

Faith news fbc

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALEDO—JANUARY 2017

Pastor Luke's Perspective

New Year, New Possibilities

One of the Scriptures that I have often reflected on is a little known verse in Acts. Acts 13:36 states that David served God's purpose in his own generation. The point



that the Apostle Paul was making was actually about Jesus. Basically, what Paul was referring to was that when David had served God's purpose he died, whereas Jesus rose from the dead in order to be faithful in and to all generations. In

other words, Jesus's faithfulness wasn't limited to one lifespan. But I often reflect on the fact that David was considered faithful in his own generation. David had a role to play, and he had a short time in which to do it. He only lived to be about 70. Obviously our greatest comfort is in the fact that Jesus is alive and well and will accomplish His plan in every generation. I also take encouragement that we each have a role to play in His plan in our generation. I don't have to worry about two or three generations down the road, or what God might want to do in 50 years. I have to simply seek to be faithful in God's plan for the unique and specific time and place He put me on this earth for. Faithfulness, obedience, and listening to God's voice is our greatest challenge and our most important assignment. I have been

overwhelmed by this church's willingness to follow God's will wherever that may lead. I believe that quality is our greatest strength. This year, I believe, holds great possibilities for our church. We have been a wonderfully fruitful church, and I have full faith and confidence that we will not only continue to be so, but even more so in the years ahead. That fruitfulness also produces challenges. We have had to add staff, trust God with a bigger budget, be creative with our spaces, and deal with the increasing need for discipleship, volunteers, assimilation, counseling, and a myriad of other things. I love it. It's exciting to see God move the way He's moving at FBC. And so, for the last year and a half the building committee has been working to figure out and prayerfully discern solutions for some of our challenges. I'm excited to announce that we are finally ready to unveil what has taken us so long to discern. We are planning to present the building committee's findings at the annual business meeting in January. We want to make sure that everyone can be there, so we are planning to hold the meeting at 6pm on January 22nd. I want to personally thank Steve Struble, Aaron Struble, Todd Coulter, Karen McConaughy, Kevin Ricke and Perry Baugher for your patient, wholehearted service on the building committee. So, please mark your calendars and spend the next few weeks praying for God to lead our church exactly where He wants it to go, and for our own courage to be faithful in our generation.

In Christ, Pastor Luke

Church Events

- Jan. 3rd – Deacon Meeting
- Jan. 4th—Wed Night Live Classes Begin!
- Jan. 5th—Annual Reports Due
- Jan. 7th—Men's 33 Study begins
 - Men's Ministry Council
 - Women's Min Think Tank
- Jan. 8th—CE/Outreach Meeting
 - Family Fun Night @ YMCA
- Jan. 9th—Women's Min Launch Night
- Jan. 10-Genesis Women's Study
- Jan. 17—Church Council Meeting
- Jan. 22-Annual Business Meeting-6PM
- Jan. 31-Mission Team leaves for El Salvador



**"Online Giving is Coming in January" Website and Mobile App!
Use this QR Code to get started!**



Collide Youth News

As this year comes to a close, all I can say is, Lord, thank you. Looking back on this year it was full of challenges, but it was also so very full of God's immense and beautiful grace. A couple of weeks ago we baptized 11 students. What a joy it has been to walk with these students on their journey's of coming to know Christ, then making a decision to make their faith public and walk in obedience with their Lord through baptism. The best part of helping these students walk their faith journey is hearing their parents say things like, "something is different about my child. Whatever your youth program has done has changed them for the better." I always remind them, it's Jesus! It's His grace working in their life to accomplish His beautiful purpose of making them a new creation. We're just along for

the ride, doing our best to create an environment to help foster their faith growth and love them in the process.

Pray with us that as we reach out to students coming from non-Christian homes that we could reach their parents as well, seeing whole families transformed through the gospel. That is one of our highest goals, to see entire families lives radically altered through reaching one teenager with the truth of Jesus.

We're excited to share that the bus ministry grew so much last semester that we've chosen to hire out a 50+ passenger bus and driver for this upcoming session of Wednesday Night Live. Pray God would fill the bus with students who are spiritually ripe and ready to receive the gospel. Pray also for God to bring in more volunteers to serve this ministry, the kids ministry and youth ministry so we can best minister to them.



The mission trip deadline is quickly approaching on Feb. 12th, so if you're interested in the family mission trip, please let me know. It's geared towards the WHOLE family and gets them serving together. There are no age restrictions, so kids of any age can serve with their parents and church family. I have 14 spots still available.

