

First Baptist Church News!



September | 2022

*Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.
Psalm 42:11*

You would think that after 20 years of preaching a person might feel like there isn't much more to be said. Strangely enough, the opposite seems to be true. I suppose that shouldn't be surprising because God's Word is inexhaustible. I have enjoyed the series we just concluded about the Apostle Paul. Many more messages could be preached on the details of his life and ministry, but I think it is time to move on. As I was praying and considering what we should study next, I had many things on my mind. In October we will begin a series on Discipleship. The first message on this topic will actually be given by Bill Allison, who leads a ministry called Cadre Missionaries. He has dedicated his life and ministry to teaching and training on this particular issue of discipleship and helping Christians become disciple makers. So, he will give the message on October 2nd, and then lead a discipleship workshop on Saturday October 8th. This event is sponsored

by the FBC Men's Ministry, but we hope to have a huge turnout from our whole church body. So, for the month of September, I considered some different topics I could preach on and I asked myself a question. What do people need right now? I've mentioned at least a couple times that we seem to be experiencing a pandemic of depression and despair. If nothing else, many people seem to be suffering from a lack of joy. If that doesn't reflect how you feel these days, praise the Lord. But if it does, then you won't want to miss this short series on Defeating Despair, Restoring Hope, and Seeking Joy. We will let God's Word reveal what's going on in our world and in our own hearts this month as we explore these issues. Everything we do at FBC is intended to help you discover and grow in faith. It's my sincere hope that when you read this newsletter and see everything going on that you see it as a menu of options to choose from, not an overwhelming list of obligations. I'm excited for what God is doing in your life through the ministry of FBC. I hope you'll find exactly what you need as we pursue Christ together.

In Christ,

Pastor Luke

2022 Giving

Total giving through 8/28/2022:

\$434,584.48

**Giving needed to meet
2022 budget to date: \$398,102.26**

KIDS CLUB MINISTRY



Stay
Connected



Hi Parents & Guardians!

We know you are super busy with all the things so there are several ways to stay updated on what's happening in the FBC Kids Ministry.

Remind (Text Reminders)

If you'd like text reminders, send the following messages to 81010:

Kids Club: @e7h9b2

Kids Worship/Sunday School: @c4c2fa8

Nursery Families: @kee2d6

Church Center App

This is a really cool app for your smartphone that you can use to sign-up, add new people, cancel, look up info, etc. Here's how to get it: Search for "Church Center" in your app store and make First Baptist Church, Aledo, IL your church. Done! *All registration links are attached to this app so take the guess work out of how to sign-up for stuff & add it today! Reminders are sent via email so make sure we have your most current email.

Facebook Pages/Groups:

Church-wide: "First Baptist Church of Aledo" (public page)

"First Baptist Family Ministry: Aledo, IL" (private- ask to join)

Instagram:

kidsclubministry



KID'S CLUB FALL SESSION '22 (SEPT. 7TH-NOV. 16TH)

Hey Parents!

Kids ages 3-5th grade are invited to join us for Kids Club this fall from **Sept. 4th-Nov. 16th on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:10pm at FBC in Aledo.**

Check-in begins at 6:15pm and pick-up is at 8:10pm. (No early check-in's please, as the crew needs time to set up before kids arrive.) We're diving into the New Testament with Gospel Project and having lots of fun with friends, games, activities, & snacks. Registration is now open at www.firstbaptistaledo.com. *Adult classes/ nursery and Jr. High Youth Group (6th-8th grades) are at the same time.

Please bring kids inside the lobby door (no door drop-offs, please) & grab your security tag when you check-in. You'll need to present the security tag when you pick-up kids. This is a free program and open to the community. Friends can join us any time. Let us know if you have questions!

~Mollie Dunn

Special Nights

Sept. 21st:
Dress like a
Grandparent & Bingo w/ Prizes

Oct. 12th:
Crazy Hair & Relays

Oct. 26th:
Outdoor Movie Night

Nov. 16th: Last Night of the Session
Escape the Zoo Party &
Bible Memory Treasure Box



KIDS 10:15am Service WORSHIP

Kids ages 3-5th grade check-in outside the sanctuary and sit with their families until they are dismissed during the third song out the back of the sanctuary. *Please present your security tag at pick-up in the Fellowship Hall immediately following service.

