



January | 2021 |

Pastor's Perspective

Compare and Contrast

Happy New Year! We've probably never been more ready to welcome a new year as we are now. 2020 was strange and difficult and brought challenges we never even imagined we would face. Along with those challenges came feelings that we're still trying to manage. That's why I felt it was timely and necessary to start a short sermon series on what the Bible has to say about emotional battles. We all have emotional battles, but there is hope and there is victory. There is also a great potential danger. Look at Peter and Judas. Both failed Christ monumentally. One betrayed Jesus, the other denied even knowing Him. However, while Judas despaired to the

point of suicide, Peter was restored and became the foremost leader of the early church. One ran from God, the other ran to God. As we look ahead to a hopeful new year, we want to focus all our attention and energy running to God, restoring hope and renewing our purpose. We will kick off this series on January 3rd. I hope you can join us or tune in. 2021 will come with its own challenges, but we are ready to face those challenges with full confidence in our Lord who has already overcome the world.

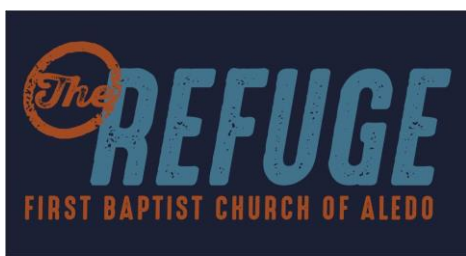
God Bless You in the New Year,
Pastor Luke

PS-We plan to resume Sunday School for all ages in February! Stay tuned for details.

Giving Details

December Giving Through December 20th
\$80,605.26

Monthly need to meet budget-\$48,599.33



Refuge Student Ministry News

Welcome to 2021 Refuge Students! 2020 was a rough year but we are so thankful we could continue to meet in person with our students! As 2021 begins, we wanted to let you know that we will continue to meet on Wednesday nights for the Jr High Students (6th-8th Grade) from 6:30-8pm and, our High School Students will meet on Sunday nights from 6-7:30pm.

The current Refuge study series is "Tim Mackie's - Biblical Themes." Refuge is a great place to gather with friends, play games, have snacks and dig into God's Word! Please feel free to invite your friends to join us!

Pics of the High School Refuge Christmas Party 2020!



FBC Kids Ministry Update!

Kids Worship will continue for children ages 3 years old through 4th 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 is available at the 10:15am worship service for our 0-2-year-old babies.

Sunday School Update:

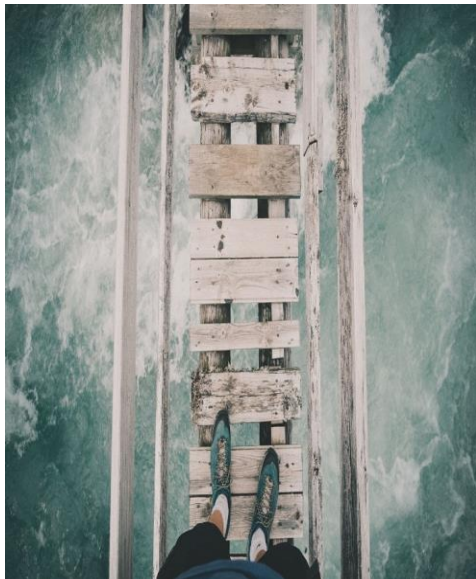
We plan to restart Sunday School for all ages beginning in February. Stay tuned for details. Questions, call Children's Pastor Mollie Dunn at 309-371-6962.

Kids Club Save-the-Date:

We are offering another 8-week session of Kids Club starting Feb. 3rd and ending March 24th for kids ages 3-5th grade. We're kicking off the session with our Jonah Movie Night that we had to cancel last session. We are encouraging pre-registration but walk-ins are welcome this session. More details & a registration link will be available in January.

