



May | 2021 |

## Pastor's Perspective

### *Hope Rising More and More*

Our theme this past Easter was Hope Rises. It seemed appropriate to focus on hope after a long difficult year. Don't get me wrong. God has been extraordinarily good to us this year. Maybe that's a big part of the focus on hope. We recognize that God has never failed us, and He never will. We have hope for the future because we have a history with God.

It's amazing, but even with all we know and all we've experienced, God still surprises us. I've been deeply encouraged by the faithfulness of our church. I would say FBC is stronger and healthier than ever. There has been a wonderful graciousness in the midst of unsettling and turbulent changes. Disagreement has rarely manifested in being disagreeable. As we continue to press forward, we're beginning to see many people return, and many new faces come for the first time. I love seeing both every Sunday morning. I know God is working, and I shouldn't

be surprised, but I didn't expect it this soon. I know it's only the beginning, but it's a great start to what I hope and believe is a powerful movement of God's Spirit in our community.

There are lots of exciting things on the horizon. The closest one being the Prayer and Praise Night on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am looking forward to all that God will do as we gather as a church and a community to exalt the name and power of Jesus. I hope you can join us. If you can't be in attendance physically, you'll be able to attend virtually on facebook, on our website and youtube. There are so many opportunities coming up, it's hard to hold back talking about them all. I'll refrain, other than to say I'm excited for what God's going to do in the month of May. I'll be preaching through the book of 1 John for the first three weeks, a series I'm calling True, Obedient and Fervent. Seth will bring a message on 2 and 3 John, and I'll wrap it up with the book of Jude (one of my favorite books of the Bible) on May 30<sup>th</sup>. It's going to be a great month! Hope is rising, more and more.

In Christ,  
Pastor Luke

**FBC**  
**Giving Details**

**Total Giving Through 4/25/2021**  
**\$242,262.06**

**Giving needed to meet 2021 budget to date-\$183,622.95**



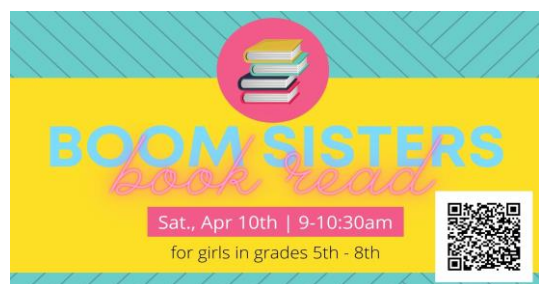
# Refuge Student Ministry! For All Students Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

## Refuge Student Ministry News

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

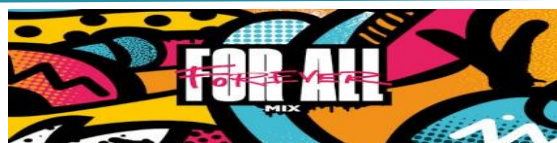
Please Note: High School Refuge will **NOT** meet on the following Sunday Nights: May 9<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Jr. High Refuge will **NOT** meet on the following Wednesdays: June 23<sup>rd</sup> & June 30<sup>th</sup>.



**5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>  
Grade  
Girls Book  
Club!**

**Attention girls in grades 5th – 8th**-Would you like to be part of an amazing group of sisters in Christ and learn together about some historical women of faith? We'd love to have you join the "Boom Sisters Book Read." We meet once a month and read a book together. (No homework, we promise.) We invite you to join us Saturday, May 15th from 9am-10:30am. Please visit [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) to sign-up.



### CIY Jr. High Summer MIX Conference

CIY Mix is held at Hope College in Holland, Michigan and is for students who have completed grades 5th – 8th. Dates for our trip are **August 1st-4th**. The total cost for CIY is \$314. FBC will scholarship \$164 of that cost and the student needs to pay \$150. The \$150 can be paid in one lump sum or in three \$50 payments. Final payment must be received by July 18th. Sign up online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) under the Student Ministry tab.



### CIY Move High School Conference

CIY Move is held at Hope College in Holland, Michigan and is for students who have completed grades 9th – 12th. Dates for our trip are **June 28th - July 3rd**. We have ten spots available. The total cost for CIY Move is \$334. FBC will scholarship \$184 of that cost and the student needs to pay \$150. The \$150 can be paid in one lump sum or in three \$50 payments. Final payment must be received by May 31st. Register online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).



**Congratulations 2021  
Graduates!**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduate**

*Lucy Dunn*

**High School Graduates**

**Mercer County High School Graduates:**

*Nate Hofmann & Grace Ugarte*

**Home School Graduate:**

*Noah Kugler*

*Does your family have a Graduate that is not on our list? If someone from your family is graduating from 8th grade, High School or College, call the office ASAP at 309-582-7812 so we can add them to the Graduate Recognition list. Graduation Recognition Sunday is May 23rd during the 10:15am service.*

**You Are Invited!**

**Graduation Party for Grace Ugarte** - The church family is invited to a Graduation Party for Grace on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at 408 NE 12<sup>th</sup> St., Aledo.

