

# F B C NEWS!



November | 2020 |

## Pastor's Perspective

### Starting Over

Just when we thought we were getting back to normal, 2020 strikes again. It has been a long, slow process to try to return to normal. We still weren't quite there, but we felt like we were getting there. After 10 weeks of livestream-only church we had begun holding in-person services in June. Even though it was outdoors, it felt good to be together again as a church. The following three and a half months were a little unusual as we held 8am worship outside and 10:15am in the sanctuary, but it felt like life was making another step back to what it used to be, and tolerable, if not enjoyable again. In September we began Wednesday Night Live, even though we only had about a third of the normal crowd, it seemed like we were in the final stretch of normalcy. In October we began our full schedule of Sunday School classes, and felt like it was only a matter of time before we would see pre-pandemic numbers returning to church.

Unfortunately, mid-October took a turn for the worse. We began hearing of multiple Covid cases in our community and in our church. We hoped we could limp along without a major problem, so we announced we would be requiring masks to be worn in the church. In the end, there were enough cases and people in quarantine that we felt we needed to close the church until this round of infection could be squashed.

The final decision came when I started having symptoms on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, and realized that not only was I going to have to stay away from church, but Mollie would too. We have a lot of great people who can jump in and serve at a moment's notice, but there just seemed to be too many contingencies happening to be able to have in-person services. My test came back positive, which put the Dunn family in isolation for two weeks. Thankfully, my symptoms are minor, and the girls don't have any. We are praying for many in our community and church who are in the same situation as we are. A couple of which have had more serious symptoms that landed them in the hospital. By God's grace nothing worse than a brief hospital stay has resulted. Keep praying!

We still hope to return to normal. But we've had a setback. It's little frustrating, but not surprising. Moving forward, we are planning on a simplified schedule. There will be no in-person worship on Nov. 1st but you can watch us LIVE at 10:15am online via Facebook or our website or you can listen on WRMJ. On November 8<sup>th</sup> we will plan on 8am and 10:15am worship in-person with masks, and no Sunday School classes for the time-being. It has been a long and difficult season, but God has been very good to us. Our church has remained so strong. It's been wonderful to see how unified, gracious and generous our church has been these past several months. We still trust that God is working for Good through this time.

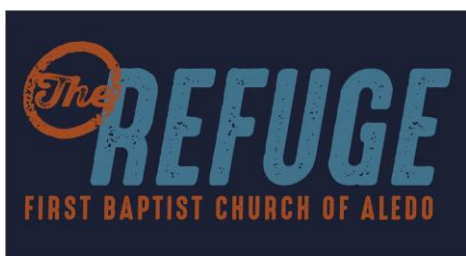
In Christ, Pastor Luke

Giving Details

September 28<sup>th</sup> thru October 4th Giving

\$24,543.50

Monthly need to meet budget-\$48,599.33



**Refuge Jr. High Gathering** - Jr. High Refuge will be taking a break and will begin meeting again on Wednesdays starting Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>. Students grades 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> will meet from 6:30pm-8pm at First Baptist. Come have fun, play games and dive deep into God's word! No need to sign up, just show up! Please note, we will not be meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Refuge High School Restarts!** High School Refuge will begin again on Sunday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at FBC. Grab a friend and join us in the Refuge Room.

## TACO BELL RUN FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!



\*Special note about **Sunday, November 22nd**- High School students are invited to go on our **Taco Bell** (Monmouth) run. Students should come to the church at 6pm for our Thanksgiving Prayer service, then following the prayer service, we will get on the church bus (around 7pm) and head to Taco Bell. Students will need money to purchase their own food. Estimated return is 9:30pm.

## Update on What's Happening in FBC Kids Ministry

At this time, due to the increase in covid in our community, there will be no Sunday School for our kids. Watch and listen for details about when that will be starting again.

Beginning Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> Kids Worship will continue for children ages 3 years old through 4<sup>th</sup> grade during the 10:15am service. We will continue with east door check in and temp checks and ask that the kids please wear masks.

A nursery will be available at the 10:15am worship service for our 0-2-year-old babies.

Questions, call Children's Pastor Mollie Dunn at 309-371-6962.



### A Note From Pam

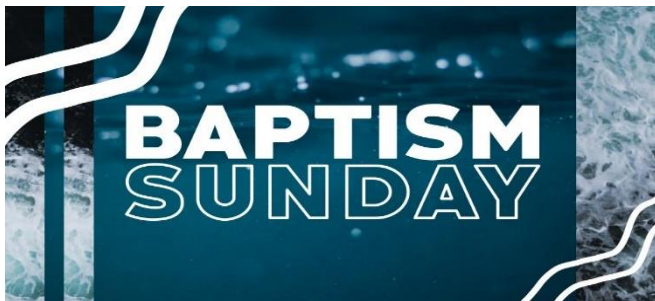
Sunday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be celebrating Mollie's 10 Year Anniversary as the Children's Pastor at First Baptist!

You may remember that we were going to celebrate Mollie on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> but that plan had to be changed so mark your calendar and join us Sunday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> during the 10:15am service. Happy 10 Years as our Children's Pastor Mollie! We all love you!





The Sunday Men's Breakfast is postponed until further notice. Please stay tuned for a new kickoff date.



**Baptism Sunday will be Sunday, Nov 22nd.** Have you made that all important decision to follow Jesus and now, in a step of obedience, you would like to be baptized? If so, call the church office at 309-582-7812 or fill out Sunday's Connect Card at the bottom of the bulletin and turn it in to Pam at the information table in the lobby following Sunday's service. Pastor Seth will be in contact with you about all the baptism details.



**Special Church Business Meeting**  
Sunday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> following the  
10:15am Service.

