

fbc Faith News

*Love Christ.
Love Others.
Think Biblically!*



September 2017 | Monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church

Pastor's Perspective

Mark Your Calendar

9.2

Women's Ministry Think Tank-
9am

Women's "How To Study the
Bible" Class-11am

9.4

Labor Day-Church Office
Closed

9.5

Deacon Meeting-6:30pm
New Women's Study-2:15pm

9.9

Women's Retreat Better To-
gether Conference-9am

9.10

Trustee Meeting-11:30am

9.26

J.O.Y. Circle-7pm

9.28-9.30

Adorned Women's Conf.-
Indianapolis

10.1

Men's Bags Tournament-
5:30pm
Church Budgets Due

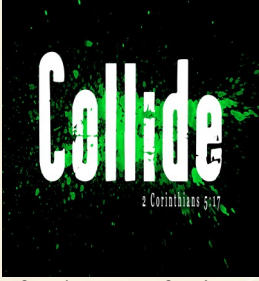
"Not to us, O LORD, not to us but your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness." ~ Psalm 115:1

It was what you might call "a little touch and go" there for a while. I do not make a habit of watching the weather very closely. But by mid-week before our annual Praise in the Park, I was compelled to check my weather app almost hourly hoping beyond hope that something would change. The weather report called for rain at 80% likelihood exactly at the time it would be most inconvenient, between 7-9am on Sunday morning. And not just rain, but thunderstorms. Everyone was getting nervous and people began calling to ask what our backup plan would be. I've never really had a backup plan, but quickly found myself considering what we might have to do if we got rained out. We had not only invited every household in the county through a direct mailing, but had been on the radio with advertisements and encouraging our whole church for weeks, if not months, to invite friends and family for a day of worship and fun at Aledo Central Park. We also had Christian entertainers traveling from Ohio, and Missouri, as well as vendors who planned to serve up to 500 people. The snow cones were coming from Iowa, and the inflatables were non-refundable and coming from Moline. Needless to say, trying to coordinate all these people is a challenge to begin with, but trying to redirect them at the last minute would be virtually impossible. On Saturday evening, still watching the weather report that hasn't changed its gloomy prediction, I emailed, and texted everyone I could, to warn of the impending possibility of the hateful "plan b". We would

keep the same schedule, but be at the church, and cancel the inflatables. We would have to scramble to try to accommodate feeding everyone at church, which is potentially nightmarish considering our fellowship hall only seats around 150 comfortably. On the bright side, I expected the rain and last second venue change to severely diminish the crowd. Never mind that this is our biggest and most expensive outreach we do every year. Many people were praying. Although it seemed impossible, I had hope and faith in our great God to do what only He could do. Calm the storm. I had told some people that I would make the final call at around 7am on Sunday morning. If it was raining, we would execute plan b. I guess I lied. I didn't mean to, but at 7am it was indeed raining, but the radar showed it was not much rain and it wasn't going to last. We received another little "shower of blessing" at about 8am. Again it was not much rain and it didn't last. We proceeded to have Praise in the Park at Central Park and keep every aspect of the event intact. Not only so, but we had a record crowd with around 420 in worship, as well as many other people joining us later in the day. I have never seen so many new faces at Praise in the Park. It was a fantastic day! It was a miraculous day. God protected and provided just to show us His goodness. Not for our sake, but for the sake of His own glory. Praise the Lord for His great love. He loves us and has shown the full extent of His love through His Son Jesus Christ. I hope you know Him. If you don't and would like to, come see what God's doing at First Baptist.

In Christ, Pastor Luke

COLLIDE YOUTH!



This month, Drue Baugher was burdened to pray for our children, so she gathered a number of folks to pray for our youth and children. As we gathered in solidarity at her home one evening and at the high school the next we asked God to pour out a freshness of His Spirit upon our youth. We petitioned Him for an outpouring of His power on their lives. We confessed sin and proclaimed our weaknesses, so that Christ's power might be made manifest in us.