Lastly, in order to help students and families get the funding they need for things like mission trips and summer conference we'll be creating a Collide Work Program. This means if you have any small jobs around your house like shoveling snow, cleaning gutters, or mowing the lawn, raking leaves, etc. contact me Heather at 1-217-552-5253 and workers will be sent your way. The work will be by donation.

Many Blessings in Jesus name, Heather Q.

Upcoming Events!

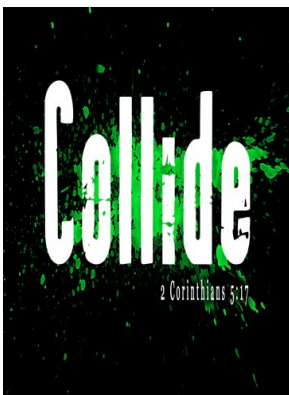
Family Night at the YMCA-Jan. 8th - No HS Collide that night, please join us at the YMCA from 5:30-8pm! Fun for the whole family!

Prayerforce Boardgame Night- Sunday, Feb. 19th from 4-5:30pm in fellowship hall of First Baptist. All Prayerforce members and students join us for games and snacks!

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.

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.

Before School Prayer Time! - High School - Radical Disciples-7:30am Mondays Room 214, Jr. High - 7:45am Thursdays in the Chorus Room, **MC Intermediate** - 7:40am Tuesdays in the library.



Announcements

Date	Nursery	Kids Club
1/1/17	Betty Williams, Patsy Castor, Lisa Clawson & Katie Loving	Melissa Struble & Haley Johnson, Jenny Dixon & Mollie Dunn
1/8/17	Betty Williams, Ronda Moffitt, Susan Potthast & Veronica Moffitt	Tina McCaw, Lisa & Shay Litwiler, & Mollie Dunn
1/15/17	Betty Williams, Cathy Griswold, Emily Baldwin & Maddie Dunn	Sarah Kellett, Shannon Sedam, & Paul Hedrick (Mollie's gone)
1/22/17	Betty Williams, Marcy, Rusty & Shaylee Smet	Stephanie & Terry Leonard,
1/29/17	Betty Williams, Sharon Moffitt, Vivian Kopp & Bryce Moffitt	Felicia Bonyng, Cimion Norwick, Todd Baldwin & 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 January – Diane Nelson

Trustee of the Month for January: - Shay Litwiler

Prayer Team Assignments:

January 1– Kay Hedrick, MaryLee Finch, Peggy Johnson, Vickie Korn & Laurie Louck

January 8– Jeanne Barber, Barb Bryant, Lonnie Maynard & Sherry Huffstutler

January 15 – Deb & Dave VanderHeyden, Troy Riddell, Vickie Korn & Laurie Louck

January 22 – Tina McCaw, Jason & Shelly Snyder, Elden Cirks & Lonnie Maynard

January 29—Rotation of Volunteers

Weekly Attendance & Offering

DATE	12/4/16	12/11/16	12/18/16	12/24/16	12/25/16
8 AM	70	75	46		--
10 AM	235	382	211		306
TOTAL	305	457	257	320	306

Date	12/4/16	12/11/16	12/18/16	12/24/16	12/25/16	12/27/16
Current Expense	\$9,898.67	\$9,181.50	\$10,778.01		\$7,518.50	\$5,700.00
Designated Giving	\$2,524.48	\$2,499.82	\$1,140.00	\$1,902.00	\$10,605.70	\$8,000.00
Total	\$12,423.15	\$11,681.32	\$11,918.01	\$1,902.00	\$18,124.20	\$13,700.00



Kids Club Ministry

~January News

Happy New Year! I don't know about you, but after a nice long reprieve over the holidays, I feel refreshed and ready to tackle the New Year. Wednesday Night Live, Collide, & Kids Club start up again on Wednesday, January 4th from 6:30-8pm and I am so thankful for the multiple staff and volunteers who serve so that we can have great programs at FBC. I am truly thankful for such a giving church and for the opportunity to serve.

In my devotions a couple weeks ago I read **1 Corinthians 3:7-9**- *"So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow."*⁷ *The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each*

be rewarded according to their own labor. ⁹For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." This passage was a sweet reminder to me that while we may serve to help bring people closer to the Lord, he is the one who makes our service fruitful and it is all for him!