9-10am SUNDAY SCHOOL 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 (last room on the right in the downstairs hall), 3rd-5th grade class (back of youth room), a 1st-2nd grade class (left room inside Fellowship Hall), and a Pre-K-K class (right room inside Fellowship Hall). No need to sign up. Just check-in upstairs and head to class.

*Parents need to pick-up kids at 10am.



FBC Kid Ministry Fall'22/Winter/Spring '23

September

Sun., Sept. 4th- **Praise in the Park** 9:30am-2pm @ Central Park

Wed., Sept. 7th- **First Night of Kids Club**

Wed., Sept. 21st- **Kids Club: Dress-like-a Grandparent & Bingo Night**

October

Wed., Oct. 12th- **Kids Club: Crazy Hair & Relays**

Wed., Oct. 26th- **Kids Club: Outdoor Movie Night (K-5th)/Indoor Movie (Pre-K)**

November

Wed., Nov. 16th- **Kids Club: Last Night of the session "Escape the Zoo & Treasure Box" Night**

December

Sunday, Dec. 11th- **Sunday School Kids Sing**

January

Sun., Jan 15th- **Family Fun Event TBA**

February

Wed., Feb. 1st- **First night of Kids Club for Winter/Spring '23 Session**

Wed., Feb. 15th- **Kids Club: Birthday Bash Night**

Sun., Feb. 19th- **Family Fun Event TBA**

March

Wed., March 1st- **Kids Club: Nerd Night**

Wed., March 15th- **No Kids Club (Family Fun Event TBA)**

Wed., March 29th- **Last Night of Kids Club: Prize Night**

April

Fri., April 7th- **Family Easter Event**



Refuge Student Ministry



High School Refuge - High School students (9th-12th grade) meet on Sunday nights from 6-8pm, doors open at 5:45pm. There will be no High School Refuge on September 4th.

Jr. High Refuge - Junior High School students (6th-8th grade) meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8pm, doors open at 6pm. Starting Sept. 7th, the doors will open at 6:15pm.

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!



Boom Sisters - Boom Sisters, we are going to the Putnam Museum on Saturday, September 17th to view the **Anne Frank: A History for Today** exhibit. We will leave the church at 9:15 am and return at approximately 1:30 pm. Please bring a sack lunch and money for souvenirs. Drinks will be provided. Rhonda McKinley & Vickie Kornes will be our chaperones. Cost of admission is covered. *Boom Sister is for girls in grades 6th and up.*



Bold Brothers - Boys in grades 6th and up are invited to join us Saturday, Sep. 10th from 10:00-11:30am at FBC. Jason Snyder and Barry Cooper will be showing us how to change tires and oil, and do basic mechanic work.



Refuge Girls' Study - Girls in grades 6th and up are invited to join us Mondays from 6-7pm in the Enon Room for a small group study. This month we will be finishing up our study on *Matchless: The Life and Love of Jesus*. Beginning in October, we will start a new study titled *True Princess* by Erin Davis. Girls can join at any time.



Fall Retreat - Save the date! Fall Retreat for Junior High and High School students will be Saturday, October 29th at Camp Summit. We are so excited to RESTore our souls in the presence of Jesus that weekend. Be watching for Early Bird signup!



Helping Hands - Our Fall Helping Hands is scheduled for Saturday, November 12th from 7:30am-Noon. Maybe someone you know is in need of a helping hand with general household maintenance or yard work. We would love to get them an application! Please let Pam in the Church office know their name and address. Applications will go out at the end of this month. If you have received an application in the past, you will receive it again without signing up with Pam.

Nicaragua Youth Mission Trip 2023!

Every three years we plan a big mission trip for our high school students. Over the years our students have been to South Dakota, Honduras, and El Salvador serving God and others. We are excited to announce that Luke and Mollie will be leading a youth mission trip to Nicaragua in 2023. The planning is still in the beginning stages, but here is what we want you to know as we get ready.