As we were praying, I kept getting this imagery in my head of an archer ready to shoot an arrow. God is the archer, ready to shoot us forth for the kingdom. Over the past couple of years many people have approached me and made similar statements, "Heather, God is stirring up something in our youth" or "Heather, I sense that God is going to do something great in our community and it's going to start in our youth."

I am ready for God to pour out His Spirit in mighty ways amongst our youth. I am hungry for Jesus to empower us and send down revival. I am excited for another year of ministry at Collide Youth Group. I know God will use us for His glory as we submit ourselves to Him. We cannot do it without His power and we'd be foolish to think that any fruit we see in our ministry comes human effort.

I am believing God for big things. Would you pray for God to shoot us forth, on target for the Kingdom? This year for Fall Retreat we're seeking God for a greater outpouring of His Spirit than what we experienced last year. Pray as we prepare for that weekend on Oct. 14-15th that we would do so in a spirit of humility, ask God to give us great wisdom and revelation as we seek His face and His will.

Prayer groups are about to launch, so we'd encourage you to get your child plugged in. Mondays at 7:30am at the High School in Mr. Robertson's room, Tuesdays at the Intermediate School at 7:40am in the library and Wednesdays at 7:45am at the Junior High in the Chorus room.

To stay up to date please check out the Collide Calendar on the church website and "like" us on Facebook!

In Christ's Love, Heather Q.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Collide Kicks Off August 30th! High school meets in the Youth Room and Junior High meets in fellowship hall! 6:30-8pm!



Fall Retreat 2018- Oct 14th-15th at Camp Summit. Registration opens August 30th. To register ONLINE go to bit.ly/collidefallretreat2017

El Salvador Youth Mission Trip- July 28th-August 4th, 2018. Information packets can be found on Heather's bulletin board.



Before School Groups- Mondays at the HS 7:30am in Mr. Robertson's room, Tuesday's at MCIS 7:40am in the library, Wednesday's at MCJH 7:45am in the chorus room and FCA at the HS meets Friday's at 7:30am in Mr. Robertson's room.

Collide Calendar- Stay up to date, check out the Collide calendar on the church website- www.firstbaptistaledo.com

High School Hangouts- Sunday, Sept 24th BONFIRE at the Bowns' Farm (1687 100th Ave. Aledo) for students 9-12th grade from 6-8pm. Food, fellowship and fun!

Volunteer & Giving Information

Date	Nursery	Kids Worship
Sept. 3	Ronda Moffitt, Patsy Castor, Jan Crutcher & Katie Loving	Nadine Coulter, Felicia Bonyng, Shannon Sedam & Monica Dennison
Sept. 10	Ronda Moffitt, Janet Rind, Emily Baldwin & Veronica Moffitt	Sarah Kellett, Tina McCaw, Todd Baldwin, Jason Connell & Brian Rind
Sept. 17	Ronda Moffitt, Lisa Clawson, Susan Potthast & Shaylee Smet	Shay & Lisa Litwiler, Cimion Norwick, Maddie Dunn, Jenny Dixon & Blair, Jacob Dennison & Mollie Dunn
Sept. 24	Ronda Moffitt, Sharon Moffitt, Patsy Castor & Bryce Moffitt	Dee Lafever, Haley Johnson & Cassidy Freeman, Terry & Steph Leonard, Josh Johnson & Mollie Dunn

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 September –John Huffstutler
Trustee of the Month for September— John Kelly

Prayer Team

Sept 3– Mary Lee Finch, Peggy Johnson & Ron Moffitt
 Sept. 10– Doug & Diane Hessman, Barb Bryant & Kurt Diesch
 Sept. 17– Deb & Dave VanderHeyden, Troy Riddell & Laurie Louck
 Sept. 24 – Tina McCaw, Jason & Shelly Snyder & Vickie Korn

