



July | 2021 |

Pastor's Perspective

Throughout the 2020 pandemic the church faced unexpected challenges. We needed to adjust quickly without compromising our core values and mission. By God's grace, the hard work of dedicated staff, the unwavering support of countless volunteers, and the generosity of our entire church body, we were able to maintain connection with the body, provide support to the community, and offer consistent worship and learning opportunities for all. The goal was to maintain a healthy ministry in the midst of challenges and limitations due to public health concerns. With a grateful heart, I am happy to say, FBC is emerging from the pandemic as a healthy, thriving church.

The emphasis this year has been rebuilding. As the pandemic has slowly receded, the ministry of First Baptist has responded with events and programming as quickly as possible. While we have not been focused on numbers, it has been encouraging to see many areas of ministry returning to pre-covid attendance averages, or within 90%. Personally, I didn't expect numbers to bounce back this quickly. Although we are beginning to see 90% attendance, the dynamic is different. Some of our regular attenders have not returned, but there are many new folks. So, as we continue to rebuild, there is a need to:

- Graciously and patiently reconnect those who are yet to return
- Teach, train and disciple new attenders/believers
- Continue to reach out to the community

As we have just completed the 3 ½ year journey through the Bible, I'm going to take this opportunity for the next couple of months to preach on some important topics that the teaches about God's plan for: Humanity (Imago Dei), Baptism, Discipleship, and Work. We will conclude the month of July with our annual Men's Rooted Conference, and look forward to some great things planned for later in the summer... Praise in the Park, and Life Action Revival.

I am beyond thankful for the blessings God has poured out on First Baptist. He has sustained and even grown our church in many ways over these past difficult months. There is no doubt that He has been faithful, and there is no doubt that you have remained faithful as well. It's exciting to think about what we can accomplish together with God leading us.

In Christ,
Pastor Luke



FBC
Giving Details

Total Giving Through 6/20/2021
\$327,844.12

Giving needed to meet 2021 budget to date-\$270,033.75



Refuge Student Ministry News

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



**6th-8th
Grade
Girls Book
Club!**

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 all girls 6th-8th Grade to join us Saturday, July 10th from 9am-10:30am at FBC. Please visit firstbaptistaledo.com to sign-up.



Heads up! We have moved the location of our **VBS Family Carnival** on Friday, July 2nd from 5-7pm to the Aledo Public Pool. This is a fun, free event for the whole family. Families are invited to bring their swim gear and swim, eat dinner, and play games for prizes at the pavilion. We are serving up carnival favorites like hot dogs, nachos, & snow cones. AND at 6pm Dr. Mollie-cule is going to let the kids drench her for reaching their \$1,200 school supply drive goal.

*An adult must join kiddos in the pool area if they can't swim or need a floatation device. Please spread the word that our party is NOW at the pool and pavilion. All age are welcome to join. 😊

Have a question? Contact Mollie Dunn at 309-371-6962.



FBC Women's Ministry



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

All ladies are invited to the Joy Circle Gathering on Tuesday, July 27th 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!

Women's Movie Night

Join us at FBC on Friday, July 23rd for at 6:30pm for an evening of fun and fellowship! We will be watching the movie "The Resurrection of Gavin Stone." Popcorn and drinks provided. Wear your comfy clothes and bring a snack to share if you would like! No need to RSVP to movie night, just show up!



Save the Date for these Upcoming Women's Ministry Events!



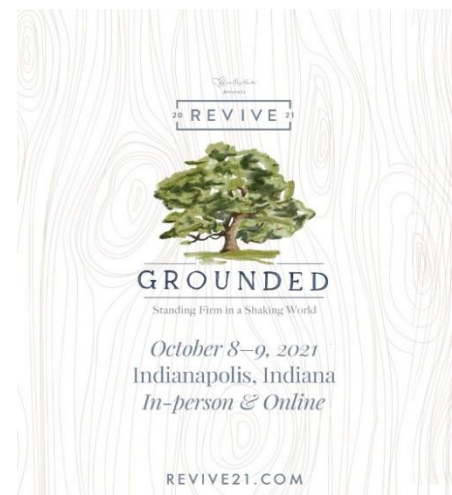
July 23rd – Ladies Movie Night
August 25th - Better Together Gathering
September 12th-15th - Life Action Team at FBC
October 8th-9th - GROUNDED Conference in Indianapolis
October 15th-17th - THRIVE Retreat in Michigan
November 6th - Women's Event at FBC

Watch and listen for details. As the dates approach, more info can be found by visiting our website firstbaptistaledo.com/womens-ministry and also like us on Facebook by searching First Baptist Women's Ministry Aledo.