As God makes us grow, we need to stay connected to and focused on him more than ever in 2017. If you haven't heard, our church will be making a

huge decision this year whether to expand and adapt our facility to meet our growing needs in multiple areas. As someone who is continuously working out logistical issues with staff and volunteers, I know how important this decision is specifically to our

children's ministry. Every year our children's ministry has increased in size (all glory to God) but it's important to know that growth brings necessary changes. Here are a few specific issues that we have: 1) We are maxed out and many of the spaces we currently have need work to be more functional. 2) We need safer, larger, child-friendly spaces that are easily accessible and allow us to spread out as we learn and play. 3) We need designated check-in areas for all ages, and 4) We need to have the freedom to divide up age groups when necessary for the ease of those serving and for better quality learning for our children.

Will you join me in prayer and in dialogue at our business meetings so we can make a unified decision together as we are being used for God's glory and purpose? As always, thank you for reading! I hope to see you at our business meeting later this month!

~Mollie



Upcoming Events

Kids Club: For kids ages 3-5th grade is Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm. The New Session of Kids Club begins Jan. 4th and runs through April 5th, 2017.

Family Fun Night: January 8th from 5:30-8pm @ the YMCA. FREE Admission! Swim from 5:30-7:30pm. Bring a friend & a snack to share! Sponsored by the FBC Men's Ministry team.



Women's Ministry & General Announcements



Women's Ministry Think Tank

All women are invited to the January Women's Ministry Think Tank

meeting on Saturday, Jan. 7th at 9am in the Enon Room.

Women's Mentoring Launch Night-

All Mentors and Mentees who have not already been paired up are asked to join us for Mentoring Launch Night, Monday, Jan. 9th at 7pm at FBC. If you have questions, please see Sheri Olson.

FBC Celebrates 150 Years!



This is an early heads up to mark your calendar for our celebration which will take place June 10th and 11th, 2017. The

Did you know 2017 marks the 150th Anniversary of First Baptist Church? It's true!

150th Planning Committee is working on all the details and we'll keep you posted as they unfold.

A note to the Choir

Attn: Joyful Noise choir: Please note the following Choir Practice Schedule. Jan. 3rd—we will NOT practice, January 10th —We WILL practice. We will sing at both service on Sunday, Jan. 15th and there will NOT be practice on Jan. 17th but we will practice again on Jan. 24th and the 31st. Thanks!



FBC Annual Meeting Change in Time!

The First Baptist Church of Aledo will host it Annual Business Meeting— Sunday, Jan 22nd, 2017. The meeting will be at 6PM as, in addition to our regular Annual Business meeting agenda, we will also be discussing the next phase of our building project.

ATTN: Committee Chairs - Please have your committee reports for the Annual Report to the church office by Thursday, Jan. 5th. Financial reports are due by Jan. 10th.

Church Council will meet Tuesday, Jan. 17th at 7pm.

Other Meetings of Note

The Deacons will meet Tuesday, Jan. 3rd at 6:30pm.

Christian Ed Outreach Meeting is Sunday, Jan. 8th at 11:40am in Mollie's office.

Please be in prayer for the FBC El Salvador Mission Team as they will be on the mission field from Jan. 31-Feb. 6th.

Everyone is invited!! Join us for FBC's Family Night at the YMCA

The FBC Men's Ministry invites everyone to the Mercer County YMCA on Sunday, Jan. 8th from 5:30-8pm for a family fun night. Cost is FREE, bring a snack to share, there will be an open gym, swimming from 5:30-7:30pm, a play room for children 2 and under and an adult volleyball tournament (gather a team of 6). No need to RSVP, just show up!