Weekly Attendance & Offering

DATE	7/30/17	8/6/17	8/13/17	8/20/17	8/27/17
8 AM	89	80	93	91	---
10:15AM	271	258	289	288	417
TOTAL	360	338	382	379	417

Date	7/30/17	8/6/17	8/13/17	8/20/17	8/27/17
General Fund Giving	\$8,465.00	\$10,259.00	\$7,024.21	\$9,390.78	\$5,545.50
Designated Giving	\$1,081.00	\$932.69	\$2,506.00	\$1,245.95	\$95.00
Total Giving	\$9,546.00	\$11,191.69	\$9,530.21	\$10,636.73	\$5,640.50

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

Kids Club Ministry

September Newsletter

Our Praise in the Park event marks the end of our summer events and the beginning of

Wednesday Night Live and Kids Club. We have a great crew of volunteers serving this year who are excited to meet your kids! Kids Club is for kids ages 3 years old-5th grade and they can join us anytime during this session (Aug. 30th-Nov. 8th).



We're using the Gospel Project curriculum, God Delivers, where kids will learn that God follows through on his promises. The kids will be divided up into grade groups with two crew leaders per crew who will lead them in small group discussion, activities, snacks, and Bible memory review. I will continue to teach Bible for the K-5th grade kids while Cathy Griswold will teach Bible for the Pre-K groups. Kids will be encouraged to bring non-perishable food items and toiletries for the food pantry as well as change for our Safe Family fundraiser. *We will not be ordering t-shirts until next session. **Look for the Gospel Project: God Delivers App in your app store for music and more.



We have a Wild & Wacky theme night for September 27th, a Harvest Party planned for October 25th, and a PJ Reward Night planned for the last night on November 8th. We will need additional help for our Harvest Party this year as kids will do activities in stations. So, if you'd like to lead a station that night, please contact me at 371-6962! Thanks for reading!

~Mollie

Ways to Serve

We need a few volunteers to join us in **Kids Worship** on Sunday mornings for the 10:15am service starting in October. If you've attended FBC for more than six months and would like to serve every six to seven weeks, please contact Mollie at 371-6962 or molliedunn@yahoo.com!

Our **Safe Families/Foster Care Closet** is low on newborn clothes if you'd like to donate gently used and clean clothing. Please leave in bags in the elevator room and contact Sherry Huffstutler at 582-2907 with any questions about donations. Thank you to all who donate to this ministry!

Upcoming Events

Kids Club (Ages 3-5th Grade): All kids are invited to join us as we dive into the book of Exodus on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm starting August 30th. Sign-in begins at 6:15pm in the church foyer and pick-up is in the sanctuary at 8pm. Register today at:

www.firstbaptistaledo.com and check out what we offer the entire the family on Wednesdays.

Safe Family Fundraising Dinner: Thursday, September 21st at 6pm at Watch Tower Lodge in Rock Island. There will be a lovely meal and some fun along with speakers who will share about their involvement with Safe Families. If you're interested in the ministry and would like to

attend the dinner, please contact Mollie at 371-6962. There is no cost for the meal, but those attending are encouraged to donate to the organization as they feel led at the close of the evening.

SKG Mom & Me Tea Party: Saturday, September 23rd from 10am-Noon for moms and their daughters ages 3-5th grade. Grandmas are also welcome to

join. The craft fee is \$4 a person; adults may opt out of the craft. Sign-up on www.firstbaptistaledo.com by September 18th.

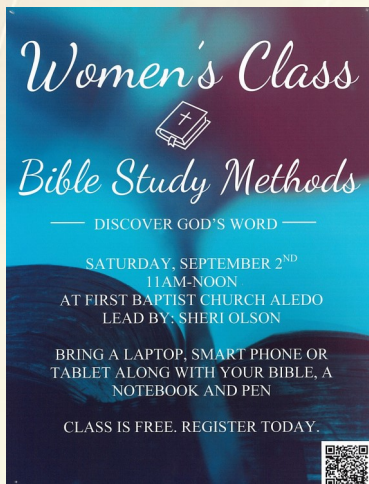


Women's Ministry


Women's Ministry Think Tank

All ladies are invited to a Women's Ministry Think Tank meeting Saturday, September 2nd at 9am in the Enon Room.

