

First Baptist Church of Aledo



November Newsletter

Pastor's Corner

"Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

~

**Matthew
12:50**

One of the issues we constantly face as a growing church with multiple service times is a certain feeling of disconnectedness. Many people who are equally involved at First Baptist Church in different ways don't know each other. We have to work hard to build relationships within the church, and it is such a constant issue that our efforts are never enough to meet the need. Sometimes people get frustrated and stop attending. Others prefer to be anonymous, but never move beyond simply attending worship. Still others are frustrated, but begin to harbor hurt feelings that no one cares about them. Ideally, what we would love to see happen is for people to take the initiative to get involved, but that type of personality is the exception not the rule. So, we try to make sure there are plenty of opportunities for people to get connected, by offering lots of classes, retreats, pot luck

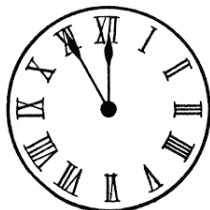
dinners, service projects, and fellowship times after worship. In all the hustle and bustle we still have not created the spirit of unity that we are ultimately seeking. One of the problems is distinguishing between a "family church" and the "family of God". A family church is fundamentally a small church where everyone knows everyone and there is significant control by the members over all decisions. The family of God is the bond of love believers share regardless of their church affiliation. Sometimes people get the two confused. First Baptist is not and does not desire to be a "family church", but it must always seek to be the family of God. In the month of November I will begin a sermon series to address this concept, and how we can enjoy the fellowship

God created and desires us to have as brothers and sisters in Christ. Many of us have seen this bond of love with the Christians in El Salvador we have been blessed to meet and serve while on mission trips. There is a deep unity between the believers there, and an openness and acceptance of us into that connection. What it produces is a great joy, deep faith, sincere gratitude, and innate sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit. This is my prayer and hope for First Baptist as well. I'm excited to see how God is going to mold us into His family as we continue to seek Him together!

In Christ,
Pastor Luke

Inside this issue:

Heather Quiroz-Youth Ministry & Collide Info.	2
Weekly Information	3
Mollie Dunn-Children's Ministry	4
Bulletin Board	5
November Calendar	6
November Birthdays	7
Christmas Outreach	8
Pastor Seth	9
Prayer Concerns	10



Times - They Are Changing

Fall back!

Before you go to bed Saturday night make sure to turn your clock back 1 hour as Sunday, Nov.1, 2015 is the end of daylight savings time.

Coming in January!—Beginning Sunday, Jan. 3rd we will have a **new time for our 10am service**. In an effort to provide more time for Sunday School, the 10am service will be moved to 10:15am. The 8am service will remain the same and Sunday School will remain the same at 9am.



**Jr. High and
High school
students both
meet for
Collide
during
Wednes-
day
Night Live
from 6:30-
8pm.**

Wow, what an AMAZING day this past Sunday was during Youth Sunday! God is certainly at work amongst our teenagers. If you weren't there, you really missed out on hearing some real, honest, transparent stories from our teenagers. They boldly shared their struggles. They opened up and paved the way for others to do the same. We were all challenged by the students to lay down the masks we hide behind at the altar. Many rose to the challenge along with the students to leave their fear, anger, resentment, pride, selfishness, or whatever else they were hiding behind at the feet of Jesus. I have never seen such a response at the 8am service. I was overwhelmed as nearly 25 people laid down their masks at the altar in response to the students challenge that morning. A similar response was made at the 10am service. I watched as the students' eyes lit up, because in that moment, they realized God was using them to reach the church.



I know God will use these stories from our young people to stir our church to greater lengths of faith. My prayer is now that the students have paved the way with their transparency that we, as adults, will come with the same broken and contrite hearts and admit to our own brokenness. Together, we can see lives transformed and healed.

As you can see, I'm excited for what God has in store. I am so proud of our youth who shared their stories with the church, who served, spoke, sang and truly became the church of TODAY, not just the church of tomorrow this past Sunday. Pray with me these students would embrace God's call on their life to be the church of today. Pray for them to stay connected, honest and transparent. In doing so, we'll see the church revived and God's kingdom come in greater ways.