Revive '21

Women's Grounded Conference October 8th and 9th - Indianapolis, IN

If you are interested in attending the Revive 21 conference, the FBC Women's ministry is covering the hotel room cost and you are responsible for buying your ticket for the event. More information about the Revive Conference and discounted tickets are available until June 30th and can be purchased online @ Revive21.com. If you are planning on attending or have already purchased your ticket, please email Jenny Dixon at jenllong1@gmail.com to secure your hotel room.



FBC Men's Ministry

Men's Rooted Conference – Stand Firm 2021

1 Corinthians 16:13

The fifth annual **Men's Rooted Conference** will happen Saturday, July 31st from 8:30am-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.

Check in begins at 8am. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. T-shirts are available for \$10. ***Deadline to order a Rooted T-shirt is July 15th.** There is no charge for this event, but registration is a must, and a love offering will be taken. Register online at firstbaptistaledo.com!



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.



Men's Go Study Needs Leaders

Following the Rooted Conference, we want to capture the momentum of this conference with a 4 week follow up study called "GO, The Journey to Biblical Manhood." We are looking for men with a heart for God and a passion for connecting with other men to attend an information/training session to possibly lead a small group through this study. Everything you need will be supplied for you to lead this small group. The information/training session is July 10th from 8am to 9:30am at FBC in the Enon Room. Please register online at firstbaptistaledo.com



A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT From the FBC Men's Ministry Team

To supplement your time in God's Word and encourage you throughout your day, the FBC Men's Ministry Team has compiled several different types of resources. Visit this link to find devotionals, books, apps, podcasts and radio programs all designed to grow your faith: <https://www.firstbaptistaledo.com/mens-resources/>

Praise in the Park/Life Action Summit/WNL



Coming Soon! Watch for our billboard on
Rt. 67 south of Milan!

Mark Your Calendar! Praise In The Park Family Fest!

Aledo's Central Park
Sunday, August 22nd at 10am-3pm

Outdoor Worship, Music, Food,
Water Inflatables, Kona Ice & Family Fun!
All Free!

Stay tuned for more details.



The Life Action Team is coming to First Baptist Aledo!

Sept. 12th-15th, 2021! Mark your calendar!
You won't want to miss the Life Action Summit!

Designed for the entire church family, Life Action Summits provide a one-of-a-kind experience of reconnecting with God and transforming relationships. They're times of seeking God personally and corporately for an outpouring of His Spirit. Our prayer is that through these concentrated times of seeking Him, God will awaken a desire in each church for something more, something holy . . . something extraordinary.

We will need "host families" to house the young people on the LA Summit Team as well as needing other volunteers and resources. Please be in prayer about how you might get involved with the Life Action Summit and be a blessing to the Summit Ministry Team. Questions, call the church office at 309-582-7812.



I would like to thank the church family for its gift of the drinking cup; it will be used. For those of you who came to help me celebrate and for your gifts of love; I thank you.
Sincerely, Veronica Moffit

#

Dear First Baptist Church Family,
I am so blessed to have you. Through you, God has shown his faithfulness. He provides for our needs. Our every need.

May God bless you and keep you
all the days of your life.

I will be able to get to places for my dad!
Thank you! Patti Thompson



What is Wednesday Night Live? WNL is a series of classes & programs held at First Baptist that will run from Wednesday, Sept. 22nd through Nov. 17th, 2021 each Wednesday night from 6:30-8pm. We will have Kids Club for kids ages 3 years through 5th grade, Refuge for students 6th-8th grade and classes for adults. High School students are invited to attend the adult WNL classes. High School Refuge will continue on Sunday evenings from 6-8pm. Stay tuned for class details and sign up coming later this summer.

WNL is open to the public so feel free to invite your friends and their families to join us. WNL is FREE to attend!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
800 NE 6TH AVE.
ALEDO, IL 61231

PHONE: 309.582.7812
E-MAIL: FBCALED02@FRONTIERNET.NET
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.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. 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.
- 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!