J.O.Y. Circle —(Jesus, Others, Yourself) All ladies are invited to JOY Circle. We meet the 4th Tuesday of the month. In September, we will meet Tuesday, September 26th at 7pm.



Women's Class
Bible Study Methods
— DISCOVER GOD'S WORD —
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND
11AM-NOON
AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALEDO
LEAD BY: SHERI OLSON
BRING A LAPTOP, SMART PHONE OR
TABLET ALONG WITH YOUR BIBLE, A
NOTEBOOK AND PEN
CLASS IS FREE. REGISTER TODAY.



Reminder to the women who registered for the "Bible Study Methods" Class—We'll meet Saturday, Sept. 2nd from 11am-Noon in the Enon Room.

All Ladies are Invited to the Women's Better Together Meet & Mingle
Hosted by Barb Bryant at her home
302 SW 4th St. Aledo
Date: Friday, Sept. 22nd
Time: 6:30pm
Theme: Renewal
Bring a snack to share.



Women's
Better Together
FREE Retreat
in the Sanctuary at FBC Aledo
Sat. Sept 9th, 9:00am - Noon
Join us as we hear testimonies of how four FBC ladies have experienced 1 Peter 3:8 and enjoy meaningful small group discussion. Sign up today!
"Be agreeable, be sympathetic, be loving, be compassionate, be humble."
1 Peter 3:8



FBC Women's Better Together Retreat—All women are invited to the Better Together Women's Retreat Saturday, September 9th from 9am-noon at First Baptist Church. This is a FREE event is seeking to better connect the women in the church with God and each other. Call the Church Office to register.

It's now time to sign up!

Life Action Camp
"Thrive" Women's
Conference

Coming in November

First Baptist is taking a group of ladies to Buchanan, MI on Nov. 3rd-5th, 2017 for a women's "Thrive" Conference. Cost is \$160 and covers lodging and meals for the weekend.

Registration forms for Thrive are on the Women's Ministry table in the church lobby. Questions see Jenny Dixon(309)373-0104 or Brooke Loving—(309) 738-2319. Deadline to register: Sept. 15th.



Safe Families

Safe Families for Children provides much needed support for parents in crisis, giving them time to get back on their feet while their children are cared for in a safe and loving environment.



Safe Families *for* Children

central to the Safe Families program. It's at the heart of creating a safe haven for children and a support network for the family in need. After the hosting arrangement ends, Safe Families' goal is for the two families to remain in contact, further reducing social isolation and providing ongoing support. If you are interested in knowing more about Safe Families, please contact Myron or Kelly Higgins.

Safe Families Closet—Sherry & John Huffstutler have graciously organized a closet in the basement near the elevator full of children's clothing for our Safe Families and Foster Families. If you have children coming into your home and you need clothing, diapers, blankets, etc, check out the closet and help yourself. Sherry did say that they are in need of newborn clothing for boys and girls. We do not need any other sizes at this time but if you have newborn clothing in good condition that you would like to donate, please bring it to the church office.



Minute for Missions—L. A. Dream Center

The new year will be here before you know it and we are planning an in country mission trip for adults in the spring. We will be traveling out to California to the L.A. Dream Center. The mission



DREAMCENTER

field is aimed at providing a pathway out of homelessness, addiction, domestic violence, and human trafficking. This mission opportunity will give us exposure and training in the Dream Center's Food Truck mobile food distribution, Adopt-A-Block outreach, Under the Bridge feeding program, Foster Care Intervention, and much more. More information will be coming

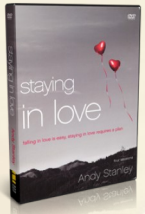
soon! ~ Jenny Dixon—Mission Board Chair

Thirst Conference coming to FBC November 12th-15th A 4-Day Conference

THIRST is a 4-day conference experience that your whole church can enjoy. From Sunday morning through Wednesday night, the Life Action team will bring powerful preaching, refreshing worship, memorable testimonies, dynamic children's and youth programs, and passionate prayer right into your sanctuary. By carefully unpacking biblical texts related to loving God, loving people, understanding and receiving God's grace, turning from pride and sin, calling out for God's help, and seeking Him wholeheartedly, our team will partner with you in casting a vision of a revived, loving, and powerful Christian life. Please be in prayer how you may be involved in this "Thirst" conference. Whether through prayer, attendance, meal prep or hosting team members, please consider how you may want to get involved in the upcoming Revival at First Baptist Aledo.