This morning at prayer group a 7th grader said to me, "*Fall Retreat, made me become a Christian.*" I asked her what she meant by that, she said, a week after fall retreat, one night while reading her Bible she decided that she was going to make Jesus Lord and Savior of her life. She said, "*I was scared, but I'm so glad I did it, I feel like a new person.*" I told her, that's because YOU ARE! Praise God!

Also, a heads up on an event planned for Sunday Nov. 1st. It's going to be a great time as we bring the family and youth ministry together for a movie and pizza night. We'll be leaving the church at 3pm to head to Moline to see "Woodlawn" then out for pizza afterwards. The church will pay for the pizza, families are asked to pay for their own movie tickets. Financial assistance is available. Please RSVP to Heather if you plan on coming, collideyouthministry@gmail.com or 217-552-5253.

Blessings! Heather Q

JUST ONE MORE" shirts are on sale - If you'd like a shirt please email Heather at collideyouthministry@gmail.com. They're only 5 bucks!

Upcom- ing Collide Youth Events!

Family Movie Night THIS SUNDAY!- Youth Ministry Families are invited to gather for pizza and a movie this Sunday, Nov. 1st. Meet at the church at 3pm, we'll head to the Quad Cities to catch a matinee of the new movie "Woodlawn" then grab pizza afterwards. Pizza will be covered by the youth ministry and families are asked to cover the cost of movie tickets. Please RSVP to Heather—1-217-552-5253 if you plan on attending or if you need financial assistance to pay for the movie. Bring your Just One More friend and they get into the movie for free!

Nov 3rd is Small Group Choice Night at Collide- This means small groups might be leaving the church to go and do something fun or grab a bite to eat. Don't worry we'll be back by 8pm. We just wanted to let you know! If you have concerns or questions, please contact Heather.

Engaging the Youth Sports Culture- Wednesday, Dec. 2nd, 6:30-8pm in the Youth Room. Families are invited to join in a great discussion with Tim Schneckcloth, Director of Fellow of Christian Athletes in the Quad City Area on how we, as church and family, can best engage the Youth Sports Culture as Christians.

COLLIDE IS IN FULL SWING! - Jr. High and High school students both meet during Wednesday Night Live from 6:30-8pm. Students break out into separate age groups.

2015 WEEKLY INFORMATION CENTER

Date	Nursery	Kids Club Worship	Greeters
11/1/15	Betty Williams, Sharon Moffitt, & Bryce Moffitt	Joe & Brook Loving, Brian Rind & Maddie Dunn	Bill & Arlene Bewley & Shay Litwiler
11/8/15	Betty Williams, Paul Hedrick, & Susan Potthast	Denise Bowker, Tina McCaw, Jason & Brady Connell	Cindy & Lonnie Mynard Gene & Krista Bear
11/15/15	Betty Williams, Vivian Kopp, Grace Buttgen	Denise Kelly, Kelly Higgins & Jen Miller	Bill & Marsha Loving & Monica Dennison
11/22/15	Betty Williams, Ronda Moffitt, & Veronica Moffitt	Kids Club Sunday— Sanctuary help— Lynda C, Beth W, Paul H. Cora W.	Linus & Cathy Griswold Jeanne Barber
11/29/15	Betty Williams, Lisa Clawson, Bryce Moffitt	Lisa & Shay Litwiler & Sarah Kellett	Mike & Kathy Sponsler & Troy Riddell

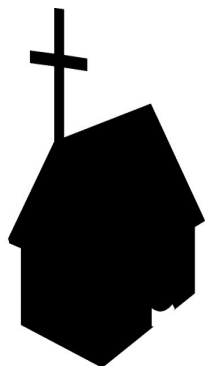
If you are unable to serve the day you are scheduled in the Nursery, please make arrangements in advance to switch with another person on the schedule. Please contact **Ronda Moffitt, Nursery Coordinator, for all concerns on her Cell:(309) 371-3021**. Thank you! **Kids Club Worship**—PLEASE come to the Fellowship Hall by **9:45am** 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 November — Jeanne Barber
Trustee Member of the Month for November — JP Kelly