Where: Nicaragua. 10 years ago we served in Nicaragua with missionaries Oscar and Tammy Gaitan, and they will be our hosts/leaders for this trip as well.

What: We will serve youth and families at 5 different mission churches in and around Managua, Nicaragua.

Who: We have availability for up to 15 high school students who must qualify according to at least two criteria: Actively involved at FBC (regularly attends worship or Refuge or both), and has a testimony of saving faith in Christ.

When: We are planning this trip sometime during the Mercer County spring break schedule, i.e. March 11th-19th. Specific dates TBD.

How: If interested, please sign up online under the Student Ministry page. Mollie or Luke will contact you for further information. You will need a passport. If you don't already have one, we will help you with the application process.



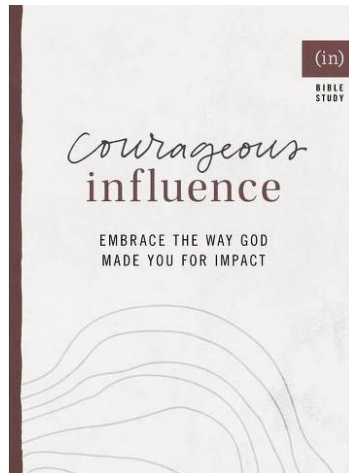
Flourish Women's Ministry

Wednesday Night Live Women Only Studies!



Wednesday Night Live!
Sept. 7th-Nov. 16th
6:30-8pm

Verse by Verse Study through the Bible lead by Sheri Olson at Laurie Louck's home. Bring your Bible and a notebook! Join online at firstbaptistaledo.com



Wednesday Night Live!
Sept. 7th-Nov. 16th
6:30-8pm

Courageous Influence
Embrace the Way God Made You for Impact lead by Kim Quam at First Baptist.

J.O.Y. Circle Gathering

All ladies are invited to the Joy Circle Gathering on Tuesday, Sept. 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!



Mark Your Calendar! Watch and Listen for Details!

September 16th-18th- JOURNEY Mother/Daughter Retreat at Life Action Camp

September 22nd-24th- True Woman Conference in Indianapolis

October 14th-16th- THRIVE Women's Retreat at Life Action Camp

November 5th - Women's FLOURISH Event at FBC



Journey Mother Daughter Retreat- Buchanan, MI Sept. 16th-18th

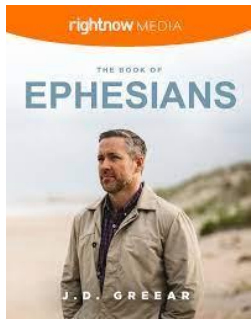
Journey Mother Daughter Retreat is a super-fun and impactful weekend to spend quality time learning from God's Word and growing together! This is recommended for daughters age 7-13.

Please sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com, then housing and transportation will be coordinated by Crystal Clark. **Deadline for sign up is September 2nd.** Cost is \$100 per Mom and \$50 per Daughter.



THRIVE Women's Retreat at Life Action Camp in Michigan is October 14-16. Are you ready to be refreshed by the Truth of God in your life and spend some amazing time with your sisters in Christ? Then make plans to join us at THRIVE! Please sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com, then housing and transportation will be coordinated. **Deadline for sign up is September 30.** Cost is \$100 per woman.

FBC Men's Ministry



**Wednesday Night
Live Men's Studies!
Sept. 7th-Nov. 16th
6:30-8pm**

JD Greear Men's Ephesians Study

Has it ever dawned on you that nothing has ever dawned on God? He knew before the world began that His people would face hardship, so He gave us His Word. The Book of Ephesians is a survival manual—it equips believers to thrive in a world that hates the message of Jesus Christ.

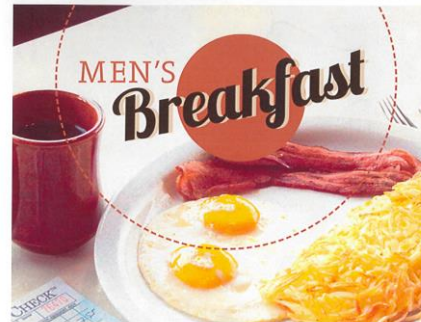
In 9 sessions, J.D. Greear digs into the text of Ephesians verse-by-verse and challenges believers to live out the gospel. If the people of your city, of your school, of your family are going to hear the gospel, it's going to be from your mouth. Encounter Ephesians, and get swept up into the story of Jesus.