Not too Late to Join! Wednesday Night Live!
Fall classes for adults and children!
Wednesday Nights Aug. 30th-Nov. 8th from 6:30-8pm.
Call the church office TODAY to register—309-582-7812

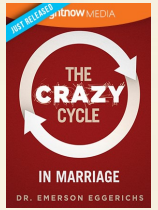


Adult Classes

Taught by Pastor Seth & Denise Bowker – at First Baptist-The Crazy Cycle/Love & Marriage/Staying In Love in Marriage-Class is FREE to attend—

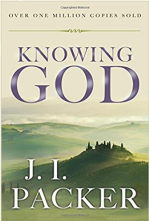
Fun news about the marriage class during Wednesday Night Live at First Baptist. We have had so many sign ups that we are moving the study back to First Baptist and we are adding 2 more studies to the session to complete a total of 11 weeks of marriage studies. Come for all 3 sessions or just 1 or 2, whatever works for you and your spouse, works for us. We'll start with The Crazy Cycle in Marriage, move on to Love and Marriage and

wrap the session up with Staying In Love by Andy Stanley. If you would like to participate, call Pam at the church and register at 309-582-7812. All marriage classes and books are FREE and taught by Pastor Seth and Denise Bowker. Classes begin this Wednesday, Aug. 30th and run through Nov. 8th, each Wednesday night from 6:30-8pm.



JI Packer—Knowing God - Taught by Pastor Luke - One of the top 50 books that have shaped evangelicals.

J. I. Packer's classic has been an important tool to help Christians around the world discover the wonder, the glory and the joy of knowing God. Stemming from Packer's profound theological knowledge, *Knowing God* brings together two important facets of the Christian faith— knowing about God and also knowing God through the context of a close relationship with the person of Jesus Christ. Written in an engaging and practical tone, this thought-provoking work seeks to transform and enrich the Christian understanding of God. Explaining both who God is and how we can relate to Him, Packer divides his book into three sections: The first directs our attention to how and why we know God, the second to the attributes of God and the third to the benefits enjoyed by a those who know Him intimately. This guide leads readers into a greater understanding of God while providing advice to gaining a closer relationship with Him as a result.



The Gospel Project—Stories & Signs-Taught By Kevin & Pam Ricke at their home 1100 S. College Ave., Aledo-Class is Free to Attend—Features 13 Bible study sessions which cover Jesus the storyteller reviewing his Parables as well as Jesus the Miracle worker which will cover the miracles of Jesus.



Financial Peace—Taught by Beth & Chris Whitenack at their home – 803 SW 2nd Ave. Aledo-Cost of the class is \$85 for the kit.

During the class you will find out how to: Make a budget that you will understand and actually use. Get out of debt and stay that way. Communicate with your spouse about finances. Invest with confidence and Change your financial future. All presented in a fun and entertaining way.



Kids Programs

- Kids Club for ages 3 years old through 5th grade.
- Collide Youth Group– 6th-12th grade.
- Nursery for 0-2 years old.



**Sunday Night Class Beginning September 10th
 For graduates of Financial Peace University**

Legacy Journey Class—Sunday Nights beginning Sept. 10th at 6:30pm. This is the next step after Financial Peace University. In this seven lesson biblically based class, you'll learn practical steps to build wealth, be truly generous and learn how to leave your family financially secure for generations to come. Facilitated by Monte Bottens. Sign up on Sunday's Connection Card. Cost for the Legacy Journey Membership Kit is \$85.



Men's Ministry

Men's Momentum Retreat

Date: October 20th-22nd —

Cost: \$100*

Place: Life Action Camp in
Buchanan, MI

Questions: See Pastor Luke or Pastor
Seth



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.

