



“Come and see...” ~ John 1:39

As I write, snow is still falling and the ground is covered. I don't think it will last, but it's hard to believe Easter is right around the corner. It's always an exciting time of the year. This year our theme is "Come and See." John the Baptist had just told his disciples that Jesus was the lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world. The disciples seem too nervous to question Jesus about His lordship, so instead they ask Him where He is staying. His reply is simply, "come and see." Our hope is that the way we live our lives, the way we worship as a church, and the way we love and trust God, is worthy to be seen and experienced and convincing enough to cause others to want to put their faith in Jesus too. Come and see is a non-threatening invitation to observe and experience the power of God in action. Initially, it doesn't require a choice or a commitment. It's simply an open door. We believe that the Psalm is true that declares, "taste and see how good the Lord is." Not only that, but it would seem that many people believe with their heart and experience before they believe with their minds. C.S. Lewis is famously quoted as saying that if a person can be argued into believing they can be argued into doubting. So, we invite everyone to come and see. See how good God is and

how much He cares for you. We want to show people as well as teach them. I think Rick Warren said people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Hopefully we care a lot (and know a lot too).

Come and see has also been a theme for our vision for FBC. We've presented a big vision for our future, and have worked for a month to hear back from our congregation about questions, concerns, hopeful expectations and blind spots that we need to know about. In the next week or so we will share the results of the feasibility study with you and answer every question that has been asked. It's exciting to see how unified and positive our church has been in the process. No matter what we decide, we want to be a good witness to those watching and listening. When they come and see what we believe and how we handle life in all its complexity and uncertainty, their faith should grow. That's our hope, and if ever there was a time to hope, this is it.

Happy Easter,

Pastor Luke



Giving Needed To Meet 2024 Budget YTD
\$105,401.68

Current Expense Giving YTD
\$97,995.68

Building Fund Designations YTD
\$12,330.25

Deacon Fund Designations YTD
\$250.00

KIDS CLUB MINISTRY

KIDS CLUB MAX @ APOLLO

K-5th Gr. After-School Program Wednesdays 2-4pm May 1st, 8th, 15th

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

A super fun pet-themed program where kids will learn all about having Godly character through our pets!

Register at firstbaptistaledo.com

Registration for Kids Club Max will be open April 1st.

What's Happening in Kids Ministry In March?

CANDY LAND PARTY @ KIDS CLUB MARCH 20TH

FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY MINISTRY ALEDO, IL

THE PROMISES OF GOD STORYBOOK BIBLE

SIGN UP FOR A KIDS READING PLAN & BIBLE TODAY!

the Jesus Storybook Bible

KIDS WORSHIP MARCH 17TH 10:15AM SERVICE

St. Patrick's Day

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH
CENTRAL PARK IN ALEDO, IL

FAMILY EASTER EVENT

JOIN US FOR FAMILY FUN AS WE WATCH A PRETTY COOL JUGGLER ACT ALL ABOUT THE TRUE MEANING OF EASTER. GET LOTS OF CANDY, & EAT LUNCH. *BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS FOR THE SHOW & LUNCH. NO RSVP. JUST COME!

FREE

10AM-NOON

10AM: JUGGLER & CANDY LAUNCH
11-12PM: HOTDOGS & CHIPS

CANDY LAUNCH:
AGES 0-4/K-5TH/6TH & UP

WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM

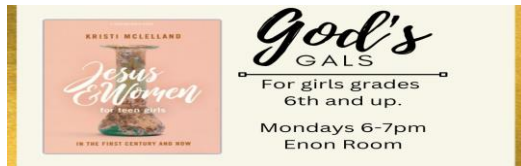
Candy

We need your help collecting candy for the Easter Event. Please place donations in Mollie's office by March 27th.

Refuge Student Ministry



Refuge Student Ministry-Refuge is for students grades 6th-12th, and we meet on Sundays from 6-8pm. NO Refuge March 31st for Easter.



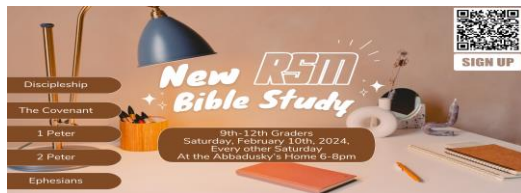
God's Gals-Girls in 6th-12th grades are invited to join us Mondays from 6-7pm in the Enon Room for God's Gals Small Group Study. Our current study is called Jesus & Women. If you're new, join the group at firstbaptistaledo.com.



Boom Sisters Event- All 6th-12th grade girls invited to join us Saturday, March 9th from 10am-11:30am.



WNL-Student from 6th-12th grade, need somewhere to go on Wednesday nights? Come hang out downstairs in the women's small group room through March 20th! We are starting a new series for the last 5 weeks, taught by Taylor Brown over the life of Peter.