Facilitated by Kevin Ricke. You can join online now at firstbaptistaledo.com.



Men's Momentum @ Life Action Camp Buchanan, MI

Food, fellowship, and spiritual recharging mark these men's time together. This retreat is designed for men ages 16 and older. Cost is \$100 and includes meals/lodging while at the conference. (*Actual cost is \$150 so if you can pay full amount it helps the budget.*) Departure time is Friday, Oct. 21st at 10am and we'll be back in Aledo on Sunday evening, Oct. 23rd. Sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com



What: Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
Where: Every Sunday at 7am at FBC in Fellowship Hall
Cost: FREE!
Who: All men are invited to attend.
No need to RSVP, just show up hungry!
Questions: See Luke Dunn, Seth Bowker or Kevin Ricke

No Men's breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 4th. Instead, join us at 9:30am in Aledo's Central Park for Praise in the Park. Men's Breakfast will resume at 7am on Sunday, Sept. 11th. We meet in the Berean Room downstairs behind the kitchen.

**FATHER SON
QUEST!**

**SEPT 30 -
OCT 2**

QUEST
FATHER AND SON ADVENTURE

DADS - \$100 | SONS - \$50 PER SON

**OUTDOOR EVENTS | FUN ACTIVITIES |
REGISTER AT FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM**

**LIFE ACTION CAMP BUCHANAN, MI
QUESTIONS - SEE PASTOR SETH BOWKER**

QUEST Father Son Retreat-Buchanan, MI Sept. 30th-Oct. 2nd

Quest is a fun filled weekend for dads and their sons. These adventure weekends feature outdoor events jam packed with activities designed to help dads and sons reconnect. Spiritual principles are embedded into activities and athletic events to equip fathers and sons for the journey ahead. Sons should be at least 6 years old. Cost is \$100 per dad and \$50 per son. We will travel together in the church bus and head to Buchanan, MI Friday, Sept. 30th at 9am and we will return on Sunday, Oct. 2nd around 7pm. Sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com.

PRAISE IN THE PARK FAMILY FEST!



New this year at
Praise In the Park!



Praise In The Park Family Fest!

We've planned a day of outdoor fun and we want your family to come to Aledo's Central Park - Sunday, September 4th from 9:30am-2pm for Praise In The Park Family Fest! Join us for an Outdoor Worship service beginning at 9:30am, followed a performance by internationally recognized Illusionists David & Teesha Laflin. Beginning at 11am you can enjoy a delicious lunch of fried chicken or pork chops! After lunch, there will be live music, kids bring your swimsuit, towel and sunscreen as you'll have blast playing in our water Inflatables and MEGA foam machine! Older students invite your friends and have fun with a lively game of 9 Square In The Air, Gaga Ball & Big Birdie Badminton! Top the day off with a refreshing treat from Kona Ice!

No need to sign up, just bring your lawn chair or blanket and join us in Aledo's Central Park on Sunday, September 4th for a day of FREE family fun! Sponsored by First Baptist Church of Aledo. Visit firstbaptistaledo.com for more details.

Disciple to Disciplemaker/WNL FOR KIDS

Castor Family Day on the Farm

Sunday, October 30th 4-6pm



Bon fire, Food, Kid's craft & Bingo w/ Prizes, & S'mores

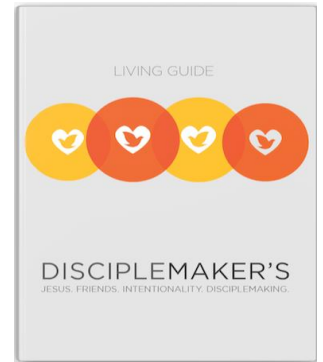
Bring lawn chairs, your own hotdogs/buns, & a dish to pass.

