



November | 2021

"I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Christ Jesus."
Philippians 1:6

Back to normal? We're kind of getting there, in a way... As far as the church goes it seems like things are moving in the right direction. Attendance is good, new visitors are showing up every week, and the programming is in full swing. I would say that our church has bounced back as well as any church I know of. That being said, I would also say that we still have a long way to go to be where we want to be. It's a strange balance we need to have. On the one hand we need a holy discontent which motivates us to strive for more and better results, yet on the other hand we need a spirit of thankfulness to appreciate all that God has blessed us with.

As Christians we are always faced with that challenge. We always have room to grow in our faith. We should be learning, and serving and deepening in our walk with Christ, which potentially leads us to be dissatisfied. Yet, there is such a strong message in the Bible of being content, and even more than content, we should be rejoicing and confident in all that God has done through Christ and all

that He promised in His Word.

The reality is this. What we are dissatisfied with is ourselves. As weak and limited creatures, we know we fall short. What we are praising God for is His grace. He has done great things, and promises to never stop until they are all completed. The greatest challenge to faith is not the initial step of believing, but the long hard process of persevering. I have been so very impressed with our church over the last two years. We have persevered through a challenging season, but have remained faithful, generous, and thankful.

Later this month, I will be taking a small group to El Salvador to encourage the pastors and leaders of the 8 churches Rigoberto oversees. Rigo asked that we speak on the topic of discouragement. It seems to be a cross-cultural issue. I don't know what kind of discouragement you may be facing as we approach another holiday season, but I hope you'll remember two things. We have much to be thankful for because we have a great God who loves us. And whatever challenges you face, God is not done.

In Christ, Pastor Luke

FBC
Giving Details

Total Giving Through 10/24/2021
\$554,759.00

Giving needed to meet 2021 budget to date-\$464,458.05



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! Invite your friends to join us!



Helping Hands Volunteers Needed

Pastor Seth is still in need of more adult volunteers to help with the Helping Hands Ministry on Saturday, November 13th from 7:30am-12:00pm.

We are excited to lend a helping hand to members of our church family and community by doing some general household maintenance. We are in need of adult and youth volunteers to do various tasks for this event. Please sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com under the Events Tab and Sign Up.



The Fugitive King Study!

Girls Grades 6-8 are invited to join us Mondays from 6-7pm in the Enon Room for a small group study. This study is taught by Vickie Korn & Rhonda McKinley. Beginning Oct. 25th, the new Study will be "The Fugitive King," about King David. Join anytime.

6-8th Grade Girls
Monday Night Study
Begins Oct 25 - 6-7pm



The Fugitive
King

A STUDY OF KING DAVID



KIDS WORSHIP 10:15am Service

Kids Worship is every Sunday at the 10:15am Service. Kids ages 3-4th grade check-in outside the sanctuary and sit with their families until they are dismissed before the message. ***Starting Sept. 19th, Kids Worship participants will go straight to class after check-in.**
***Family Worship will be offered on Baptism Sundays where kids will worship with families until they are dismissed.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9-10am CLASSES

We offer Sunday School classes for all ages to make connections and go deeper in the Word. We have a nursery for kids 2 and younger, several adult classes, a High School class (behind kitchen), a Jr. High class (second room on the left in the downstairs hall), a Pre-k-1st grade class (in the Fellowship Hall), and a 2nd-5th grade class (Youth Room). No need to sign up. Just come! Kids nursery-high school check-in the lobby.



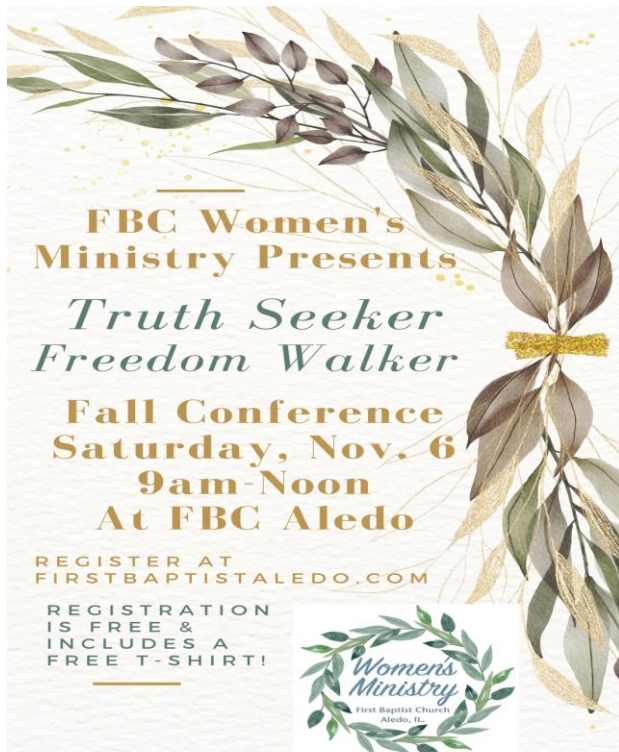
Join First
Baptist
Family
Ministry:
Aledo, IL



The Kids Clubbers are earning points this fall to spend at their Christmas Shop on the last night of Kids Club on Nov. 17th. We need LOTS of great Christmas gift donations by Nov. 10th to make our Christmas Shop rock! Find the full list in the lobby. Want to make a monetary donation, make checks to FBC with "Christmas Shop" in the memo.



