

Mark Your Calendar

4.1

Easter Services-6:30am, 8am, 10:15am Easter Breakfast-7:15am

Communion/Food Pantry Sunday

4.3

Deacon Meeting-6:30pm

4.7

Men's Ministry Council – 7:30am 4.8

CE/Outreach & Trustee Meeting-11:40

Uniquely Gifted Workshop - 6pm

4.9-4.14 LA Mission Trip

4.14

Bridal Brunch for Maggie

Sandquist-10am Women's Ministry Think Tank-9am

Ron Moffitt/Peggy Johnson's Sunday School Class Pizza Night

-5pm

4.22

Baby Shower Britteny Kelly-2pm

4.24

Church Council Meeting-7pm J.O.Y. Circle—7pm

4.27-29

Men's Momentum

4.29

Baptism/Baby Dedication Sunday Quarterly Business Meeting-11:30am

5th Sunday Potluck-11:30am

(Un) Answered Prayer

"You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not have because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions." ~ James 4:2b-3

When was the last time you remember having a prayer answered? Not generally, but specifically? If you were to stop right now and write down a list of answered prayers from the last 6 months, how long would that list be? I hope I'm wrong about this, but my suspicion is that most of our lists would be either extremely short, or blank. This is tragic. All the more so because it is so unnecessary.

It would seem from Scripture that God wants us to pray (Luke 18:1, Philippians 4:6, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, etc...), and that God wants to answer our prayers (Matthew 7:7, Matthew 21:22, etc...). The problem is made clear from the above quoted Scripture found in James. We have not, because we ask not. One of our problems in modern Christianity is that we are so prayerless. I have to admit with shame that I've spent much of my life praying little. My time with the Lord in prayer used to be 10 or 20 minutes a day. With one, two or three days a week not praying at all, except at meals and kid's bedtimes.

Thankfully the Lord was merciful, gracious, and generous in spite of my failure in this vital area. I can only imagine that I was not unique in this. I'm not sure what the right amount of time is needed for prayer, but I've been encouraged by two things. One is that the more I pray, the more I WANT to pray, and the second is the advice I heard to pray until you pray. A problem we often face is we stop praying before we've really prayed. In other words, we quit before we've actually connected

with God on a personal level. Which brings us to the next point.

The other obvious issue is that many Christians who are praying are most likely praying in the flesh and not in the Spirit (Ephesians 6:18, 1 John 5:14, Jude 1:20, etc...). Again, I have to confess that much of my past prayers were aimed at what I wanted, and very little time was spent seeking God, His will, and waiting long enough in prayer to hear the answer. What that means is that we are seeking to get God to approve our plans, rather than prayerfully seeking His plans.

I admit that this is harder, and may take more time, but the results will be infinitely greater. Jesus said that not only would fig trees wither, but that even mountains would be thrown into the sea. It's not a matter of somehow conjuring up enough faith to convince God to do what you want. Prayer is not trying to get man's will done in heaven. Prayer is seeking God's will to be done on earth. Amazing things happen when we are in tune with God, hearing Him and sensitive to His Spirit's guidance.

Through the month of April, I am encouraging our church body to commit to praying for 5 specific things: 1) Pray for the youth of Mercer County, 2) Pray for God to reveal His will for the Youth Pastor He will call to serve at First Baptist, 3) Pray for Spiritual Fruit to be harvested, 4) As the fruit comes, pray for the finances to come to enable First Baptist to serve God's kingdom supernaturally, and 5) As the fruit and finances come, pray for the facility we will need to build the Kingdom. If we pray earnestly, and in God's will, we will see answers to prayer like never before!

In Christ, Luke

COLLIDE YOUTH!



Hello, Church family, I'm sending out a call for help. High School collide is going to continue to meet on Wednesday nights. This means that we are in need of volunteers to pray, help, listen, and come to the meetings Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm in the Collide Room.

During our last night of Collide some of the High School students shared that they were sad that Collide was going to be stopping for the summer. A few of them shared some of the help they have received during the Collide nights and how that has helped them feel valued and cared about. One person said they were thinking about suicide and now, since coming to Collide, they no longer wanted to do or think of it. Between both Jr. High & High School Collide about four students shared that they have contemplated suicide, and one shared they had attempted suicide.

This was not a prompting from any adult to share these things. This was an open mic for the young people to get up and share what Collide has meant to them.