Family Day on the Farm Sunday, Oct. 30th

All ages are invited to this church-wide event next month at Castor's Farm (1536 135th Ave., Aledo) on October 30th from 4-6pm.

Drinks & S'mores will be provided.

Please bring your own hot dogs/buns, a dish to pass and your lawn chairs. Come out and enjoy a wiener roast, bonfire, Fall Bingo with prizes & a Fall craft for the kids. No RSVP needed. Hope to see you there!

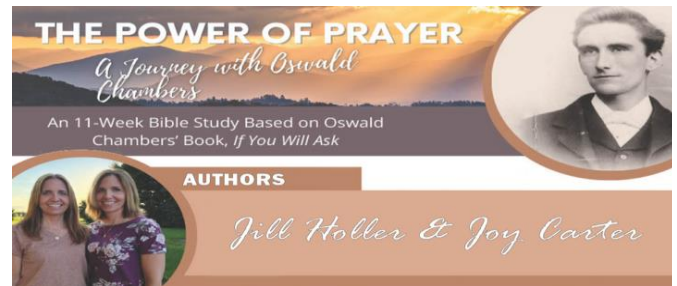


Join us at FBC for a Disciples to Disciplemakers Conference October 8th from 8:30am-1pm

There's a lot of talk about disciple making these days. But what does disciple making actually look like in your everyday life? That's what we'll explore together. The disciplemakers event is on Saturday October 8th, 2022 from 8am to 1pm at FBC. Snacks, coffee and a working lunch will be provided. With a focus on Jesus, Pastors Bill Allison and Crazy Steve Waggoner will explore how to be a disciple, who makes disciples and who make more disciples. This event is for anyone interested in learning how to be a disciple of Jesus, who makes more disciples of Jesus. Couples, teenagers, staff, ministry leaders, volunteers, student leaders, etc. are encouraged to attend. The event is free, but we need you to sign up so we have a lunch and material count at firstbaptistaledo.com. Sponsored by the FBC Men's Ministry.

The Power of Prayer Class Begins Sept. 11th!

Based on Oswald Chambers' book "If You Will Ask." This is an 11 week Sunday night study held at FBC. Class Leaders are Jill Holler & Joy Carter. Class begins Sunday, Sept. 11th from 6-8pm in the Enon Room. Open to all adults. Join online at firstbaptistaledo.com



Wednesday Night Live begins Sept. 7th! Each Wednesday from 6:30-8pm! Programs for your kids!

We offer Kids Club Ministry for children 3 years old through 5th Grade. Kids Club is diving into the New Testament with Gospel Project and having lots of fun with friends, games, activities and snacks. Lead by Mollie Dunn & the Kids Club Volunteers.

Refuge Student Ministry on Wednesdays is for Students Grades 6th-8th Grade. 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. High School Refuge is for students grades 9th-12th and meets on Sunday nights from 6-8pm. High School Students are welcome to join in on the **adult classes during Wednesday Night Live. Refuge is led by Pastor Seth Bowker and the Refuge Volunteers.

Kids Ministry & Refuge Student Ministry are free to attend! Sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com. **For a full listing of adult classes see the next page.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE ADULT CLASSES!

What is Wednesday Night Live?

WNL is a series of classes & programs for the whole family held at First Baptist. WNL runs from Wednesday, Sept. 7th through Nov. 16th, 2022 each Wednesday night from 6:30-8pm. All classes and programs are free with the exception of the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University which costs \$59.99. Along with these adult classes which high school students can participate in, we offer Kids Club for kids 3 years old through 5th grade and Refuge Student ministry for 6th-8th grade. Join online at firstbaptistaledo.com.



Wednesday Night Live!

Sept. 7th-Nov. 16th - 6:30-8pm @ FBC
Classes & Programs for kids and adults!
Cost \$59.99 - Register at firstbaptistaledo.com

Adult Study Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University



Taught by Jon & Lindsay Ricke

Financial Peace University

It's time to stop worrying about money! In *Financial Peace University*, you'll learn the proven plan to help you keep a budget, beat debt, and build wealth!

You can sign up for this Financial Peace at Class cost is \$59.99 (per couple or single). **Please contact teachers Jon or Lindsay Ricke** for any questions you may have. Jon 309-945-3804 or Lindsay 256-520-7910.