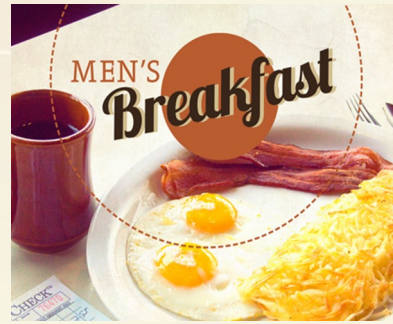
Cost includes conference fee, lodging and meals while at the conference you will need money for 2 meals while on the road.

Departure will be from FBC on Friday, Oct. 20th at 10am and we'll be back in Aledo on Sunday, Oct. 22nd in the early evening.

Interested? Sign up on Sunday's Connection Card. *The actual cost of the retreat is \$150 so if you are able to pay \$150 that helps with the FBC budget.

Optional Mission Work @ Momentum

For those men interested and available FBC has offered to do a mission project at Life Action Camp. If you are able to extend your stay from Oct. 23rd-26th, you can participate in doing hands on maintenance work that the camp needs assistance with. Watch and listen for more details about this mission project.



Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

When/Where: Most
Every Sunday at 7am
at FBC in Fellowship
Hall

Cost: FREE!

Who: All men are invited to attend.

No need to RSVP, just show up hungry!

Questions: See Kevin Ricke

Coming up October 1st!!!

BATTLE OF THE BAGS

Men's Bags Tournament
@ FBC Sunday, October 1st
5:30pm



All men are invited to join us on the lawn of the church Sunday, Oct., 1st at 5:30pm. We will be tossing bags and grilling out. All men are invited to participate. No need to sign up, just grab a friend and show up. This event is free to attend.

Questions - Call Lonnie Maynard -309-644-0311.

Birthday

Jesse Snyder September 1
Logan Snyder
Joyce Bodeen
Jacob Duncan
Janice Klink
Joanne Anderson
Karyn Smith September 2
Sarah Kellett September 3
Bridget Cirks September 4
Jayke Hedrick
Don Korns September 6
Jeremiah Johnson September 7
Shelby Reid September 8
Maurice McCutchan September 8
Mark Castor September 9
Selena Johnson
Micah Hofer
Savannah Hofer
Lucy Dunn September 10
Tenley Sproston September 11
Joe Loving September 12
Sadie Svoboda September 16
Bernice Kelly September 17
Tim McNall
Marty Rind
Natalie Bowker
Betty Weeks September 18
Martha Cirks September 19
Brandon Bruns
Mark VanderHeyden
Jack Vipond
Brad Olson September 20
Lisa Kernan Smith September 21
Brandon Galloway
Bailey Kellett
Vickie Korns September 23
Jenna Latko
Denise Bowker
Karen McConaughy
Brock Huffstutler
Steve Johnson September 24
Bruce Reid September 25
Eloise Moreland September 26
Martha Moffitt
Jennifer Russell September 27
Lauryn Russell
Shannon Sedam
September 28
Jim Anderson September 29

Anniversary

Mark & Lynda Castor

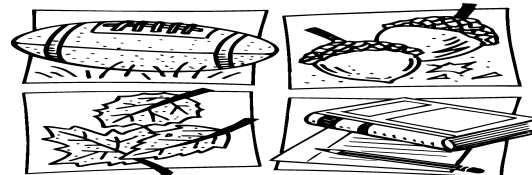
Leonard & Sandi Williams

Scott & Becky Moffitt

Barry & Alison Lafever

Ron & Sharon Moffitt

Jim & Joanne Anderson



September

Paul & Kay Hedrick
Larry & Patsy Castor



Darren and I want to express our deep appreciation for so many blessings. Thank you Jeanne Barber, Shelly Snyder, Vickie Korns, John & Sherry Huffstutler and Steve & Felicia Bonyng for the wonderful meals they brought us after my surgery. Thank you Laurie Louck for coming to visit after my surgery. Thank you very much to the wonderful prayer team. Thank you to everyone who prayed for us before and after my surgery. Thank you to everyone who sent cards. Thank you to everyone for their kind words and support. God has blessed us with a wonderful church family! Trust God!