The call for help to our Church family is as follows:

- -2 Adult volunteers are needed per Collide session
- -1 person who is willing to pickup/drop off the High School kids in Mercer County
- -Donations for wrapped snacks i.e. granola bars, water
- -People who are willing to pray for those meeting with the kids

Please call the church at 309-582-7812 and let me know how you are willing to serve. Thank you all for your service. ~Seth

Do you have a graduate?

Are you a member or regular attender at First Baptist



and have a 2018 8th grade, High School or College Graduate in your family? Please e-mail the office with the information by April 25th at fbcaledo2@frontiernet.net so we can recognize your graduate. Also, if you are hosting a graduation party

and want the FBC family invited we can add your invite to the list, you simply need to provide us with the details. FBC will be recognizing all our graduates on Sunday, May 27th, 2018.

CIY (CHRIST IN YOUTH) Summer Conferences Are Coming!



We have 4 spots left for Jr. High & 12 spots left for High School. Register online at:

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

CIY MOVE—IS A FIVE-DAY HIGH SCHOOL EVENT DESIGNED TO AMPLIFY THE CALL OF CHRIST ON STUDENTS' LIVES TO BECOME KINGDOM



WORKERS. JULY 9TH-13TH IN WHEATON, IL Cost \$173.

H-131H IN WHEATON, IL Cost \$1/3.

Register online at:

http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com/ciy-conferences/

RHUBARB & BAKERS NEEDED

The El Salvador Youth Mission Trip team is making pies on May 17th to sell by the slice at Aledo's Rhubarb Fest on Friday, June 1st. We are in need of Rhubarb. If you can help, here is what we are looking for. Needed: 30 – 1 gallon size bags of cut and washed rhubarb, cut into half inch pieces. We need the Rhubarb brought to the church May 13th –16th.

Needed: Thursday, May 17th—We need people to pick up pies to be taken home and frozen and then baked for the Rhubarb Festival.

Ouestions, call Pastor Luke 309-371-6964.

Volunteer & Giving Information Date Nursery Kids Worship

4/1/18	Ronda Moffitt, Emily Baldwin, Susan Potthast & Katie Loving	Denise Bowker, Nadine Coulter, Sarah Kellett, Jacob Dennison, Mollie Dunn, Monica Dennison & Haley & Josh Johnson
4/8/18	Ronda Moffitt, Jessica Ruh, Lisa Clawson & Veronica Moffitt	Denise Bowker, Leslie Connell, Joyce Thomas, Jason & Brady Connell, & Shannon Sedam
4/15/18	Ronda Moffitt, Marcy, Rusty & Shaylee Smet	Denise Bowker, Steph, Kassidy & Terry Leonard, Tammie Trout, Mollie Dunn & Todd Baldwin
4/22/18	Ronda Moffitt, Crystal Clark, Penny Dixon & Maddie Dunn	Denise Bowker, Felicia Bonynge, Kathy Norton, Jenna Ruh, Mollie Dunn, Brian Rind & Barb Nesbitt
4/29/18	Ronda Moffitt, Sharon Moffitt, Jan Crutcher & Bryce Moffitt	Denise Bowker, Cimion Norwick, Barbara Nesbitt, Mollie & Maddie Dunn, Jessica Swift & Jess Weist

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: Kids Club Worship—PLEASE come to the Fellowship Hall by 10:00am so you can (309) 371-3021. Thank you! 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.

Committee Member of the Month

Finance Board Member of the Month for April - Steve Johnson Trustee of the Month for April — Josh Dixon

Prayer Team

April 1-8am-Mary Lee Finch, Jeanne Barber & Kurt Diesch-10:15am-Tina McCaw, Anita Parkinson & Ron Moffitt April 8–8am-Marty South, Jon & Lindsay Ricke-10:15am-Peggy Johnson, Robyn Bottens & Laurie Louck April 15 - 8am-Troy & Tish Riddell - 10:15am—Lisa Litwiler & Britni Ewing April 22 -8am-Doug & Diane Hessman & Barb Bryant-10:15am Jason & Shelly Snyder & Lonnie Maynard April 29—Rotation of Volunteers

Attendance & Offering For March 2018

Year To Date Attendance Average—332 Year to Date 2018 FBC Budget—\$135,373.80 Year To Date Giving—\$133,840.70

Lives Changed by Jesus Christ!

