



Easter

He is Risen

FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH
ALEDO, ILLINOIS

April | 2022

“Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

~ 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Over the past few months I have enjoyed preaching through the Life of Christ. We are quickly approaching Easter, which means that this series is coming to its glorious conclusion... the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, which, as Paul states in 1 Corinthians, is the gospel that saves us. It is always the first and foremost concern and desire that people know this good news and are invited and challenged to respond to it by simple faith. We also seek to encourage and challenge believers to continue to respond in faith. Sometimes this means growing in discipleship, and sometimes we emphasize practical obedience through repentance or service.

This Easter we plan to focus on recommitment to Christ. Many, many people have made a profession of faith to Jesus in the past. Likewise, many people have fallen short of that commitment in one way or another. Sometimes what we need is an opportunity to start again. In the technology world, a program or device can get stuck. What needs to happen is a reboot to get it working again. Life can be like that sometimes. When people get stuck in bad patterns of living or thinking they need to reset the system of their life. Rather than focusing on the problem, and living with a sense of frustration, we need to let Jesus take over. A recommitment to Christ isn't the same as getting saved. It recognizes a past history with God, and it admits to being derailed, and affirms the desire to renew an otherwise neglected relationship with the Lord. As we move into spring, my hope is that there will be a sense of new life and hope in people's relationship with Christ every bit as evident as the temperature, grass and flowers. You don't have to wait till Easter to recommit your life to Christ, nor do you have to wait till Easter to invite friends and family to church, but it sure is a great time to do both.

In Christ,

Pastor Luke

**FBC
Giving Details
For
2022**

**Total Giving Through 3/27/2022:
\$171,480.63
Giving needed to meet 2022 budget
to date:
\$152,215.57**



Easter

He is Risen
April 17th

Easter Sunrise Service 6:30am
Easter Breakfast 7am
Easter Service 8am & 10:15am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ALED0, ILLINOIS



Easter EGG-stravaganza

First Baptist Church
800 NE 6th Ave., Aledo, IL
Event Contact: Mollie Dunn
(309)371-6962

Good Friday, April 15th 9-11am
A FREE Drop-Off Event for KIDS! Ages 3-5th Grade
Pre-registration not required but strongly encouraged.
Pre-register @ www.firstbaptistaledo.com



Lil' Egg Hunt

First Baptist Church
800 NE 6th Ave., Aledo, IL
Lil' Egg Coordinator: Lindsay Ricke
(256)520-7910

Ages 2 & Younger
Lil' Hunt is in the backyard.
Please register your child by texting your child's name & "Lil' Egg Hunt" to Lindsay at (256)520-7910 or registering on the Kid's Egg-Stravaganza event page. *We ask that an adult accompany your child. Baskets will be provided.

Good Friday, April 15th 9-9:20am



April 15th - 7pm @ FBC

Good Friday Service



Easter Breakfast
7am Fellowship Hall
Please RSVP @ firstbaptistaledo.com

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ALED0, ILLINOIS

KIDS CLUB MINISTRY



Easter Candy

We're collecting small, wrapped, egg-sized candy for our Kid's Easter Event. Donations can be left in Mollie's office through Sun., April 10th. Thanks for your help!



FBC Kid's Sunday School Classes

SINGING ON PALM SUNDAY (APRIL 10TH) AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 10:15AM SERVICE



Palm Sunday Music Special-The kid's SS classes will sing during the 10:15am service on Sun., April 10th. Sunday School classes (Pre-K-5th Grade) will not be picked up from SS class on Palm Sunday. They will perform at the beginning of the 10:15am service and will be taken directly to Kids Worship after their performance. Thanks!

Fun Easter Event For The Kids!

Easter EGG-stravaganza

Good Friday, April 15th 9-11am

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First Baptist Church, Aledo
4-Day Vacation Bible School '22
9-11:30am June 27th-30th
VBS Program: Sun., July 3rd 10:15am

A FREE, Community-Wide Event
Ages 3-Going into 5th Grade
Register at www.firstbaptistaledo.com
Registration opens May 1st



