



February | 2021 |

## Pastor's Perspective

"Seek first the kingdom, and the rest will be added..."  
Matthew 6:33 (paraphrased)

Recently, I was asked why the giving of FBC has been so good during the pandemic. There are many contributing factors. The first and most important, I believe, is the miraculous. God has provided. A year ago, if someone told me that we would cancel church services for 14 weeks and stop passing the offering plate, but giving would go up instead of down, I would have said there's no way. We couldn't possibly have planned for that. But God knew, and He had a plan. First of all, God has been building a healthy church. Notice, I did NOT say perfect. One day, the perfect church will be worshiping in heaven. For now, we have to settle for an imperfect expression of the body of Christ on earth. That doesn't mean we can't be healthy. A healthy church exalts Christ and seeks His will.

A healthy church cares about each other and spreads the Gospel. A healthy church believes the Bible and takes it seriously. A healthy church prays. A healthy church cares about children. A healthy church prioritizes grace. A healthy church is a generous church. God has been building a healthy church at FBC, and it's wonderful to be a part of

it. Secondly, God has been building an outwardly focused church. Our heart and desire has been to bless the community. When covid hit, rather than ask the church to support our budget, we asked the church to support our community. We did everything we could think of to help others. We knew God would meet whatever needs we had. So, we made it our mission to use our resources to help those around us. We wanted them to see that God would meet their needs too.

I'm telling you this because I believe this is not just a good way for our church to function, but it's a spiritual truth to live by. Trust God, and look for ways to bless others, and God will meet your needs. Jesus not only taught us to seek His kingdom and righteousness, He showed us by His life. He had compassion on everyone around Him, but the only thing He owned was the clothes He was wearing. He trusted His Father to take care of Him every single day, and focused His attention on blessing others. By the grace of God, First Baptist will continue to be committed to blessing our community as our priority. Thank you for all that you've done to help us do that. Together we will see greater things in 2021.

In Christ, Pastor Luke

Giving Details

2020 Giving in Total - \$757,609.93

Monthly need to meet 2021 budget-\$46,805.86



## Refuge Student Ministry News

Refuge Students! The Jr High (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) will continue to meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8pm and our High School (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) will meet on Sunday nights from 6-7:30pm.

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! The current Refuge study series is "Tim Mackie's - Biblical Themes."



**Events this month: Movie Night for High School Students** - Sunday, February 14th, 3:30pm-7:30pmish. Reserve your spot by pre-registering online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com). We'll be going to Taco Bell following the movie. Please bring money for Taco Bell.

**Jr. High Refuge Students will have a movie night coming up in March!** Save the date Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Details and registration coming soon. This movie event is for students 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade.



## CIY Jr. High Summer Conference

Students grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>! Fun event coming up this summer! CIY Mix for the FBC Refuge students will be August 1st-4th, 2021 in Holland, MI. Never been to a Mix Conference and want more details? Check out this link <https://new.ciy.com/mix>. More details and registration will be coming soon!



## FBC Kids Ministry Update!

**A Case For Christ**  
K-5th Grade  
\*Pre-K Kids Club will learn about God's Love this session

**Kids Club**  
Winter/Spring '21  
Feb. 3rd-March 24th  
Wednesdays 6:30-8pm

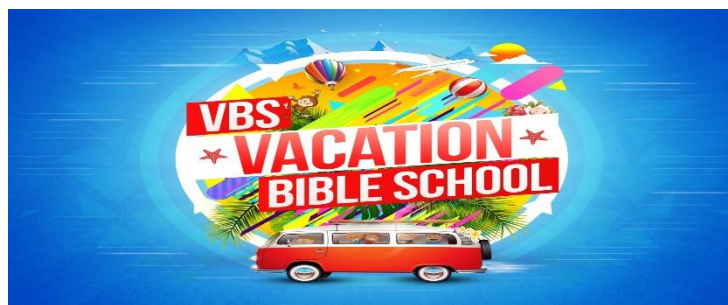
Open registration all session.  
Kids Club is for ages 3-5th Grade

Register at [www.firstbaptistaledo.com](http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com)

**Kids Worship Lab**  
Sundays at 10:15am (2nd-4th Grade)

Kids Worship is for kids ages 3-4th Grade  
\*Pre-K is diving into topical lessons.

Kids check-in at side lobby door and sit with their families until they are dismissed out the front of the sanctuary before the message. Registration not required.



## VBS 2021

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church June 28th-July 2nd, 2021 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.



# Sunday School Update/Family Talk/Baptisms & Communion



After careful thought and consideration, the FBC Council has decided to begin Sunday School the Sunday following Easter, April 11th, 2021 at 9am. This will include Sunday School for adults and children. We know some adult Sunday School may make the decision to begin earlier than that and that is totally fine. Each adult class can make that decision but the official restart for all Sunday School classes is Sunday, April 11th. Having said that, we are planning on 2 Family Talks open to everyone in the congregation on Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. See details below about our Family Talk and Donut Sunday School Sessions in our sanctuary.