Weekly Attendance & Offering



DATE	10/4/15	10/11/15	10/18/15	10/25/15
8 AM	71	61	57	55
10 AM	208	217	234	174
TOTAL	279	278	291	229



Date	10/4/15	10/11/15	10/18/15	10/25/15
Current Expense	\$9,751.42	\$7955.18	\$16,793.25	\$6,078.79
Building Fund/Mem.	\$722.00	\$75.00	\$550.00	\$105.00
Benevolence	\$1,631.00	\$745.00	\$2,535.00	\$774.00
Total	\$12,104.42	\$8,775.18	\$19,878.25	\$6,957.79

November News—Kids Club Ministry



I wanted to take a break from my “Root of the Matter” series to give you a little update on our Kids Club Ministry. We’ve had a great fall session at Kids Club on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm. The kids have been working very hard learning Psalm 23 and The Lord’s Prayer. They want to show you all that they’ve learned on **Sunday, Nov. 22nd during the 10am service at Kids Club Sunday.** Kids Club families and their guests are invited to join us downstairs after the service for walking tacos and Root beer floats. Kids need to wear their Kids Club t-shirts (if they have one) and be ready to rehearse in the sanctuary at 9am. If they can’t make it for rehearsal, please have them in the sanctuary no later than 9:45.

There are two opportunities to serve in the new year. The first opportunity is called “Baby Blessings.” We need one person who is committed to sending a card & gift to our families with new arrivals! We’ll provide the materials if you can provide the time! Please contact me if you’re interested!

We also need a few volunteers for the winter/spring session of Kids Club from Jan. 6th-March 18th. All volunteers serving minors at FBC must complete our Child Protection Training. Please contact me if you would like more information. Enjoy this beautiful fall weather & have a wonderful Thanksgiving! Mollie

Upcoming Events

Kids Club Reward Night (Nov. 18th): Kids are invited to wear their comfy PJ’s and they will have the opportunity to recite their memory verses for a visit to the prize table. Copies of the memory verses are available at the sign-in table in the sanctuary and can also be found on Facebook on “First Baptist Children’s Ministry”. Join today for updates, event info, pictures, and more.



Kids Club Sunday (Nov. 22nd): All kids in Kids Club are going to show us what they’ve learning during Kids Club this session at the 10am service. **There will not be Kids Worship this Sunday.** *Please see above for rehearsal details.



Sunday School Christmas Party & Kids Program (Dec. 13th): Pre-k through 6th grade Sunday School classes will be celebrating Christmas at 9am during the Sunday School hour. The Pre-k through 4th grade classes will also be singing during the 10am service so please have the kids wear their Christmas clothes!



Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry Think Tank—Saturday, Nov. 7th at 9am. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Women's Mentorship Sign Ups Begin for the 2016 Program - Women (ages 18+) who are interested in participating in the Mentorship Program as either a mentor or a mentee should pick up a **Profile**

Form from the Women's Ministry table in the foyer. Completed Profile Forms can be given to Sheri Olson or Cindy Maynard or left in the Church Office. Deadline to sign up is **Sunday, Nov. 8th**. We will be making some changes to next year's program. Information about the changes is also on the Women's Ministry Table. The program will run from January 25th, 2016 through August meeting every other **Monday evening from 6:30pm to 8pm**.

Secret Sisters! It's almost time! We will be holding the Secret Sister Reveal on Sun. Nov 1st at 2pm in the overflow area of the sanctuary. Come and find out who your secret sister is!!! We will also talk briefly about what worked with the program, what didn't work, and possibilities for next year's program. Please RSVP to Cindy Maynard.

Make A Candy Cane Wreath—All ladies are invited to join the Women's Ministry team for a Candy Cane wreath making event in the Enon Room on Friday, Nov. 13th at 6:30pm. The supplies will be provided but if ladies would like to contribute they may bring red and white regular size candy canes, Christmas ribbon, hot glue guns and glue sticks, mini- to small- size decorations such as globes. You may

bring a holiday snack to share. Drinks and tableware will be provided. Please RSVP to Cindy Maynard at 309-582-2098.