Year To Date Baptisms—12 Year To Date Decisions for Christ - 13

Kids Club Ministry

We wrapped up another amazing session of Kids Club with a Super Hero Reward Party and lots of fun for all. The kids set a goal of 1,000 points for the Mercer County Food Pantry and they blew way past it on the last night. We stopped counting at 1,200! Way to go parents and kids! The kids also recited their memory verses for a trip to the prize table and they all walked away with prizes for doing such a great job! Since we're growing in numbers we need help with prize donations. We're starting to collect the following NEW



items for next session: Small balls, small stuffed animals or beanie babies, coloring books or coloring packs, small craft items or kits, water bottles, slinkies, small boxed puzzles, small games, putty, play jewelry, etc. Please place donations in Mollie's

office anytime! Thank you for your help!

While Kids Club on Wednesdays is over until September, kids ages 3-5th grade are invited to join us anytime on Sunday mornings at 10:15am for Kids Worship! We're visiting Upside Down Town each week through the spring and learning about what it means to be right side up with God.

We had a great turn out for our <u>Kids Easter Event</u> on Good Friday where we took a journey to the cross. The kids enjoyed an egg hunt, made resurrection eggs, played games, watched a shadow play, "The Journey to the Cross," and had a yummy treat. We couldn't do events like these without our amazing volunteers and all the donations! Thanks for each and every person who helped in any way!

Save-the-date for our Shipwrecked VBS that's coming up the week of June 25th-29th from 9am-Noon for kids ages 3-5th grade graduates. We need volunteers to be crew leaders and help with the decorations. Please contact Mollie if you'd like to help during VBS week or if you'd like to do behind the

scenes work beforehand. Registration will open in May at www.firstbaptistaledo.com. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to serve in our kids ministry! ~Mollie Dunn, Children's Minister

Upcoming Events



Shipwrecked Vacation Bible School: All kids ages 3-5th grade graduates are invited to Shipwrecked VBS: Rescued by Jesus the week of June 25th-29th from 9am-Noon.__It's free and open to the community. VBS is fun & high-energy where each day kids learn energetic songs, play games, have a Bible lesson, get creative with a hands on activity, and enjoy a yummy snack. More details to come! Registration will open in May.

Palm Sunday Pics!



Men's Ministry/A Word From Pastor Seth

Men's Ministry Council

The men of the Ministry Council will meet Saturday, April 7th at 7:30am in the Enon Room.

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

Men do not thrive on bread alone (although the food is great at a Momentum retreat!) Food, fellowship, and spiritual



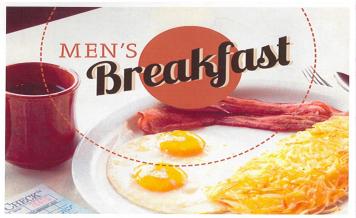
recharging mark these men's times together. Guests are challenged in their Christian walk, prompting many to make life-changing decisions. We encourage men to lead their families—and ultimately our nation—with deliberate action,

resisting the role of passive onlooker. This retreat is designed for men ages 16 and older. Sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com/mensministry

Save the Date! Coming Next Month! May Men's Bags Tournament

Sunday, May 6th at 5:30pm Bags, Food, Fun & Fellowship!





What: Men's Breakfast and Bible Study Where: 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 Luke Dunn, Seth Bowker or Kevin Ricke



Recently in my Sunday School class, we were talking about the Body of Christ. I was reminded that in High School my science teacher challenged the A&P class to do an extra credit report on the Human Body. The challenge was to view the Human Body Muscle System and to write down all of the muscles that would need to engage if a person was to take one step. My first thought was, I need extra credit and this sounds easy. Taking one step really wouldn't be that many. This was before Google was around.

The answer is 200 muscles in the body engage for a person to take one step. This ended up being an outrageous amount work for extra credit.

The Sunday School discussion was trying to get us to think and imagine if the Church (The Body of Christ) would take one step what would that look like. One step would look like a Wednesday Night Live or a Sunday Morning here at First Baptist Church. Between the two areas of ministry we are well over a 100 people volunteering and serving the Lord.

We have so many moving parts every time the doors open. Please know that every volunteer and every person is important to the movement of the Body of FBC. Thank you for doing your

part. ~ Seth



Please Join Us at First Baptist for Easter Sunday Services on April 1st

- 6:30am Sunrise Service
- 7:15am Free Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
- 8:00am Traditional Easter Worship Service
 - 9:00am Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:15am Contemporary Easter Worship Service

Baptism & Baby Dedication Sunday—March 25th, 2018





Baby Dedications- Elsie Mae Bonynge, Nolan Reed Burns, Izabella Angelina Kazawitch, Kade Weston Lafever & Magdalene Merion Litwiler

Baptisms-Barry Cooper, Isabel Egesdal, Ben Headley, Chad Headley, Laryssa Russell & Jordan Sheese

Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry Think Tank Meeting- All ladies are invited to this meeting which has been moved to Saturday, April 14th at 9am in the Enon Room.