Calendar

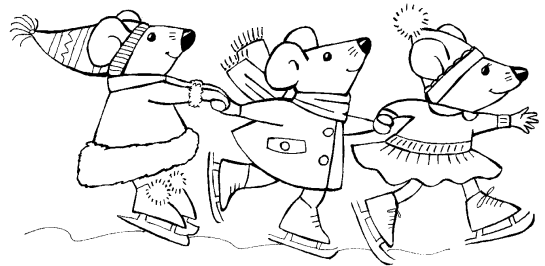
Happy Birthday

Dylane Riddell	January 1
Laryssa Russell	January 4
Emmerson Sproston	January 5
Jack Ruska	
Janice Duncan	January 6
Christopher Hedrick	
Leonard Williams	
Bill Bewley	January 7
Linus Griswold	
Bob Kopp	January 8
	January 9
Denise Kelly	January 11
Jesse Korns	January 13
Tish Riddell	
Rich Ruggles	January 14
Jacque Bruns	
Dave Cooper	January 19
Mike Sponsler	January 20
Beth Sproston	January 21
Gene Thompson	
Clay Huffstutler	
Jeanne Barber	
Linda Bell	January 24
Francis Banks	January 25
Keith Moreland	January 26
Lindsay Schweninger	
Trinity Norwick	
Payton Ruggles	
Ellie Vipond	
Richard Franks	January 27
Colin Miller	
Cindy Maynard	January 28
Shay Litwiler	
Lynda Castor	January 30
Lonnie Maynard	
Jarod Dale	
Lisa Litwiler	

Happy Anniversary

Steve & Diane Nelson

John & Denise Kelly



January

****If you or a family member are not on our birth-day/anniversary list, please call the church office at 582-7812 with names and dates so we can add your special day.**

I want to thank the people of 1st Baptist for their support of the Viola United Presbyterian Song leadership/Guitar Clinic. With the funds we have received we are very close to supporting one student. We are blessed to have another congregation help us monetary wise. I myself have been blessed to have Steve and Lauryn help in teaching the kids. May God keep blessing your church throughout the new year. In His Service,
Elden Decker



First Baptist Church, Thank you so much for the gift of money. It is a joy and honor to serve in your church. We appreciate you thinking of us! In Christ, Kent & Colleen

Thank you. Your kindness is special and so are you! Thank you for the delicious Thanksgiving meal. Thank you and the Lord for thinking of me. Bettie Monts

Thank you very much for donating to the Nursing Home Christmas Gift project! The staff and residents of both nursing homes greatly appreciate being remembered during this Christmas season. I appreciate that your donations helped make this another successful year. I would also like to thank Patsy Castor, Vivian Kopp, Linus Griswold, and Mary Flint for their help in sorting, boxing, loading and delivering the gifts! Thanks again!
Cathy Griswold

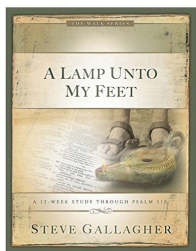
New Wednesday Night Live Studies!

Studies run Jan. 4th-April 5th, 2017

Each Wednesday—6:30pm-8pm @ FBC

All studies are free! Call the office to sign up!

A Lamp Unto My Feet



“A Lamp Unto My Feet”—an in-depth study of the 119th Psalm—Taught by Pastor Seth and open to everyone—Every

true believer is daily moving toward his eternal destination. However, before that final crossing into the land of immortality, the Christian pilgrim must first travel through a hostile empire, fraught with "dangers, toils and snares." How will he find his way through this land of shadows? Fortunately, the "Father of lights" has not left us to fend for ourselves; but rather, He has provided a roadmap, the Word of God.

A sequel to Gallagher's *The Walk of Repentance*, this is a 12-week journey through the beautiful Psalm 119. This practical, personal study is a great resource for any individual seeking guidance in the midst of life's struggles. Through daily meditation readings and questions for reflection, believers will be asked to consider the truths of Scripture. At each week's end, they will also read about the life of David, a man after God's own heart and author of this epic psalm. Every reader will be brought into a deeper love, respect and appreciation for God's Word.

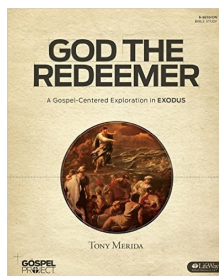
God the Redeemer

A study of Exodus

Home study at Jordan & Crystal Clarks & Kevin & Pam Ricke's Home

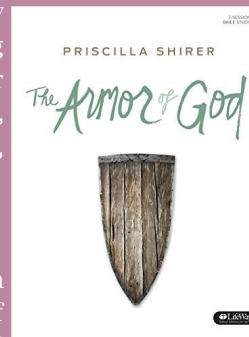
Facilitated by Jordan Clark and Kevin Ricke at their homes. Open to all. Sign up and you will be given a home address for the Clarks or the Rickses. According to the plan of God, demonstrated in the life of Joseph, God's people left the promised land for Egypt to find relief from a famine. There they prospered until a new Pharaoh rose up and enslaved them. Their cries were heard by their covenant-making God, who began His glorious work of redemption of His people through a mediator, Moses. Through many miraculous displays of His power, God redeemed His people and led them out of slavery, a foreshadow of the greater redemption from sin that comes through the greater mediator, Jesus Christ.