**Graduation Party for Nate Hofmann** – The church family is invited to celebrate Nate Hofmann's High School Graduation at a party on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4-6pm at First Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall.

**Refuge Volunteers Needed** - Do you enjoy connecting with tweens and teens? We would love for you to prayerfully consider joining our group of Refuge volunteers. We will be creating a rotation for over the summer and ask that you please signup online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) by Sunday, May 16th.



**Jr. High Trampoline Park** - On Wednesday, June 9th students completing 5th-8th grade will be heading to Elevate Trampoline Park in Milan and then to Chick-fil-A. Check-in begins at the Church at 4:15pm with the bus leaving at 4:30pm. Cost is \$15 which includes jumping and a meal. All participants must register online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) before the event. \*We will not have regular Refuge at the Church that night. Estimated return time 8:30-9pm.



# Women's Ministry

## New Summer Women's Study Coming in June!

Ladies, it's now time to register for our Summer Women's Bible Study! This Fruit of the Spirit Study will be a 4-week study. The study will be taught by Crystal Clark on Wednesdays from 9:30am-11am, June 2nd-June 23rd. We will offer childcare by reservation. Register online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).



## JOY Circle Gathering!

**J.O.Y. Circle – (Jesus, Others, Yourself)**

All ladies are invited to the Joy Circle Gathering on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Enon Room. J.O.Y. Circle is a gathering of the women for a time of fellowship and learning as well as helping with families in need throughout the year. J.O.Y. Circle is for women of all ages. No need to RSVP to J.O.Y. Circle, just show up!

## Pork Chop Fund Raiser in May

The ladies of J.O.Y. Circle will be selling grilled Pork Chops at Mercer Market on Saturday, **May 1<sup>st</sup>** from 10am-1pm. Please stop by, have a pork chop and support the mission projects of J.O.Y. Circle.

## We're Celebrating All the Ladies of our Church on Mother's Day May 9th!

We're Celebrating all the ladies of the church on Mother's Day Sunday, May 9th! We will have a special photo back drop and Felicia Bonyngue will be taking free, professional photos of families and individuals that day. No need to make an appointment for the photo, just show up in the sanctuary by the sound booth between 9am-9:15am or 9:45am-10:10am or 11:30am-Noon and Felicia will take your family's photo. 1 pose per family please. We will also have a special gift sponsored by the FBC Women's Ministry for each lady present on May 9th. Questions, call the church office at 309-582-7812.



## Revive Our Hearts "Grounded" Women's Conference

**Oct. 8th-9th, 2021**

Early alert about an excellent Women's Conference coming up this Fall to Indianapolis, IN. The Revive Our Hearts "Grounded" Women's Conference will be held Oct. 8th-9th, 2021. The FBC women have attended this conference for many years and it is a great conference!

Please note, we will be departing from FBC in the afternoon on Thursday, Oct. 7th but, we are carpooling so some can leave earlier, some later. The FBC Women's Ministry has reserved enough hotel rooms for 18 women to attend this conference (we'll stay 2 women per room). The great news is the FBC Women's Ministry sponsors the hotel rooms so you only have a conference ticket expense, food and chipping in for gas for whomever you car pool with. If you know you want to attend the Revive Our Hearts Conference, go to [www.Revive21.com](http://www.Revive21.com) and purchase your ticket. The early bird price is \$149. Then, you need to let Jenny Dixon or Pam Ricke know that you have purchased your ticket so they can assign you a hotel room. If you have questions or want to put your name on a hotel room, call Pam at the church office at 309-582-7812 or e-mail Jenny Dixon at [jenllong1@gmail.com](mailto:jenllong1@gmail.com).



# Men's Ministry/Prayer & Praise/Family Talk

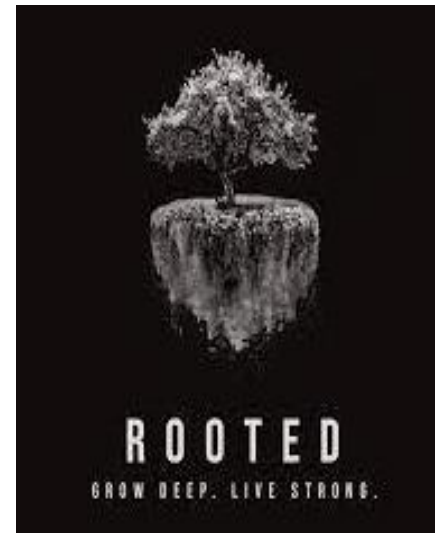
## *Men's Rooted Conference – Stand Firm 2021*

Coming to FBC in July

*1 Corinthians 16:13*

The fifth annual **Men's Rooted Conference** will happen Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 8am-3pm at FBC Aledo.