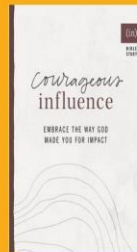


Wednesday Night Live!

Sept. 7th-Nov. 16th - 6:30-8pm @ FBC
Classes & Programs for kids and adults!
Free Registration at firstbaptistaledo.com

Women's Study Courageous Influence

Embrace the way God
made you for impact



Taught by Kim Quam

Courageous Influence – Women's Study

In today's social media-saturated world, the word influence conjures up images of beautifully curated Instagram feeds or women who lead from the stage and have thousands of followers. Influence has almost become synonymous with fame and power, and if we're honest, many of us long to have it. But in its purest form, influence is simply the capacity to affect change on someone. It is the ability to impact others for a certain purpose. And from a biblical perspective, influence is the right and responsibility of everyone who follows Christ.

Courageous Influence will guide you in the journey of living the impact you were made to have through this six-session study. Let's turn the world's idea of influence on its head and become the courageous women of influence God calls us to be. **Taught by Kim Quam.**



Wednesday Night Live!

Sept. 7th-Nov. 16th - 6:30-8pm @ FBC
Classes & Programs for kids and adults!
Free Registration at firstbaptistaledo.com

Men's Study JD Greear - Ephesians



Taught by Kevin Ricke

Ephesians by JD Greear – Men's Study

Has it ever dawned on you that nothing has ever dawned on God? He knew before the world began that His people would face hardship, so He gave us His Word. The Book of Ephesians is a survival manual—it equips believers to thrive in a world that hates the message of Jesus Christ. Paul the Apostle writes to encourage believers to live well—we've been lifted from the graveyard of sin and called to shout the gospel into the darkened world. Pastor and author J.D. Greear walks through the powerful words of Paul. In 9 sessions, J.D. digs into the text of Ephesians verse-by-verse and challenges believers to live out the gospel. If the people of your city, of your school, of your family are going to hear the gospel, it's going to be from your mouth. Encounter Ephesians, and get swept up into the story of Jesus. **Taught by Kevin Ricke.**

Updates from Luke/Upcoming Events



The New Parcel of Land

After a more lengthy process than we anticipated, the land sale should be finalized in September. We voted in April to retain 10 acres of land and sell the remainder. In order to accomplish this we had to have the land surveyed and rezoned, which required some formal action by the City of Aledo. By the grace of God all this should be done by the end of September. With that taken care of we will be able to resume long-term vision planning for our ministry spaces. ~ Luke



The Student Ministry Pastor Search

Last month, you may or may not recall, I wrote a newsletter article about the Student Ministry Pastor search process. Since then I have put together a small ad hoc committee to help with the search process. We have a few candidates that have approached us about the ministry. Please pray for God's will and leading as we continue to seek the person God is preparing to lead this ministry. ~ Luke



Adult Bags Tournament

All adults are invited to come to FBC Saturday, Sept. 10th from 6-8pm for a fun Bags Night sponsored by the FBC Men's Ministry and FBC Women's Flourish Ministry. Joe's pizza and drinks will be provided. Bring a dessert to share if you'd like. Sign up online at Firstbaptistaledo.com



Homecoming Parade

The 2022 Mercer County Homecoming Parade is Thursday, September 29th. FBC will have an entry with our church bus and we're looking for walkers to distribute candy. Please sign up online.

AXIS MEMBERSHIP

FBC wants to help you navigate conversations with your teens around today's issues. We have partnered with Axis to provide you with a free membership to resources that will help you navigate conversations about culture, technology, faith, mental health, anxiety, identity, and hundreds of other challenging topics all through a Gospel-centered lens. Go to firstbaptistaledo.com/student-ministry, scroll to the bottom, and then click to unlock your free membership!



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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 the "Church Center App" from the App Store or Google Play and choose "First Baptist Church, Aledo, IL" to easily sign up for church events, check our church calendar, give online, watch sermons and receive important church notifications.
- Find Us On Facebook.
- Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.



***Love Christ. Love Others.
Think Biblically!***