Sincerely, Darren & Janet Rind

A Word From Pastor Seth

Update on the mobile home renovation project for Alex Ruska. As we have been calling it the Ruska Renovation. We are starting to wrap up this mission Project.

The last things to go in the mobile home are the vinyl floors, water fixtures and kitchen cabinets.



I want to thank all of the people that gave from their hearts. This could never have happened without all the folks giving their time, money and talents to

this wonderful project. People keep asking me what the final price tag is on this project and its not something that I can calculate accurately. The calculation of skilled professionals giving over their time and materials to this project leaves me with hidden variables.

Donations such as:

- The roof and cost of installation was donated
- The shower that was given to us at no charge
- The wheelchair ramp that was built for the cost of wood because labor was donated
- The plumbing and electrical installation was all donated time from professional tradesmen.
- The framing, windows, flooring and trusses were all donated time and talents from our Church Body.
- Painting, caulking, and making it pretty has all been donated time by Church family

The money that the Church people have donated to this project has kept the materials coming for all these people to come in and keep building and shaping this home for the family. According to the last things to go into the home I have a need of \$2000 dollars more. I already have a zero budget and we are too far to quit now so please consider helping in this last stage of the project.

Stay tuned for the open house date and the final “Move that Church bus moment!”

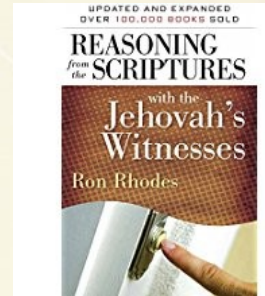
Budgets/Reads/Thank You

Church Budgets – Committee Chairs and staff - Please turn in your proposed church budget for 2018 to Diane Nelson or the church office by Oct. 1st. Thank you.

September Recommended Read

Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Jehovah's Witnesses

This book is the ultimate reference guide, helping you bring light and truth to people who may hold to the beliefs of the Jehovah's Witnesses. A few copies are available in the lobby for \$9 each.



1st Baptist Family: I want to thank each and everyone one of you for your prayers, words of encouragement and your cards and notes that came to our home and even to the Hope Lodge in

Iowa city. I am in awe at what an outpouring of love I have felt when I read your words. Each prayer of card or note is a miracle to me. I look forward to them with the excitement of a child waiting for Christmas. It is so wonderful to find a card in the mail, it is confirmation that there are other Christians lifting me up even when I am too tired to pray for myself.

Many of you know my husband, Marc, better than you may know me, I have been home bound for quite a while and have not had the privilege of meeting each of you yet. I am asking you to lift Marc up in your prayers, especially during the next 8 weeks. He has taken on all the workload to keep us up and running. He loads the van, he helps get me dressed and gets me to the hospital, he cooks, he cleans, he does laundry, -- the list goes on, but I am sure you get the gist. Even through it seems he works all day and most of the night, he approaches each task with patience and compassion, it reminds me daily how truly blessed I am to have such a loving husband.

I also ask you to keep me in your prayers...some of the treatments are a little scary, thing I cannot control are hard for me to accept. I like to be in charge of the outcome, and I like to see progress on a regular basis. That is not how it works with cancer treatments.

But, I want you to know, I am not worried. There is a confidence, a peace inside me. I believe that comes from God through each of you. I don't know what the outcome of all the treatments will be, but I am comforted knowing that I am not on this journey alone...I take each of you along with me. Sometimes when I feel a little nervous it seems there was a sentence or a scripture in a card I read the night before and it come to me just when I need it most. Immediately those feelings of anxiety are overcome with the warmth of family - I am so grateful you opened your hearts and arms and took me in. God's blessing - Dori Dewey

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Aledo, IL 61231

Phone: 309-582-7812
Fax: 309-582-2064
Email: fbcaledo2@frontiernet.net
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