The FBC Men's Ministry is excited to announce Rick McGough as our main speaker this year. The theme and focus is on Standing Firm. We will be encouraged and challenged to stand firm in faith in a turbulent world. There will also be three breakout sessions to choose from, and exciting worship, led by Tim McGough. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. T-shirts are available for \$10. There is no charge for this event, but registration is a must, and a love offering will be taken. Registration coming soon!



### Men's Breakfast

The FBC Men's Breakfast is held every Sunday morning, at 7am in the Berean Room (lower level through Fellowship Hall). The breakfast is free but a love offering can be left. No need to sign up, just show up. Questions, call Kevin Ricke at 309-235-7999.

## Baptism Sunday is Sunday, May 30<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.



### Prayer & Praise Night at FBC

Sunday, May 2nd at 6pm. In recognition of National Day of prayer, FBC is hosting a night of prayer and praise for our community. Join us in the sanctuary as we lift up our voices in song and prayer.

### Family Talk & Donuts



### Share Your Hope Testimony!

All ages are invited to join us on Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Sanctuary for Family Talk & Donuts. FBC members will be sharing testimonies on how their hope in Jesus has impacted their lives. \*We will not offer SS classes this Sunday.

\*Nursery is available for younger children.

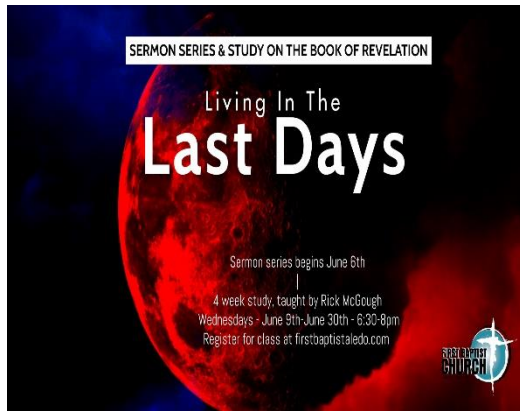
\*Gluten & Dairy Free Donuts will be available.

\*Family Talk will be Facebook Live.

# Sermon & Study Series/Rhubarb/Thank You

## New Sermon & Study Series

*We are living in the last days!*



What I tell you, I tell everyone... Watch! Those powerful words of our Lord are given both as encouragement and warning about the end times. We will spend the month of June preaching through the major themes of Revelation on Sunday mornings, as well as offering a special Wednesday Night study.

Rick McGough, from Local Church Apologetics has graciously offered to lead an intensive study from the book of Revelation. We will meet in the sanctuary from 6:30pm to 8pm, while Jr. High Refuge is meeting downstairs, and childcare as well as nursery will be provided for the children whose parents are attending the study. High School students through adults are invited to join us beginning June 9<sup>th</sup> for this 4-week special class.



## It's Rhubarb Pie Time!

**Rhubarb Needed** - The First Baptist Church is making Rhubarb pies on May 11th to sell by the slice at Aledo's Rhubarb Fest on Friday, June 4th. 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 3/4" inch pieces. Please bring the fresh (not frozen) Rhubarb to the church between May 6th – 10th. It can be put in the basement refrigerators. Thanks for your help!

**Pie Bakers Needed** - We are also in need of a couple of people to bake pies at the church on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. See Pastor Luke if you can help.

**Rhubarb Fest** - Mark your calendars for Aledo's Rhubarb Fest on June 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am-4pm! FBC is sponsoring the Kids Fun Zone (10am-2pm), selling pie by the slice under the Central Park Pavilion on Friday, June 4th and we will offer a baby diaper changing area. See more details at [aledorhubarbfest.com](http://aledorhubarbfest.com).



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your outpouring of love and support during the past 6 months. Since Cathy broke her leg, we know that many of you have been praying for us. Due to the bone not healing and a couple of other issues, the surgery must be done again at the end of May. Your continued prayers would be greatly appreciated. We look forward to being able worship with you in person again.

Thanks again.