<u>Women's Genesis Study</u> -Ladies, if you are looking for a new Bible study group to join, the ladies' Genesis class has moved to a new time and day-Thursdays from 4:30-6pm. We are a small group of 5 ladies and would love to have you join us. We will resume class (we've taken a month off) on April 5th. We are currently studying Chapter 24. Contact Sheri Olson if you have any questions.



J.O.Y. Circle Ladies—(Jesus, Others, Yourself) will meet on Tuesday, April 24th at 7pm Enon Room. All ladies are invited to join us. J.O.Y. Circle is a gathering of the women for a time of fellowship and learning. During J.O.Y. Circle someone shares from a devotion, refreshments and snacks are served. Periodically, the ladies of J.O.Y. Circle have a potluck with each other and they raise funds which benefit projects in our church. JOY Circle meets the 4th Tuesday of every month except for the months of Dec., Jan., and February. Questions, see Vivian Kopp or Sherry Huffstutler.

Ladies Event Coming in June! - Please Save the Date! All ladies invited to Ladies Night Out - Wednesday evening, June 20th. Food, fun and fellowship! Details to come! Reservations will be taken May 20th, 27th and June 3rd.

Here is some information on some Christian Women's Conferences that FBC Women's Ministry will be supporting this year.





Interested in attending? Visit firstbaptistaledo.com for all the registration details.

Showers in April

You're Invited To A Bridal Brunch For Maggie Sandquist (Abel Castor's Fiancé) Saturday, April 14th at 10am at FBC in the New Addition

Abel Castor and Maggie are registered at Walmart, Amazon & Bed Bath and Beyond.

Please bring a favorite recipe to share with Maggie.

RSVP Alexa Mendoza - 309-574-0011



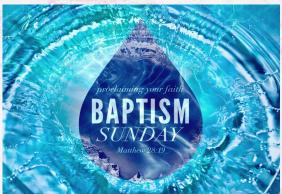


Join us for a Baby Shower For Britteny Kelly! Sunday, April 22nd at 2pm

All the ladies of the church are invited to a baby shower for Britteny Kelly Sunday, April 22nd at 2pm at First Baptist in the New Addition. J.P. and Britteny are having a baby boy and are registered at Babies R Us— Registry Number is 60466326.

Baptism Sunday/Good Read/Classes/Meetings

Baptism Sunday at FBC Sunday, April 29th at 8am & 10:15am



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

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

Romans 6:1-18, Act 2:38-41, Luke

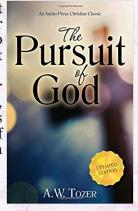
3:21-22, Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 22:16, Colossians 2:12 & Galatians 3:27

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

Book Of The Month

A.W. Tozer's—The Pursuit of God—"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." This thirst for an intimate relationship with God, claims A.W. Tozer, is not for a select few, but should be the experience of every follower of Christ. Here is a study of the inner life by a heart thirsting after God. Here is a book for every child of God, pastor, missionary, and Christian. It deals with the deep things of God and the riches of His grace. In The Pursuit of God, Tozer sheds light on the path to a closer walk with God.

Copies of this book will be available for \$10 each. Books can be found at the church office window or ordered on Amazon.



5th Sunday Potluck

Everyone is invited to our 5th Sunday Potluck in Fellowship Hall

on Sunday, April 29th following the 10:15am service.



Drinks and table service are provided but please bring a dish to share.

There is also a business meeting that day but it should be a very short

meeting so those members who need to attend the Business Meeting can attend and then head down to Fellowship Hall following the meeting to enjoy the Potluck!

New! Sunday School Class



On Sunday, April 1st Ron
Moffitt's Sunday School
class is beginning a new study
on the Book of Daniel. Everyone is welcome to join this
class they meet in the Enon
Room #1 at 9am.

Also, to those who attend Ron Moffit or Peggy Johnson's Sunday School class we wanted to let you know there will be a pizza party on Saturday, April 14th at 5pm at Steve & Peggy Johnson's home-1001 SW 3rd Ave. Aledo. Please bring a food item to share.



New Date Set!
Church Council & Quarterly
Business Meeting-The Church
Council will meet Tuesday,
April 24^h at 7pm. The FBC
Quarterly Business Meeting will
be Sunday, April 29th at
11:30am.