Lawn Chairs – 2 lawn chairs were left at the Castors following the wiener roast. Call Lynda at 582-0599 if they are yours.

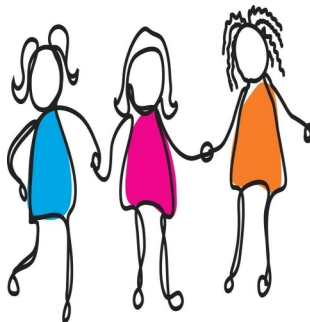


J.O.Y. Circle (Jesus Others Yourself)

Will meet at Tuesday, Nov. 24th at 6pm at Vashti Village for a potluck. All ladies are invited to attend. Bring canned goods or paper products for the food pantry.

Single Sister Movie Day!

Join us Saturday, Nov. 14th at 1:30pm in the Enon Room at the church. All single ladies over the age of 18 are invited to attend. Questions, see Pam Spangler.



What's Coming Up!

Deacon meeting— Tuesday, Nov. 3rd at 7pm.



Church Council meeting— November 10th at 7pm. Please have your Committee Nominations turned in by Sunday, Nov. 8th.

Special Business Meeting—Sunday, Nov. 15th following the 10am service.



Happy Thanksgiving!—In observance of the holiday the church office will be closed Nov. 26th & 27th. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Pancake Sausage Breakfast-Sunday, Nov. 8th following the 8am & 10am services. Pancakes and sausage will be served. Cost is by donation. Proceeds benefit the El Salvador Mission Trip.



5th Sunday Potluck—Everyone is invited to join us on Sunday, Nov. 29th in Fellowship Hall following the 10am service for a Potluck. Bring a dish to share. Everything else is provided.

El Salvador Mission Trip January 2016

15 members of FBC will be ministering to several churches in January. We

will be sharing the gospel message and the story of Jonah to over 350 children. We try to give each child a ziplock bag of items. We're collecting items now and appreciate any donations you would like to make.

If you'd rather we do the shopping, you can give a financial donation by making your checks out to FBC Aledo and writing "El Salvador Mission TRIP" in the memo line and place it in the offering plate on Sunday. Otherwise, you can drop off your items the bin in the foyer marked "El Salvador Children."

Here's what we'll need:

Balloons, Candy (individually wrapped), Erasers, Toothbrushes, Small stuffed animals, Pencils, Pencil Sharpeners, Glue Sticks, Rulers, Stickers & Markers



Church Calendar will be on this page

Happy Birthday

Carey Bewley	November 1
Bill Baugher	November 2
Dave Duncan	November 4
Linsey Warren	
Diana Daggett	
Claude Moreland	November 5
Bryce Moffitt	November 6
Jacki Olson	November 8
Brooke Nelson	
Kathy Sponsler	
Luke Dunn	
Treyten Hileman	November 10
Sharon Baugher	November 11
Kate Baugher	
Stew Klink	
Abel Castor	November 12
Bailey Kellogg	
Joshua Miller	November 13
Josh Ringle	November 14
Steve Struble	November 15
Laurie Moreland	
Tristin Lukaszewski	
Aaron Struble	November 16
Bill Loving	November 17
Jacob Dennison	November 18
Matthew Griswold	November 19
Mallory Moffitt	November 20
Myron Higgins	November 21
Steve Nelson	
Gerry Kelly	November 23
Curtis Franks	
Maliayah Smith	November 24
Payton Devlin	November 25
Daryl Bodeen	November 26
Tyler Lukaszewski	November 28
Lisa Finch	
Seth Bowker	
Frannie Franks	November 29
Nicole Koester	
Corey Smith	November 30

Happy Anniversary

Chris & Heather Kopp

Daryl & Mary Bewley



Perry & Drue Baugher

Bill & Marsha Loving

Dean & Lola Buttgen

Bill & Joyce McKinley
Jason & Shelly Snyder



College Age/20 Something Bible Study

If you're home during the upcoming holiday breaks, please feel free to join us. We meet at 8pm on Tuesdays at the Ricke's home – 1100 S. College Ave. Aledo. Join us for study, snacks and refreshments. Questions, see Jon Ricke.