VBS 2021

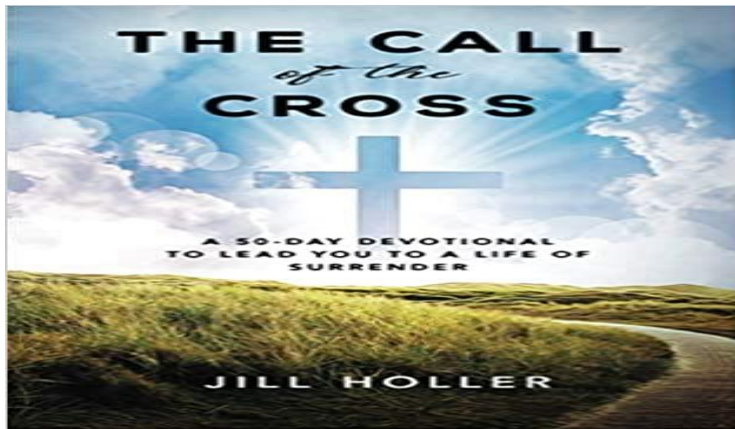
Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church June 28th-July 2nd from 9am-Noon. VBS is for all kids ages 3 years old through 5th grade. Kids going into 6th grade and up will have an opportunity to serve but must be registered to serve in advance. More details coming your way in April.



In January, we invite you to join us as we begin a NEW Sunday Sermon Series!

Coping with Covid: What the Bible Teaches about Emotional Battles. Pastor Luke will address topics like Anger, Anxiety, Fear, Depression and Loneliness.

Invite your friends and family to join us either in person at 8am or 10:15am or Live online at 10:15am.

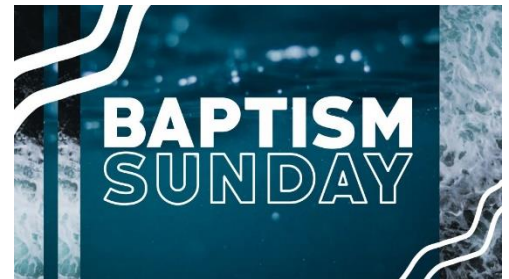


Recommended Reading for the new year!
“Call of the Cross” by Jill Holler
We have several copies at the Welcome Desk.
Cost is \$10

From author Jill Holler comes a timeless devotional book that will ignite a fire in the hearts of believers to live for Christ alone—to lay down all other competing desires in order to live the life God has called them to.

Do you ever feel tossed and turned like the waves of the sea? One day on a spiritual high and the next day feeling defeated? Do you desire to pick up your cross and follow Jesus, but feel helplessly anchored to the desires and demands of this world? Then it is time to ignite your faith. It is time to stop living for this world and start living for the only One who really matters. It is time to reject half-hearted, lukewarm faith and instead rise up in the power of Jesus Christ, who can ignite a fire in your soul. Surrender. This is the starting point for victorious living. It is the place to lay down your own desires and instead pick up your own cross and follow Jesus--wherever he may lead. Radical obedience. Bold faith. Unquenchable fire. Undeniable purpose.

All of these are yours as you embrace a life of complete surrender. *The Call of the Cross*, a 50-day devotional, will strengthen your soul as you set aside your own plans in order to live for the One who gave his all.



Baptism Sunday will be Sunday, Jan. 24th

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.

THANK YOU!

Every year our church family is overwhelmingly generous to us and our church staff at Christmastime. Thank you again for thinking of us. We are so very blessed.

~ Pastor Luke, Mollie,
Maddie & Lucy

Women's Ministry & Crafting For Charity

Women's Mentoring Program 2021!

The 2021 Mentor Season starts in January! For those ladies that have signed up for the 2021 Mentoring program, please pick your books up before or after service on December 27th or January 3rd. You can also pick them up at the church office during normal business hours. Your mentor will be in contact with you in early January.



Crafting For Charity!

Do you love crafting? Do you love to make items for charity? Then this is the group for you! Crafting for Charity Group is a group of crafters (knit, crochet, weave, loom knit, machine/hand sewing) making items for charities. Britni Ewing hopes to have this group meet in person in 2021 but we will wait until it is safer to do so. When we gather we can work on and inspire each other with our charity crafts. If you are interested, you'll find Crafting for Charity Coordinator, Britni Ewing's contact info below.

Charity Donation Ideas:

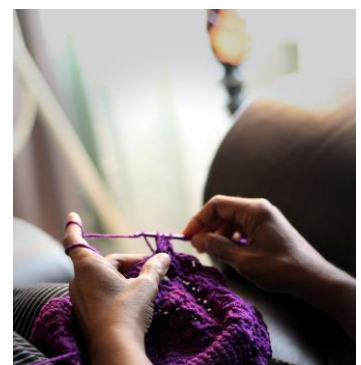
El Salvador Missionary Team Dishcloths (100% cotton handmade) The team distributes these when they are in El Salvador. (Britni Ewing collects these year round.)

