, Corey Cox, Breanna Elliott, Katie Hanson, Brandon Hedrick, David Hofmann, Jordan Monson & Sydnie Marie Thomas*

*Sherrard High School Graduate  
Mikayla Young*

*Savanna High— Missouri  
Jack McKay*

*College Graduates  
Christopher Douglas—Southern Illinois University Carbondale-Doctorate of Philosophy*

*Does your family have a Graduate that is not on our list? If someone from your family is graduating from 8th grade, High School or College, call the church office ASAP at 582-7812 so we can add them to the Graduate Recognition list. On Sunday, May 29th First Baptist will be recognizing all the Graduates during the 10:15am worship service.*



## You're Invited!

Everyone is invited to a graduation party for Corey Cox on Saturday, May 14th from 2-4pm at the Eliza Community Center- 1557—65th St., New Boston.



We want to invite our church family to join us in celebrating Breanna Elliott's graduation from Mercer County High School. Bree's party is Sunday, May 15th at the United Methodist Church from 2-4:30pm. We hope you can join us in celebrating this special occasion! Renee' and Steve Lloyd

The church family is invited to attend a graduation party in celebration of Katie Hanson's high school graduation on Saturday, May 21st from Noon to 4pm at the Aledo Fire Station in the Community Room.

The Hedrick family invites our church family to celebrate the graduation of Brandon W. Hedrick Saturday, May 21st from Noon—3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall at First Baptist Church Aledo.



## A Note from Pastor Seth

### Read Acts 17:24-28

*I'm going to focus on verse 26 "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place..."*

I must remember that God is in control and He has determined this nation's period of existence and the boundaries to which we will dwell. Election campaigns, commercials and news of the nation are enough to drive a Christian into a panic that all morals are gone and no one is left who worships the one true God. But God who gives life and breath to all things is still giving new life today and new breath into people today. I hope that you will take this **National Day of Prayer on May 5<sup>th</sup>** as a time to simply bow your knee in silence to an Almighty God. To be still and know that He is God! God is the Almighty who rules and reigns and is willing to heal all people who come to Him. His dominion, rule, supremacy, control, authority, dominance, ability, power, domain and realm are all words explaining His Sovereignty. Simply **"GOD RULES"**! God is not in shock about the nations and the turmoil going on. He is still handing out redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ.



~Seth



## Things are Happening in the FBC Men's Ministry

- Men in Ministry Think Tank Meeting the 1st Saturday of every month at 7am in the Enon Room. These meetings will be used to brainstorm ideas for studies and events that will be happening in Men's Ministry. All men are invited to join us for the Think Tank Meetings. If you have questions about Men's Ministry, see Pastor Luke or Pastor Seth. Our first Think Tank meeting will be Saturday, May 7th at 7am.
- New Men's Sunday Night Study—We'll meet at 6pm on Sundays in the Enon Room May 15th-June 12th. —How to Study the Bible—Different Bible study methods will be presented by different people.

First Baptist Church of Aledo

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### **HEALTH & WELL BEING**

John Atkinson, Brenda Leng, Vickie Korn, Shirley Litwiler, Stu Klink, Leonard Plesschaert, Bud Schaefer, Vickie Anderson, Isabel Schable, Sutton Finch, Family of Mary & Steve Beaird, Carol Smock, Family of Virgil Nice, Family of Jim Earl, Olivia Meskan, Sharon McCormick, Shirley McCormick, Judy Leighty, Bob Stenfeldt, Rosemary Reid, Charlie Douglas, Jeannene McNall, Marilyn Staley, Gay Youngblood, Glenn Feldman, Kent Hessman, Joe, Amanda & Abrial Norwick, Marilyn Heine, Bob Sell, George Sawin, Dave Olson, Dave Hessman, Bill McNamara, Melody Clementz, Colette Hawkins, Gerald Mitchell, Lauryn Russell, Riley Thomas, Penny Tapia, Ronald Taylor, Chad Peterson, Connie Freeman, Alec Bowen, Jo Kernan, Matt & Lisa Hammill & Family, Kim Goddell, Kayshia Rowe & baby Gracelynn, Paul Wonders, Doris Dewey, Ed Nesbitt, Carol Schaefer, Ellen Hedger, Jack, Julie Doub & Family, Janet Mueller, Amber Smock, Jennifer Franks, Shelly Upson, Carolyn Hanson, & Tim Snyder

### **NURSING HOME**

Ron Rhine and Kathryn Baugher

### **MISSIONARIES & MILITARY**

Alex & Jess Etheridge, Danika Higgins & Rigoberto Cruz  
Spencer Zielke, Jon Szalonek, Christopher Schultz, Austin Weir, Tyler Mattson, Kyle Mandle, Charles Schultz,  
Terry Schaefer, Caleb VanderHeyden & Matt VanderHeyden

### **OTHER CONCERNS**

The church & all decisions