New One Time Worshop - April 8th at 6pm Uniquely Gifted-New Addition Led by Luke Dunn

There has never been another "you." No one in history has ever had your DNA or fingerprints. You are a unique creation, fearfully, and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). As amazing as that is by itself, the Bible also tells us that God has given every one of His children a gift! We love to be reminded that God's great gift is His Son, Jesus Christ (John 3:16). But God didn't stop there. He also gave us the gift of His Holy Spirit, which enables and empowers us to live with a purpose (1 Corinthians 12:7). Through the Uniquely Gifted Workshop, you'll be equipped and inspired, to fan your unique gift into flame (2 Timothy 1:6). God gave His greatest gift on the cross not merely to save sinners, but to make new creations that would do great



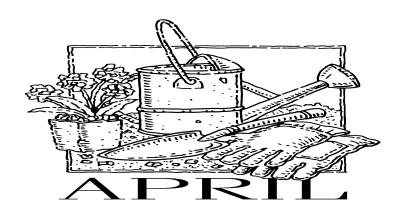
things for His Kingdom (John 14:12). My hope and prayer is that by offering a monthly workshop, we would see an entire church equipped to serve in ways we've never experienced before.



Birthdays & Anniversary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY			
Dean McCormick	April 1		
Parker Dixon			
Austin Korns			
Dawn Douglas	April 3		
Diane Nelson	April 4		
Deb VanderHeyden			
Kalie Duncan	April 5		
Kurt Diesch			
Marsha Loving	April 6		
Shelly Snyder			
Kay Hedrick			
Emily Bowns			
Noah Hammill	April 8		
Bill Kelly	April 9		
Caden Leng			
Derald Jones			
Jeannene McNall	April 10		
Betty Leslie	April 12		
Angie Hyett	April 14		
Shane Adams	April 15		
Mary Bewley			
Seth Potthast	April 17		
Trace Ham			
Jack Sheese	April 20		
Emily Brown	April 22		
Connor Thomas			
Ryan Monson	April 23		
Nate Hofmann	April 24		
Alexa Castor Mendoza	April 25		
Sandy Cooper	April 26		
Silas Norwick			
Adam Maynard	April 27		
Dave VanderHeyden	April 29		





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, On behalf of all those we serve at the Mercer County Jail, we would like to thank you for your great blessing in helping us to secure a badly needed equipment dolly. It will make our job immensely easier as we strive along side all of you in bringing the gospel to the precious inmates. May God richly bless each and every one of you at the Aledo First Baptist. Your brothers in Christ, Mark Barnhouse, Travis Boswell, Seth Bowker & Bob Hoffman

Thank you for every act of kindness and especially the prayers offered during my recent surgery. I am well on my way to recovery, and I'm feeling so blessed to be part of this caring, praying church family. ~ Jeanne Barber

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 800 NE 6th Avenue Aledo, IL 61231

Phone: 309-582-7812 Fax: 309-582-2064

Email: fbcaledo2@frontiernet.net www.firstbaptistaledo.com

NON-PROFIT ORG
PRE-SORTED STANDARD
U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NO. 102

PRAYER AND CONCERNS—IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PRAYER CHAIN PLEASE CALL: THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 309-582-7812

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Clayton Nelson, Joe Loving, Sharon Adams, Jack Appleby, Family of Steve Bowns, Family of Joe Kane, Brian Lair and family, Roxanne Hanson, Kelly Smet, Theresa Busch, Family of Jerry Russell, Patty & Arthur Smith, Kirsten Leeper and baby girl, Sophia Carter, Paul Maas, Rod & Chris Rader, Tabby Fitchner, Ganna McWhorterFamily of Terrance McClay, Janet Rind, Family of Polly Salmon, Jim Sproston, Amy Hess, Ann Runyon, Dennis Downing, Family of Curt Downing, Karen Hedger, Austin Loving, Tracy Randolph, Evan House, Glenn Feldman, Kim Carlson, Jessica Ruh, Trisha Hammond, Tricia & Rory Conway, Marshall Easley, Veronica Moffitt, Jacee Columbia, Family of Angie Green, Connie Freeman, Allison Adams, Lisa Hammill, Bob & Myrna Sell, Bill McKinley, Kris Salmon, Gavin Swafford, Calvin Frye, Sheryl Robertson, Doris & Marc Dewey, Pastor Mark Harris, Lisa McWhorter, Marilyn Hessman, Francie Jane Easley, Henry Leichty, & Lauryn Russell

NURSING HOME

Bill McKinley, Marge Goding, Betty Weeks & Bob Sell

MISSIONARIES & MILITARY

Danika Higgins & Rigoberto Cruz

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

OTHER CONCERNS

The church & all decisions