New High School Bible Study-Youth's new Bible study class has begun! Our next meeting is Saturday, March 9th @6pm and will continue every other Saturday. We will be diving into the Bible so we can continue to be grounded in GOD's truth and growing in His love. We meet every other Saturday night, 6pm-8pm at Justina Abbadusky's home and dinner will be provided. Free to attend, sign-up today at firstbaptistaledo.com!



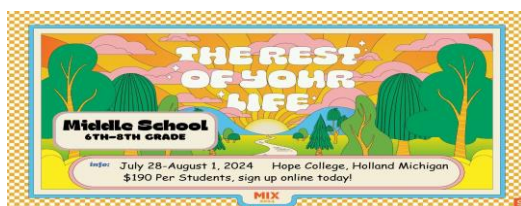
Movie Night- Friday, March 15th at 5:30pm all students! Join us here in the fellowship hall for food, fun and *Cars*! Sign up online today for food!



2024 Spring Break Refuge Kickball Event- Wednesday March, 27th at 2:00pm. Refuge invites students and families to come play kickball! Field will be Fenton Baseball diamond at the High School. Sign up online today!



CIY MOVE-MOVE is a 5-day summer event designed for high school students to know Jesus better, deepen their relationships, and to be sent out to do Kingdom Work. This year we are going back to Bowling Green State Univ. June 22nd-28th. Cost is \$200 per student make sure to sign up today!



CIY MIX- MIX is a 4-day summer event built for middle school brains, hearts, and bodies. That's why the Gospel is taught in a way they understand. It's why small group discussions aren't an afterthought. And it's why we play a lot. Moments at MIX change lives and could be the most important four days of your youth ministry calendar. This year we will be going to Hope College on July 28th-August 1st, 2024. Cost will be \$190 per student, sign up online today!

Flourish Women's Ministry

WOMEN'S PIZZA & BAGS TOURNAMENT NIGHT

Friday, March 1st - 5:30pm
@FBC

No need to sign up just show up!
Bring a snack to share if you like.



Ladies, join us for Women's Pizza and Bags Tournament Night Friday, March 1st at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Fun, Food and Fellowship. Bring a snack to share if you like. No need to sign up just show up.

A Women's Equipping Conference from
FOCAL POINT
MINISTRIES
Be Refreshed . Be Renewed . Be Rejuvenated

A one-day equipping conference for women (13 years and older) featuring:

- Inspiring keynote speakers
- 16 breakout seminars uniquely designed for women
- Christ-centered worship

Saturday, April 13, 2024 • 8:30am-4:00pm
Calvary Church • 4700 53rd St. • Moline, IL

ALISA CHILDERS

RACHEL LOVINGOOD

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Iron Sharpens Iron
Proverbs 27:17

Early Bird Cost by March 31st - \$59 Including Lunch
SIGN UP AT FIRSTBAPTISTALED.COM
More Info at FocalPointMinistries.net

Ladies, please join us Saturday, April 13th from 8:30am-4pm at Calvary Church in Moline - Be Refreshed, Renewed & Rejuvenated. This is a one day conference is for women of all ages, 13 and up. Cost, including lunch, for early bird registration by March 31st is \$59 for adults \$43 for students. After March 31st, the adult cost goes up to \$69. Register at firstbaptistaledo.com. We will carpool from FBC, leaving at 7:30am and we will be back in Aledo around 5pm. Questions, see Peggy Johnson.



New Women's Study!

Beginning March 6th at 1pm
@ Britni Ewing's Home

Britni Ewing is hosting a verse-by-verse study of 1 Peter at her home. The class will be on Wednesdays at 1 pm beginning March 6th. Handouts provided, bring your Bible and a notebook! Contact Britni 309-224-4184 for more details or directions to her home.



THRIVE Women's Retreat-Life Action Camp-Buchanan, MI

April 19th-21st

Cost is \$100 per person

Deadline to register is April 3rd @ firstbaptistaledo.com

THRIVE Women's Retreat at Life Action Camp in Michigan is April 19th-21st. 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 register with the church, then details will be coordinated by Karyn Smith. Deadline for registration is April 3rd. Cost is \$100 per woman. (Also offered in October).

JOURNEY Mother/Daughter Retreat

April 26th-28th

Recommended for daughters age 7-13.

Cost is \$100 per Mom
\$50 per daughter

Deadline to register is
April 10th
firstbaptistaledo.com



Held at Life Action
CampBuchanan, MI

JOURNEY Mother/Daughter Retreat at Life Action Camp in Buchanan Michigan is April 26th-28th. This 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 register with the church, then housing and transportation will be coordinated. Deadline for registration is April 10th. Cost is \$100 per Mom and \$50 per Daughter. (Also offered in September).