FBC Women's Ministry



Truth Seeker Freedom Walker

FBC Women's Fall Conference
Saturday, Nov. 6th – 9am-Noon

The FBC Women's Ministry invites all ladies to attend a morning of fellowship and digging into God's Word together Saturday, Nov. 6th from 9am-noon at FBC. We will be focusing in on identifying lies we may be believing, what God's Word says is true, and how to walk in the abundant freedom offered to us in Christ! This event is free to attend. Snacks will be provided. Childcare is not offered. Please register online at firstbaptistaledo.com.



FBC Women's Small Groups 2022!

2021 has been another great year of mentoring for the FBC Women involved in the Lies Women Believe & The Truth That Sets Them Free Study. Information and sign up is coming soon for the 2022 FBC Women's Small Groups. Stay tuned!

If you have questions about joining a Women's Small Group, see Crystal Clark or Peggy Johnson.

JOY Circle Christmas Party Gathering!

All ladies are invited to join us Tuesday, Nov. 30th – Please note, this date is not the normal Tuesday and also a different location. This Christmas gathering is the final event for J.O.Y. Circle for 2021. J.O.Y. Circle will gather at 6pm at Joe's Trattoria Pizzeria in Aledo. We will order from the menu. Please bring a paper product for the food pantry as well as a \$5 gift exchange.

There will be no J.O.Y. Circle in December, January, or February. J.O.Y. Circle will pick back up on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm in March and continue on through 2022. Merry Christmas to the ladies of J.O.Y. Circle!



Baptism/Grief Share/Giving & More!



Baptism Sunday will be Sunday, Nov. 28th

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. 28th following
the 10:15am Service.

Church Council will meet
Tuesday, Nov. 16th at 7pm.



Men's Sunday Morning Breakfast

We've created a purposeful environment where you can enjoy a casual and relaxed time connecting with other men in our church, sharing some great food and conversation about our faith and how God is working in our lives. Invite a friend to join you!

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, see Kevin Ricke.

Grief Share-Surviving the Holidays

1 Night Event at FBC

Wednesday, Dec. 1st at 6:30pm

Sign up at Firstbaptistaledo.com



Help and hope as you navigate the Christmas season

Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading these holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated?

Our Surviving the Holidays seminar on Dec. 1st is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn:

- How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to discover hope for your future

Register online at firstbaptistaledo.com or call the church office at 309-582-7812 and Pam will assist you.

Christmas Gifts for the Nursing Home Residents

It will soon be time to begin bringing gifts for the residents of Mercer Manor and Aledo Rehab and Health Care Center. Your unwrapped gifts may be placed in the boxes marked **NURSING HOME GIFTS** in the church lobby from **Sunday, Nov. 21st until 10 am on Tuesday, Dec. 14th**. A detailed list of gift ideas is coming soon! Watch your bulletin!

We will pack the gifts in the church lobby on **TUESDAY, DEC. 14TH at 10 am**. We will need volunteers to help assist with the packing. No need to sign up just show up to help. Any questions call Cathy Griswold at 582-2838, or the church office at 582-7812. Thank you for your help with this project!

Upcoming Events for the Whole Church Family!



Operation Christmas Child has Kicked Off!

O.C.C. uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. You may pick up an empty shoebox with instructions in the church lobby! Return your filled box by Sunday, Nov. 14th 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 shipping cost. Questions, see OCC Coordinator Lindsay Ricke.



OCC Collection Week Volunteers Needed

We are excited to once again be a Collection Site for Operation Christmas Child. We are honored to be a place where individuals, churches and organizations can bring all the shoeboxes that they have filled. Last year we received 597 boxes and the year 15th-22nd. We are looking for volunteers to help with various aspects of this event; set-up, tear-down, and collection of boxes. Please visit our website firstbaptistaledo.com to register.



Christmas Poinsettias

We will once again be placing poinsettias in the sanctuary "In Memory Of" loved ones. Sign up on Sunday's Connect Card or call the church office (309-582-7812) no later than Sunday, Dec. 5th. Cost is \$10. Checks can be made to FBC with "Poinsettia" in the memo.



2021 Thanksgiving Meal

First Baptist Church Aledo is once again sponsoring free Thanksgiving meals to our community. We will offer deliveries and pick up only (no inside dining). Meals can be picked up on Thursday, Nov. 25th at First Baptist Church between 11:30am-Noon. Deliveries will go out at 11am. Sign up for a meal by calling the church office at 309-582-7812 or visit our website firstbaptistaledo.com to sign up online. We only have 200 hundred meals, so please RSVP early to get your meal reservations.

We are also in need of volunteers to help prepare the meal cartons, deliver meals, and clean up. If you are interested in serving, please visit our website to sign up.



Giving Seminar Coming to FBC!

Did you know you can make a charitable donation from your retirement and pay less taxes? When you reach a certain age, you are required to take money out of retirement accounts, even if you don't need to or want to. In this seminar you will learn how to make donations from retirement accounts, and how to gift other appreciated assets. Examples will be presented as well as pros and cons.

If you're interested in learning more, sign up online at Firstbaptistaledo.com or by calling the church office at 309-582-7812 and join us in the sanctuary on **December 1st at 6:30pm**. Scott from the Quad City Investment Group will be presenting and answering any questions.

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

PHONE: 309.582.7812
E-MAIL: FBCALED02@FRONTIERNET.NET
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALED0.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.
- 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!*



*Reminder – Daylight Savings
Time ends at 2am Sunday,
Nov. 7th! Set your clocks back
1 hour before going to bed
Saturday night.*