**Church Council** will meet Tuesday,  
Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

## *Drive Thru Dinner Fundraiser in Memory of Isaiah Metcalf* Saturday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm At First Baptist Aledo



This year we are hosting a drive thru dinner in memory of Isaiah to raise money for the Brayden Buntmeyer fund! All proceeds will go to help the Bereavement Suite being built at Genesis in Davenport! We will be serving homemade chicken and noodles over mashed potatoes, a biscuit and green beans. It will be held at the First Baptist Church in Aledo in sort of a drive through style. Delivery will be available as well!



**Operation Christmas Child - O.C.C.** uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world.

The boxes and instruction brochure are outside the church under the carport. Pick up yours today and return your filled box by Sunday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> along with \$5 for shipping cost (check made payable to FBC with "OCC" in the memo). The Women's Ministry team pays the remainder of the cost. Questions, see OCC Coordinator Lindsay Ricke.

# Women's Ministry



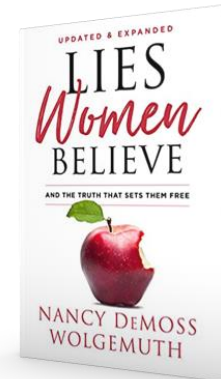
## **FBC Women's Retreat!** **"Flourishing in Christ"** **Saturday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11am**

All ladies are invited to the FBC Women's Retreat on Saturday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am at First Baptist. Free to attend. Please sign up online @ [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) by Sunday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. No childcare provided. Snacks will be served. Questions, see Retreat Coordinators-Crystal Clark 309-339-5586 or Peggy Johnson 309-737-8441.

## **Women's Mentoring Program 2021!**

The 2021 Mentor Season starts in January! Small groups will be walking through "Lies Women Believe and the Truth that Sets Them Free" by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth. This study focuses in on 45 lies commonly believed by Christian women towards God, themselves, sin, priorities, emotions and more, while offering the Truth to overcome the deception with God's Word.

Please sign up by December 13<sup>th</sup> on the church website [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) or on Sunday's Connect Card to be placed in a mentoring small group.



## **The Ladies of the Church Are Invited to a Baby Shower for Amanda Leng**

The Drive By Baby Shower for Amanda and Baby Girl Leng will be Sunday, **December 6<sup>th</sup>** from 1pm to 3 pm. Drive by 806 N. E. 2nd Ave., Aledo.

Chris and Amanda are registered at Target and Amazon Direct.

If you have any questions, see Robin Huffstutler or Betty Leng.



## Thanksgiving Boxes For Families In Need

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it and FBC is partnering with the Mercer County Initiative to make Thanksgiving dinner boxes for families in need in Keithsburg. We need your assistance filling the boxes. If you can assist, please purchase all the items on the list below, and drop them off at the church. We will be accepting and storing those food items from Nov. 1st to Nov 15th. Boxes will be made on the Nov. 15th for distribution on Nov. 20th. We are planning on 75 families minimum. We need your generosity for sure!

### Shopping List:

Instant potatoes	1 large or 2 small boxes
Gravy packets	4 packages
Green beans	2 cans
Corn	2 cans
Mushroom soup	2 cans
Jello	2 boxes
Canned fruit	2 cans that would mix with jello
Yams	1 large can
Cranberry sauce	1 can
Pumpkin pie mix	1 can
Graham cracker pie crust	1



## Thank You Notes

I would like to thank my church family who so nicely remembered me as I have graduated from school. I plan to attend Black Hawk College. I will be studying to be a C.N.A. and Phlebotomist for now. Thank you so much for your gifts of love, cards and your prayers for my future.

May God bless you all. Sincerely, Veronica Moffitt

# # #

Dear First Baptist Church, Thank you guys for recognizing not only me but the rest of the seniors and getting us a gift.

Sincerely, Rafe



## 2020 Thanksgiving Meal

First Baptist Church Aledo is sponsoring 200 Free Community Thanksgiving Meals.

This year, we will have Contactless Deliveries and Pick Up Only (no inside dining)

**Thursday, Nov. 26th @ First Baptist Church.**

**800 NE 6th AVE, Aledo IL**

**11:30am – Noon Pick Up Time**

**Contactless deliveries will go out at 11am**

RSVP by calling the church office at 309-582-7812.

We only have 200 hundred meals as the maximum.

Please call in early to get your meal reservations.

## Thank You Notes

Thank you to our church family for the many condolences sent to Jim's family and myself in the cards, calls, food, prayers and support during this past year.

A special thank you to Pastor Luke for his comforting message at the graveside service. All of you are greatly appreciated. We have a great God!

In Christian Love, Rosalee Sproston

# # #

A big "Thank You" to all who gave money for my Pregnancy Resources Walk, Sept. 12. The \$300 you gave will provide: Pregnancy tests, Ultrasound tests, diapers, baby clothes, mother classes, parenting classes, dad classes and help for girls/ladies in crisis! Our Lord, Jesus Christ was very gracious and kind to women – your donation is an extension of His love for women and children!

Thank you! Mary Lee Finch

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WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM

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PRE-SORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 102 —

# Stay Connected!

- No in-person worship service on Sunday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. We will resume in person on Sunday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 8am & 10:15am but we will NOT be having Sunday School at this time. Beginning Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> we will still have Kids Worship at the 10:15am service as well as a nursery.
- For all the details about our upcoming events and live streaming Visit [FirstBaptistAledo.com](http://FirstBaptistAledo.com).
- Listen to WRMJ 102.3 at 10:15am on the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays & at 5:10pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays.
- Download our Church App by texting *fbcaledo* app to 77977.
- Find Us On Facebook



*Love Christ.*

*Love Others.*

*Think Biblically!*