Nursing Home Christmas Gift Giving Mission

It is now time to begin bringing gifts for the residents of Genesis Senior Living & Aledo Health and Rehab Care Center. Your unwrapped gift may be placed in the box marked NURSING HOME GIFTS in the church lobby from now until Dec. 10th. Both nursing homes were so appreciative of all the gifts given last year! The residents especially loved the small fleece blankets, dressy scarves and costume jewelry. Other suggestions include: lotion, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, aftershave, stamps, stationery, diabetic socks, slipper socks with grips, chocolate candy, cube box kleenex, Christmas wrapping paper, tape and tags. Please DO NOT give powder or open back slippers. Krista Bear is coordinating this effort and would love to have anyone interested in helping sort and pack the gifts come to the church lobby on Thursday, Dec. 10th at 10am. Any questions, call Krista at 582-3143 or the church office at 582-7812. Thank you for your help with this project.



Women's Ministry Christmas Project



Our women's ministry Christmas project this year will bless the Baptist Children's Home and Family Services in Carmi, IL as well as Angel's Cove in Mount Vernon, IL. We will collect items in the tub in the coat room until Dec 7th. For Angel's Cove we will collect paper products (paper towel, Kleenex, napkins, paper plates, paper cups, plastic eating utensils), Pasta (macaroni of all shapes, sizes, varieties), Ramen noodles, Mac & Cheese, Pasta Salad mixes, Lasagna noodles, Spaghetti noodles, egg noodles, Hamburger Helper box meals, Sauces (alfredo, spaghetti, BBQ, Hot Sauce, Buffalo Wing sauce, Cheese sauce), & Girl's Personal Care Items (nail polish & remover, nail clippers and files, wide and narrow headbands, hair brushes, eye liner and mascara (black), lip gloss (clear or lightly tinted), small eye shadow sets with assorted colors), eye glasses cleaning and repair kits, ear buds for phones), Gift Cards for the following places (AMC Theater, Wal-mart, Aldi, McDonalds or Visa) in \$10-\$20 amounts. For the children's home we will be receiving the names of 2-3 children and some specific gift requests.

I want to thank Brad & Sheri Olson, Chris & Camden Whitenack, Steve Nelson, Josh Dixon and Aaron Struble for building a ramp at my home. I am so very appreciative as I was home bound until this great crew came out and built the ramp. Thanks so much for your kindness, it meant a lot to me! Sincerely, Dee Brewer

#

Dear FBC of Aledo, Thank you very much for the scholarship money you granted me. This year has been totally crazy with transferring to Lincoln Christian University. It has certainly kept me busy. God has blessed me in so many ways this year and your scholarship was another wonderful blessing. I'm really excited to be at LCU and to see what else God has in store for me there.

In Christ, Marty Rind

#

Thank you for awarding us with your scholarship money. My family is very grateful for your support. With the money we received, we are continuing our education and being a light on our campuses for Jesus.

Sincerely, Jesse Snyder, Logan Snyder & Zeke Snyder



A Note from Pastor Seth

Justify myself!

Justify means to give reason, make something seem reasonable and free someone from sin.

I receive this lesson, on ongoing bases, in my Christian walk. I find myself always trying to reason or make my sin seem reasonable. Just recently God brought me to this lesson again. I recently was pulled over for speeding. I instantly wanted to justify myself but I knew I was guilty. I did not try to reason, I did not try to explain I simply said I was wrong and I broke the law. The kind hearted officer said he wanted to give me a warning but could not. I received a ticket.

Now how I share this story will be me trying to justify myself. I want to tell you what happened. I was passing a vehicle that was going about 40-50 mph depending on the uphill or down. I followed this vehicle for 6 miles waiting for a safe place to pass and when the safe place came I went for it and monster mashed the gas because there were two slow vehicles. I got the little car up to a great speed and the first car I met when back in my lane was a State Trooper. I am guilty and broke the law. No amount of reasoning will help I broke the law and deserve punishment.