Comforting Crafts Hats, mittens, and scarves for Men/Women and Boys/Girls These items are distributed at the Keithsburg Food Pantry once a year. (Britni Ewing collects these year round.)

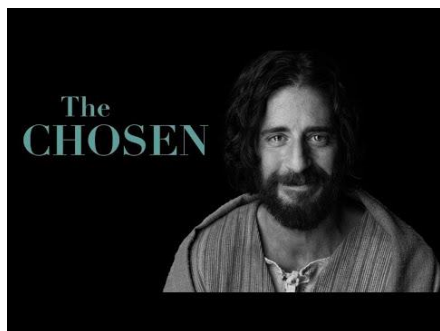
Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection Our church collects shoeboxes full of items that a child will cherish. You could make a handmade toy that a child would love to receive. Just make it small so that there is room for other items in the box. (Keep these and put them in the box when you fill it.)

Nursing Homes Christmas Collection - Our church is part of the collection for the Nursing Home residents at Christmas time. Ideas would include lap blankets, scarves, and small handmade toys. (Keep these and donate at the church when it is announced before Christmas.)

Contact: Britni Ewing britni.ewing@yahoo.com 309-224-4184.



Wednesday Night Live @ FBC
Feb. 3rd – March 24th, 2021 – 6:30-8pm Each Wednesday
Register online at firstbaptistaledo.com



Adult Classes Open to Everyone

The Chosen Series- Taught by Steven & Felicia Bonyng & Jordan & Crystal Clark - What does it mean to be chosen by Christ? Join us on this 8 week study as we dive into Scripture, exploring the life of Jesus interactively through the episodes of the ground-breaking television series *The Chosen*. Come discover that you are called, cherished, have been made new and are now His witness by engaging in the lives of real people Jesus called personally while on this Earth. We belong to the family of God because Jesus invites us, making the Bible and all its

promises as true for us today as it was for God's chosen nation. This study is open to adults and high school students.

Genesis In The Beginning – Taught by Steve Struble – This study will be a verse by verse walk through Genesis where it all began! Since we are going verse by verse you will be able to gain an in depth understanding of this book that is the foundation of our Christian faith. We'll cover as much ground as we can in 8 weeks! This study is open to adults and high school students.



Kids Club for 3 years old through 5th Grade

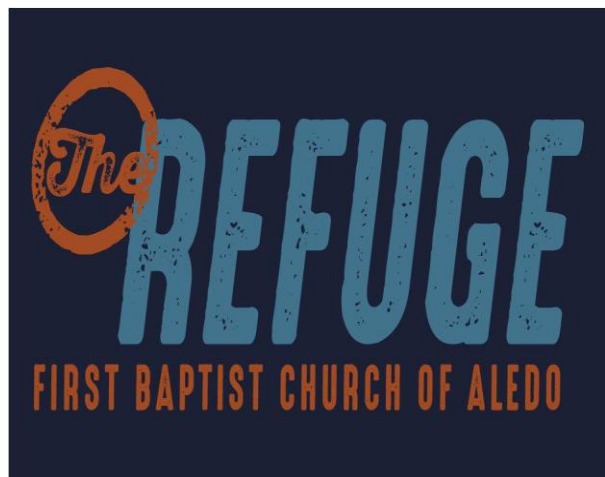
Kids Club- Begins Wednesday, February 3rd and runs through March 24th from 6:30-8pm at FBC for all kids ages 3 years old through 5th grade. Registration is required and will be limited. Pre-register at firstbaptistaledo.com.

Refuge Student Ministry

Refuge Jr. High - Students 6th-8th Grade are invited for fun, games, God's Word and some great snacks on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm. at First Baptist in the Refuge Room. No need to sign up, just show up! Grab a friend and join us.

Refuge High School for 9th-12th Grades

Refuge High School - Students Grades 9th-12th will continue to meet on Sunday Nights from 6-7:30pm but, High School students are welcome to join an adult class on Wednesday nights if they are interested.



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WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALED0.COM

NON-PROFIT ORG

PRE-SORTED STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT NO. 102

Stay Connected!

- We are having In-person worship at 8am & 10:15am but we will NOT be having Sunday School at this time. We will likely begin Sunday School in February. 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.
- Listen to WRMJ 102.3 at 10:15am on the 1st-3rd Sundays & at 5:10pm on the 4th and 5th Sundays.
- Download our Church App by texting *fbcaledo app* to 77977.
- Find Us On Facebook
- Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.



Love Christ.

Love Others.

Think Biblically!