Linus and Cathy Griswold





# FBC Kids Ministry

## For all Kids

### Ages 3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Kid's Ministry Summer Calendar

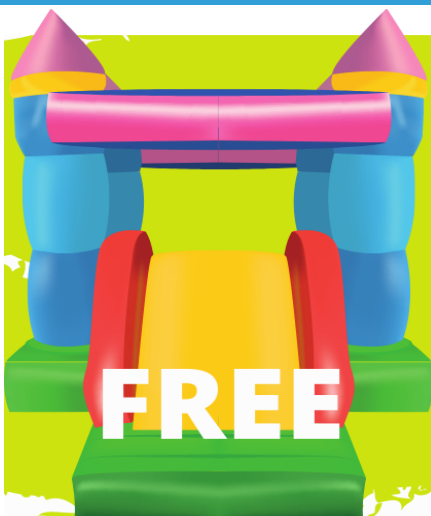


**May: Fridays at Northside Park at 10am**

**Sun., May 9th- Mother's Day (Photo Op with Moms)**

**Wed., May 12th - Revolutionary Parenting Book Club 6:30-8pm**

**Sun., May 30th- Family Talk 9-10am (No SS classes) Testimonies**



**Rhubarb Fest**  
**10am-2pm**  
**June 4th- Chalk Art Fun**  
**June 5th- Inflatables & Carnival Games**



**BARK IN THE PARK**  
 FRI., JUNE 11TH 10AM-NOON  
 Northside Park Playground

**Adopt-a-Stuffed Puppy**  
**Summer Prayer Challenge**

**Play & Eat Ice-cream**

**Bring your Dog** (leashes required)

Prayer challenges & puppies for kids ages 2-5th grade.  
 First come, first serve.

\*Unable to attend "Bark in the Park" but want a challenge & puppy? Please text Mollie at 309-371-6962 to join the "reconno" list. Any will an to those on the "reconno" list



*First Baptist Church, Aledo, IL*  
**4-Day Vacation Bible School**  
 June 28th-July 1st 9-11:30AM

\*Family Carnival on Friday, July 2nd 5-7pm at FBC (All Welcome)

- Kids ages 3 to going into 5th Grade
- Free & Open to the Community
- Registration begins May 15th at [www.firstbaptistaledo.com](http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com)
- Check-in 8:45-9am in lobby
- Pick-up 11:45am in Sanctuary

**TREASURED**  
 Discovering You're Priceless to God

Do you have a Jr. Volunteer going into 6th grade who would like to serve at VBS? All Jr. Volunteers must be active attenders and be pre-approved to serve no later than May 30th. Spots are limited. Please contact Mollie Dunn via FB or text 309-371-6962 to sign-up to serve.

**FAMILY CARNIVAL**

**FREE GAMES PRIZES FOOD**

**FIRST BAPTIST, ALEDO**  
**FRIDAY, JULY 2ND**  
**5-7PM**

All ages are invited to join us for a night of family fun on the front lawn of FBC.  
 No registration.  
 Invite your friends & join us.

We need adult and Jr. Volunteers to run games and serve food. Please contact Mollie via FB or text 309-371-6962 to sign-up to serve. All volunteers must be pre-approved. \*A special training is not required for this event.

# Jump Into Sunday School Anytime! Class List Below.

Sunday School for children and adults is at 9am every Sunday. We also offer a nursery at 9am so parents with babies can also attend. **Why is Sunday School important, you might ask?** Here are a few reasons we encourage children and adults to attend Sunday School:

- Because we love God and want to grow in our knowledge of Him. If we are serious about spiritual growth wouldn't we want to make Sunday School a priority?
- For those with children, Sunday School is a great tool to add to in home Biblical teaching to help your kids come to know Christ and grow in Him.
- Attending a Sunday School Class is a great way to meet others in the church and connect at a deeper level. We benefit from hearing others stories about how their life has been changed by Jesus and sharing Biblical wisdom and truth with each other.



## Updated Sunday School List 2021

*We have classes for kids and adults! Feel free to jump into any of these classes at any time.*

### Kids

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Level</b>
Nursery 9-11:30am	Rotation of Volunteers	Upper Level
Pre-K-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Kelly Higgins, Lynda Castor & Nadine Coulter Gina Young & Anita Parkinson	Lower Level-Fellowship Hall
2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Mollie Dunn, Denise Kelly & Monica Dennison	Lower Level-Refuge Room-F

### Youth

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Level</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Kevin & Pam Ricke	Lower Level - Room E
High School (9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> )	Pastor Seth Bowker & Mike Bowns	Lower Level - Berean Room #8

### Adults

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Level</b>
Bible Study	Brad Olson (Current Study: NIV Standard Lesson Commentary-Love For One Another)	Lower Level- Room #4 - Lower Enon
Forward For Christ	Ron Moffitt (Current Study: Genesis Ch.39)	Upper Level- Room #1-Enon
Berean Class	Steven & Felicia Bonyng (Current Study: The Art Of Marriage )	Upper Level -Room #3
Women's Class	Crystal Clark (Current Study: Faith Depending on God)	Lower Level - Room #6
Women's Class	Cindy Maynard (Current Study: Proverbs)	Lower Level - Classroom C

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[WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM](http://WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM)

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# Stay Connected!

- We are having In-person worship at 8am & 10:15am. Sunday School for all ages is at 9am along with a nursery for 0-2 years old. We have Kids Worship at the 10:15am service as well as a nursery for babies 0-2 years.
- 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!*