Upcoming Events



Wedding Shower
BRYNN & AUSTIN

Saturday, April 6th | 1:00-3:00 p.m. | First Baptist Church

Brynn Bergen and Austin Shields are having a small intimate wedding ceremony and reception on May 25, 2024. Wedding photos and a highlight video will be shared on the couple's wedding website (bit.ly/brynnandaustin) and social media accounts following their special day. We ask those who love Brynn and Austin to come celebrate at a wedding shower in their honor. Although your presence is enough, if you would like to bless the future Mr. and Mrs. with a gift, they are registered on Amazon and Etsy.

**THE FBC PRAYER TEAM
INVITES EVERYONE TO
SUNDAY PRAYER NIGHTS
AT FBC IN THE ENON ROOM.**

EACH SUNDAY AT 5PM



Baby Dedication Sunday!

SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD AT 8AM & 10:15AM
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE YOUR CHILD TO
THE LORD, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.



*Fearfully
&
wonderfully
made*

Psalm 139:14

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
A BABY SHOWER HONORING

**Cherrilee Van
Zummeren**

SATURDAY
April 13 2024

2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALEDO
RSVP TO BETH BOWNS 309.371.6525

REGISTRY AT WALMART



Helping
HANDS

**NO HELPING HANDS
IN APRIL**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR
OCTOBER 26TH**

FBC Men's Ministry

What's Coming Up For The Men!

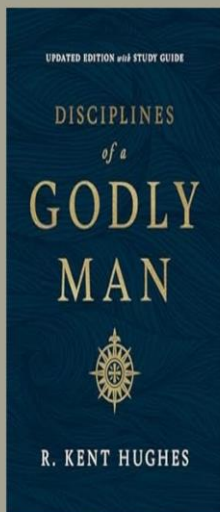
The spring **Momentum** dates have been announced. This year's spring event is from April 12th thru April 14th. Shane Black will be the speaker for this event. The cost for **Momentum** this year is \$185 per person. We are asking each participant to pay \$100 with the Men's Ministry paying the balance. When you register online there will be two payment options \$100 and \$185, choose the best option for you. Then on July 20th our annual **Rooted** Conference is scheduled with Tom Harmon as our guest speaker. Tom draws upon his 11 years as a State Patrol Officer and as a college athlete to illustrate God's work in his life. In 1984, he sensed God's call to preach, resigned from the state police, pastored a small church for four years, and then became a full-time itinerant preacher. Tom has led numerous Momentum Weekends at Life Action Camp in Buchanan MI. Also please remember that we host a Men's Breakfast every Sunday morning beginning at 7am. We have breakfast then follow up with questions on the previous week's sermon. We do dismiss in time for 8am services. It's a great time for fellowship and accountability. Men 13 years and older are welcome.



All men are welcome to join us at **Men's Breakfast** each Sunday morning at 7am. We gather in the lower level of the church just off Fellowship Hall in the room behind the kitchen. It's free to attend and no RSVP is needed. Please note, we will NOT be having Men's Breakfast on Easter Sunday, March 31st.



Men's Monday Night Study



Pastor Luke will be starting a men's small group study on Monday's beginning March 4th at 7pm. We will be studying "Disciplines of a Godly Man" by R. Kent Hughes. Sign-up is appreciated but not required at firstbaptistaledo.com

What is Momentum? Food, fellowship, and spiritual recharging mark these men's times together. Be challenged in your Christian walk and encouraged to lead your family with deliberate action. Note: This retreat, held at Life Action Camp in Buchanan, MI is designed for men ages 16 and older.

The spring Momentum dates have been announced. This year's spring event is from April 12th thru April 14th. Shane Black will be the speaker for this event. The cost for Momentum this year is \$185 per person. We are asking each participant to pay \$100 with the FBC Men's Ministry paying the balance. When you register online there will be two payment options \$100 and \$185, choose the best option for you. Deadline to register is March 31st at firstbaptistaledo.com.

Celebrate Easter at FBC! Come & See!



Easter is a special time at First Baptist and we want you to be a part of it! We have something for everyone, an inspirational message, fun programs for the kids and a casual atmosphere where you can meet new friends. Come & See Easter and how it can bring us all new life and a renewed purpose.



Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary- If you would like to honor a loved one by placing an Easter Lily in the sanctuary, please sign up on Sunday's Connect Card or call the church office at 309-582-7812. Deadline to order an Easter Lily is Sunday, March 17th. The cost of an Easter Lily is \$10.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
800 NE 6TH AVE.
ALED0, IL 61231

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

PRE-SORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 102
ALED0, IL 61231

Stay Connected!

- We offer 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 10:30am each Sunday.
- 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.***