Lil' Egg Hunt

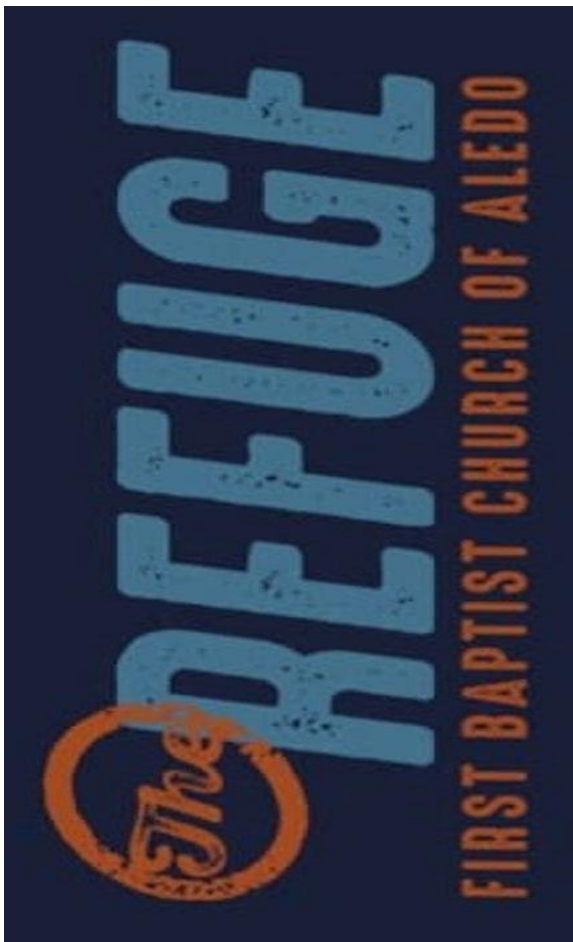
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Refuge Student Ministry

Jr. High students (6th-8th grade) continue to meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8pm, doors open at 6:00pm. High School students (9th-12th grade) meet on Sunday nights from 6-8pm, doors open at 5:45pm. 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! No High School Refuge on Sunday, April 17th. Happy Easter!



We're having a fun free night at the YMCA on Wednesday, April 13th from 6-9pm for all Junior High Students. We'll have basketball, volleyball, and gaga ball. The pool will also be open from 7:00-8:45. We'll have snacks, bottled water, and board games in the Community Room. The YMCA will be open to the public during this time, so if you are not a Y member, you will just need to tell them at the front desk that you're with FBC.

Helping Hands Ministry!



Our Spring Helping Hands is Saturday, April 30th. 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 help with this rewarding event. Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com to volunteer.



Study for Girls grades 6-8th!

Girls in grades 6th-8th are invited to join us Mondays from 6-7pm in the Enon Room for a small group study. This study is taught by Vickie Kornes and Rhonda McKinley. They are currently studying, "Matchless. The Life & Love of Jesus."



The Boom Sisters would like to invite the Bold Brothers to a movie event on Saturday, April 2nd from 10:00am-12:30pm. We will be watching "Sabina: Tortured for Christ, the Nazi Years." This movie is rated PG-13 for thematic content and some disturbing images and violence. Check out the preview online at https://youtu.be/4Y_rgUdIAPO. Don't forget that everyone who attends gets 10,000 points! Please sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com so we can be sure to have enough walking tacos for everyone.



Bold Brothers - Boys in grades 6th-8th grade are invited to join us for Bold Brothers where we have activities and hands-on learning. The goal is to learn how being bold for Christ comes in whatever we put our hands to. Our next Bold Brothers is on April 9th from 10-11:30am. Drop off and pick up is at FBC. We will be taking the boys out to Aaron Struble's house to learn how to handle a chainsaw. Please dress appropriately. If you have any questions, please see Mike Bowns.

Flourish Women's Ministry

Better Together Women's Event

All ladies are invited to join us at FBC Saturday, April 9th from 9-11am downstairs in the Berean Room (behind the kitchen).

Join us for fun, fellowship, and a little crafting. No crafting experience is required. We will be assembling greeting cards from pre-cut kits. Bring a snack to share if you like. Drinks will be provided.



Looking Ahead to May!

Women's Pizza and Bags Night
Friday, May 6th at 6pm

Please join us for an evening of fun, fellowship and food! Starts at 6pm with pizza arriving at 6:30pm.



All ladies are invited to the Joy Circle Gathering on Tuesday, April 26th 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 Ministry Think Tank Meeting
Saturday, April 23rd, 9-10:30am-All women are invited to brain storm ideas. We will be meeting in the Enon Room. Questions, see Crystal Clark or Peggy Johnson.



JOURNEY Mother/Daughter Retreat at Life Action Camp-April 29th-May 1st. Recommended for daughters age 8-13. Cost is \$100 per Mom and \$50 per daughter. This cost includes the conference, accommodations, and meals at the retreat. Deadline to register is April 15th. Housing and transportation will be coordinated after the registration deadline. For details visit www.lifeactioncamp.com. To register visit firstbaptistaledo.com

A Note from The Flourish Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry of FBC helps cover part of the cost to attend Retreats/Conferences. More information about the events can be found on the corresponding websites. Currently, registration is open for the JOURNEY Mother/Daughter Retreat April 29th-May 1st. Please register with the church, then housing and transportation will be coordinated. Deadline for registration is April 15th for JOURNEY. Questions, please see Peggy Johnson or Crystal Clark.