Session titles: The Redeemer Responds, The Redeemer Reveals His Glory, The Redeemer Judges and Saves, Worthy of Praise, The Wilderness Test, & Rebellion Against the Redeemer Features: Biblically rooted and gospel-centered content. Application of key theological tenets -Historical background that creates greater context for spiritual growth -Biblical truth that's reliable -Provocative questions, scriptural support and text, application, and preparation Come to know Jesus more intimately as your redeemer. -See first-hand how God's revelatory power through Moses looks forward to the gospel story.



Armor of God by Priscilla Shirer

This study will now be at First Baptist on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm and facilitated by Jeanne Barber. All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you — unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, your mind, your marriage, your children, your relationships, your resilience, your dreams, your destiny.



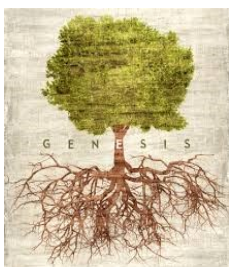
But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you. The enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. *The Armor of God*, more than merely a biblical description of the believer's inventory, is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory.

Prayer Group

Join an in home prayer group on Wednesday nights during WNL. Mick & Laurie Louck along with Jason & Shelly Snyder will host a prayer group at their homes. The first week will be at the Loucks and then it will alternate back and forth. This is not a study on prayer, it is praying. Open to men and women of all ages who desire to seek God together in prayer for our church, our community, our youth, our nation, revival. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them. Matthew 18:20. The Louck's address is: 612 NE 2nd Ave., Aledo & the Snyder's address is: 409 NW 8th Ave., Aledo.

*Women's
Genesis Study
Tuesdays @ 1:30pm*

Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 10th at 1:30pm there will be a verse by verse study in the book of Genesis facilitated by Sheri Olson. This study will be held at the church and is open to all women who are interested in digging deep into the first book of the Bible. Sign up today! If you're attending this study and need childcare, please call the church office at 582-7812.





A Note From Pastor Seth

Asking & Seeking

Often times I limit myself with God. I can ask God for anything and pray about anything. I limit myself by asking only things that I can comprehend as possible.

This was made evident to me by my son this Christmas. My son received a gift of real tools and not the plastic type. It is a small case with screwdrivers and a small drill and some pliers. I told him that I was excited to see what we could build together. I went down a list of practical things like a pencil holder, a shelf or the project we are all wanting is to build a dog house, for Waffles (our dog). Jadon caught on to the list and began to add to it. Dad, we could build a race car, a boat or an airplane. I sat back and laughed for a moment and enjoyed his list. He had confidence that we could do it and he also didn't have the same restriction I had on these new tools.

This is where God began to teach me about my little bag of tools my life, my existence or even my faith. Do I limit God on the things I ask for? Just like my Son do I come to my Heavenly Father and ask for the biggest greatest thing I can think of. Do I ask for miracles of healing and miracles of salvation for those around me? Does my little brain

limit God's power?

"God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible—what a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves. —A.W. TOZER"

Heavenly Father, Help me and help your Church to take on the impossible. Not because we can but because we know that you can Father. Help us to approach you with all the things beyond our grasp so that you alone receive the glory. In Jesus name, Amen.
~Seth

A New Men's Study Begins in January



Join us Saturday mornings at 6am beginning Jan. 7th for the "33 Study - A Man and His Design." Taught by Pastor Seth. There are so many voices out there that are telling you what it means to be a man. Discover God's design for men with a clear definition and inspiring vision of Authentic Manhood. Sign up on Sunday's Connection Card.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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PLEASE CALL: THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 309-582-7812

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Family of Matt Anson, Bettie Monts, Vickie & Terry Kondora, Nadine Coulter, Janet Rind, Family of Mary Crowell, Darla Ball, Robby Young, Megan Klauer, Landon McIntosh, Sandi Williams, Paige Johnson, Scott Yager, Maddie Wells, Family of John Downey, Martha Bernridge, Yvonne Roos, Aiyle Edwards, Donna Fisk, Betty Adams, Mary Rillie, Cathy and Dennis Carlson, Matt Martin, Allen & Mary Jo Retherford, Donna & Brian Bushnell, Bill Bewley, Ryan McNall Thomas, 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, Noah Muske, Mark Muske, 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, Bill McNamara, 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