## Family Talk & Donuts



### **Real Life Family Discipleship: Sun., Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> 9-9:45am in the FBC Sanctuary**

Your family is invited to join us for Family Talk in the sanctuary on Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-9:45am. Grab a donut and get settled in as we hear from some of our own church families on living out real-life family discipleship. It's not perfect because we're not perfect and it looks different from family to family. Our families will chat about the pitfalls of setting too high of expectations, distraction that veer them off track and simple, intentional ways they are pointing their kids to Jesus. All ages are welcome.

### **Making Real Connections at Church: Sun., March 7<sup>th</sup> 9-9:45am in the FBC Sanctuary**

All ages are invited to join us for our second Family Talk in the Sanctuary. Grab a donut and get settled in as we hear from our own church members on getting connected and making life-long friendships within the church body. Our panel is going to chat about steps they have taken to get connected within the church body, what discourages them from connecting to others at church and simple, intentional ways to get connected and build relationships with other believers.



**Communion Sunday**-Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> is Communion Sunday. This is also the Sunday we encourage you to bring non-perishable food items for the FBC Blessing Box. Leave items in the pink tote in the church lobby.



**Baptism Sunday will be Sunday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>**- 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.

# Men's/Women's/Marriage Ministry & Thank You

## Women's Ministry Update

The First Baptist Women's Ministry is off to a wonderful start with the 2021 Mentoring Program under the leadership of Peggy Johnson and Crystal Clark. Many groups are reading and working through the study Lies Women Believe and others are reading and discussing studies that fit their group better. What a wonderful thing to be able to meet the needs of each group. We are looking forward to growing deeper relationships with each other and with our Lord. Due to Covid 19 monthly meetings are not being held at this time.

## Men's Ministry Update

**Save The Date! Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference** – Coming to Coram Deo Bible Church Davenport - Sat., April 10th from 8:30am-4pm. Registration Cost is \$55 (\$40 for students) and includes an on-site lunch. Car pool from FBC. Registration is coming soon.



## FBC Marriage Ministry

**FBC Marriage Ministry Presents Couples Valentine Date Night-** Couples SAVE THE DATE on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm the FBC Marriage Ministry is providing a FREE private showing of "I Can Only Imagine" at the Davenport 53<sup>rd</sup> Theater. Pre-registration is required, sign up online at [Firstbaptistaledo.com](http://Firstbaptistaledo.com)!



The FBC Marriage Ministry would like to celebrate and pray for your marriage. We are asking all married couples to call 309-582-7812 or e-mail Pam at the church office [fbcaledo2@frontiernet.net](mailto:fbcaledo2@frontiernet.net) with your anniversary date. She will add your names to the Anniversary list for that month and the FBC Marriage Ministry Team will pray for your marriage during the month of your anniversary.



I would like to thank my church family for the many cards I received for my 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I received 76 cards. I'm sure the mail carrier is glad my birthday is over.

Thanks also, for the gift card for Walmart I received. You are very much appreciated. I'm hoping this Covid 19 will be improving soon. God is so good.

Rosalee Sproston

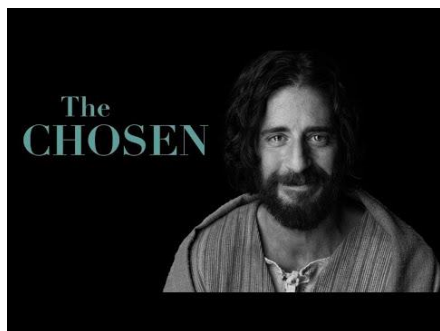


Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and calls while Bob was in the hospital. Bob is improving and is now home. Thanks again for your support.

Bob & Vivian Kopp

**Wednesday Night Live @ FBC**  
**Feb. 3rd – March 24th, 2021 – 6:30-8pm Each Wednesday**  
**Register online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

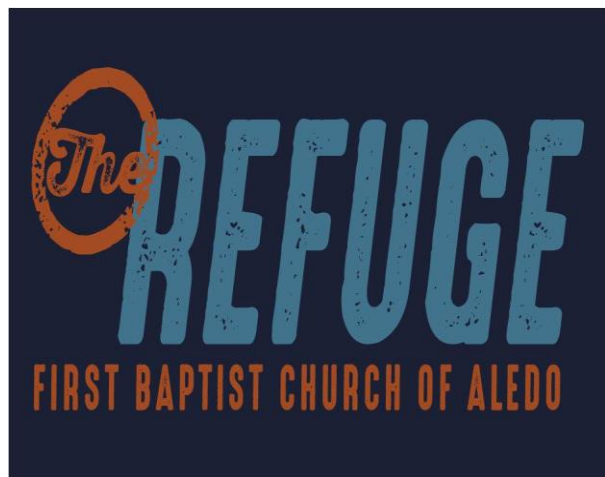
**Kids Club-** Begins Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and runs through March 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8pm at FBC for all kids ages 3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. There will be open registration all session. Pre-register at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).

**Refuge Student Ministry**

**Refuge Jr. High** - Students 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**Refuge High School** - Students Grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM

# 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](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
- Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.



*Love Christ.*

*Love Others.*

*Think Biblically!*