Two words are sometimes all it takes to upset and overwhelm us: tornado warning, treatment options, work layoffs, family trouble, big decision, car repairs. They take up so little room, and yet they can fill a whole day, the whole house, our whole lives with dread, panic, and concern.

Heaven rules is the two-word answer for every two-word worry, for every wave of assault on your peace of mind. Because Heaven's rule is God's rule: His rule over nations, leaders, and nature; His rule over COVID, cancer, and concerns about your kids. Be a part of True Woman '22, a three-day event Sept. 22-24 for women around the world to anchor your heart to the unshakable truth that Jesus is King.

If interested, you need to purchase your ticket for True Woman at www.truewoman22.com. Then, go to firstbaptistaledo.com to reserve your hotel room. The hotel room is paid for by the FBC Flourish Women's Ministry but we need a count so we know the number of rooms we need.

Men's Ministry/Church Business/Baby Dedication Sunday



Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference

For those who registered, the FBC Men's Ministry reminds you that the Iron Sharpens Iron event is Sat., April 2nd from 8:30am-4pm at Coram Deo Bible Church Davenport - Car pool will leave from FBC at 6:45am. Questions, call Kevin Ricke 309-235-7999.



Men's Momentum Retreat at Life Action Camp-Buchanan, MI—April 22nd-24th. Cost-\$100 and includes meals/lodging while at the conference.

Departure time is Friday, April 22nd at 10am and we'll be back in Aledo on Sunday, April 24th in the early evening. Sign up today online at firstbaptistaledo.com. Actual Momentum cost is \$150 so if you can pay the full amount it helps with the Men's Ministry budget.

If you have questions, see Brad Olson or Barry Cooper.



Upcoming Church Meetings

Church Council Meeting – The FBC Church Council will meet Tuesday, April 19th at 7pm.

FBC Quarterly Business Meeting-Sunday, April 24th following the 10:15am Service. All are welcome to attend.

Baby Dedication



Baby Dedication Sunday - Sunday, April April 10th at the 8am & 10:15am service. If you are interested in dedicating your baby to the Lord, please call the church office at 309-582-7812.

Plastic Containers Needed



Our church kitchen is in need of small plastic containers with lids. These could be new or recycled items such as Cool Whip containers, etc. If you have extra containers you could donate, you may leave them in the church kitchen.

Questions see Vivian Kopp.

Thank You/Grad & Promotion Sunday

Thank You

Thank you to our church family for the lovely fruit basket delivered at Christmas. It was much appreciated. Thanks again.
Rosalee Sproston

Pastor Luke, Thank you for officiating at mom's funeral and being there for us. It was greatly appreciated. Also a big thank you to the ladies who provided lunch for us. Everything was wonderful.
Sandy Morrison

I wanted to thank everyone at First Baptist for everything done for us during mom's time in the nursing home and at her passing. From the cards and gifts given her, Seth's nursing home church services, the ladies in the kitchen and Pastor Luke's words. Everything was very much appreciated.
Thank you again.
Sincerely, Patti Vitale

Dear Deacons, Thank you so much for thinking about us and giving us the Fast Stop gift card. We will put it to good use in our travels to Rochester. We can't thank you enough for all of your thoughts, prayers and your very generous gift. We thank God for our church and all of you. We are so blessed! Thank you!
Darryl & Carol Ricketts

Graduation & Promotion Sunday & Family Talk & Donuts



Does your family have a 2022 Graduate? If someone from your family is graduating from 8th grade, High School or College, call the office by April 24th at 309-582-7812 so we can add them to the Graduate Recognition list. Graduation Recognition Sunday is Sunday, May 29th at 9am during Family Talk & Donuts.



All ages are invited to join us in the sanctuary for a special Family Talk on May 29th from 9-9:45am. We're celebrating our graduates & having a big family-style Sunday School celebration. Kids/Teens will be promoted to their next classes, we're handing out goodies, and we're honoring our dedicated SS teachers.

Kids will sit with their families. Donuts & drinks will be provided. *No Sunday School classes this day. **The nursery will be open. We hope you'll join us!

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Baptism Sunday is Sunday, April 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 and we'll get you in touch with Pastor Seth for all the details.