This instantly makes me think of God's law. I try to reason with Him on His commands and I continually try to justify myself before Him. The law is the law and I am guilty of breaking the law. Are you like me? Are you trying to reason your way with God? Are you trying to justify yourself? We are all guilty and deserve death but God is rich in mercy.

Romans 3:23-24 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus..."

I thank God for His rich grace because I am justified through Christ as a gift. I have been released as not guilty for my sins. Now standing before Gods court I will be Justified and released in Christ. Standing before the county court I know that I am guilty but I thank God for these lessons and discipline moments in my life. ~ Seth



"Thank you, thank you to all who donated to this year's winter coat drive. We continue to be amazed at God's faithfulness each and every year, and to the faithfulness of our community to support this mission. 55 coats were given away and numerous hats, scarves, mittens & snow pants. We could not do this without the generosity of many in our church and community. This year we served children from New Boston to Alpha, Alexis to Silvis. Thank you to Britni Ewing & her craft group for bringing

hats and scarves and helping the children find sets that matched their "new" coat! Thank you as well to our set up & tear-down helpers (Troy & Tish Riddell, Seth Bowker, Julie Young, Linus & Cathy Griswold, Luke, Mollie, Maddie and Lucy Dunn, Marylee Finch, Jeanne Barber, Justin, Britni, & Jady Ewing, and John & Betty Frost), and those who volunteered at the giveaway (Janet Rind, Pam Spangler, Tish Riddell, and Britni Ewing).

In His Service, Lonnie & Cindy Maynard

Thank you for making! Your gift of \$1500 given on Oct. 7, 2015 will be used to support children in our Mercer Co. Backpack Program. Every \$75 sponsors one child for one semester. Children on the backpack program receive nourishing, easily prepared food to take home in their backpacks every Friday during the school year. Your support is helping us ensure that over 2000 kids in our service area do not have to face the prospect of a hungry weekend. On behalf of all the Backpack children and their families, thank you so much for your invaluable support. For more information on the Backpack Program and the Foodbank, please visit at our website: www.riverbendfoodbank.org. Together we can end hunger! Sincerely,

Michael P. Miller

Executive Director-River Bend Foodbank

I just wanted my church family to know how grateful I am for being a recipient of your scholarship. It is such an amazing feeling to know that I have such a gracious church to support me in my future education. In Christ Love, Halie Parkinson

Thank you so much for the great meal after mom's funeral. It was greatly appreciated.

The Family of Jean Easley

First Baptist Church of Aledo

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PRAYER AND CONCERNS—IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PRAYER CHAIN
PLEASE CALL:

PASTOR LUKE @ 309-371-6964 or Cindy Maynard @ 582-2098



HEALTH & WELL BEING

Janet Rind, Dave Duncan, Adam Maynard, Kayshia Rowe & baby Gracelynn, Bob Kopp, Melody & Jerry, Family of Jean Easley, Juan & Ani Quiroz, Paul Wonders, Darcy (Vance) Knoblich & Baby Edmond, Family of Dave Lawson, Doris Dewey, Tyler Wood, Ed Nesbit, Family of Chad Wolf, Carol Schaefer, Ellen Hedger, Jack Ruska, Emily Blaser, Chris LeClere & Baby Merrick, Stormie Bigger, Vickie Korns, Janet Lomelino, Roger & Janet Mueller, Joyce Mizner, Jail Ministry, Amber Smock, Ethel Welch, Jim Earl, Jennifer Franks, Krista Bear, Shelly Upson & Carolyn Hanson

NURSING HOME

Aldus Gridley & Ron Rhine

MISSIONARIES & MILITARY

Alex & Jess Etheridge, Jim Earl, Danika Higgins, & Rigoberto Cruz
Austin Weir, Tyler Mattson, Matt VanderHeyden, Caleb VanderHeyden, Kyle Mandle, Charles Schultz, Christopher Schultz & Terry Schaefer

OTHER CONCERNS

The church & all decisions