El Salvador Mission Update/Sunday School



Recap of El Salvador Mission Trip '22

On March 17, a team of 9 people arrived in El Salvador for 4 days of mission work. The team included, Pastor Luke and Mollie Dunn, Josh and Jenny Dixon, Cindy and Lonnie Maynard, Sheri Olson, Marjie Earl and Amy Hess. While there, the team set up a family carnival in 3 locations that began with a message on trusting God and finished with games, popcorn, snow cones and papusas. In total, there were over 1000 people at the carnivals. On Monday night, Luke and Mollie led a mini conference with the leaders from the local church filled with encouragement and prayer. The team appreciates all of your support and prayers. Sunday, April 3rd there will be a full recap of the mission work with pictures during the Sunday worship services.

Thanks again for your support of the Mission work FBC continues to do in El Salvador.

Updated Sunday School List 2022

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

Kids

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

Youth

| Class | Teacher | Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 6 th , 7 th & 8 th Grade | Kevin & Pam Ricke | Lower Level - Room E |
| High School (9 th -12 th) | Kim & Jack Sheese | Lower Level - Berean Room 8 |

Adults

| Class | Teacher | Level |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Discipleship | Luke Dunn Rose Guide To Discipleship | Lower Level - Refuge Room - F |
| Bible Study | Aaron Struble (Current Study: NIV Standard Lesson Commentary) | Lower Level- Room #4 - Lower Enon |
| Forward For Christ | Ron Moffitt (Current Study: Exodus) | Upper Level- Room #1-Enon |
| Women's Class | Crystal Clark (Current Study: Studying of God's Word) | Lower Level - Room #6 |
| Women's Class | Cindy Maynard (Current Study: Proverbs) | Upper Level - Room 3 |

Land & Building/Missions

Land and Building



This year is flying by already. The first few weeks of 2022 were a whirlwind of activity as we responded to the opportunity to bid on the land across the street from the church. By God's grace we were able to purchase 38 acres. For the past few months we've been discussing what to do next. We intend to sell a majority portion of the land, and keep some acreage for parking and future developments. On the table is the decision to sell 23 acres and keep 15, or to sell 28 acres and keep 10. There are a few factors that influence that decision.

- 1) Zoning – Anything over 15 acres remains agricultural which means lower taxes and less red tape for development.
- 2) Cost – The more land we keep, the more it costs. The difference in cost between 10 acres and 15 is \$63,000.
- 3) Need – The big question is how much land do we think we will need both now and in the future. Right now, we simply need an acre or two to develop into a parking lot. It is impossible to know how much land the church may need in the future, but 10 acres would seem sufficient.
- 4) Use – How much of the land will we use in the short-term. As stated above, it is likely we will only use an acre or two. The question has been asked, do we plan to build on the new land. The answer is not right now. The building committee is working on plans for expansion and all options are being considered, but the best options still seem to keep our future building expansion connected to our current building.

Pray for our Church Council and Building Committee as we continue to seek the Lord on His will for the future of First Baptist. At the April business meeting, we will be voting on the sale of the land. That will be the only official decision we will be voting on in regards to the land, parking or building developments. In the near future we will be presenting more information regarding building and parking. Thank you for your prayers and your patience as we work on these issues.

In Christ,
Luke

Another Mission



Two years ago Mollie and I were supposed to go on a mission trip to Athens, Greece with a team from Exposed to Christ Ministries. We had been preparing for that trip for about a year, but then everything was shut down due to covid. The trip was rescheduled for the spring of 2021, but when the time rolled around the restrictions were still preventing international travel. So, we postponed another year, tentatively hoping that by the spring of 2022 we would be cleared for takeoff. By all accounts, it looks like we will be able to finally go on this mission trip that we've been planning for three years. We will leave on April 27th, and be doing the lion's share of the mission work in Athens among refugees. We will also be traveling north and visiting some of the ancient cities we read about in the book of Acts where the Apostle Paul planted the first churches. At the end of the trip Mollie and I will take a short plane ride over to Rome where we hope to spend a couple days seeing some more historic and biblical sites.

It was my hope that such a trip might expand our mission opportunities for FBC. While we would continue to partner with Rigo in El Salvador, we might also do mission work in other parts of the world. We've been blessed to develop a wonderful connection with the people in El Salvador, and over the years our church has done mission work in Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ukraine, as well as Los Angeles, Cornerstone, Kentucky, Joplin, Missouri, Oklahoma, and South Dakota. It may be that the Lord has other opportunities for us to serve that we haven't discovered yet. Pray for us as we travel and serve in a new region of the world, and we will be excited to share what God shows us.

~Luke & Mollie

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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!***



Maybe you feel something has been missing from your life. Maybe that something is your faith! Easter is a great time for a fresh start and to rediscover your faith. First Baptist offers a casual atmosphere with programming for kids and adults, live music and relevant message.