

# Welcome MAY



And He said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.” ~ Mark 16:15

A group of 16 adults began arriving to the church shortly after 3am on Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup>. We loaded up the church bus with our luggage, said a prayer and began to make our way to the Moline airport in those dark early hours. About 9 hours later we were stepping off the plane in El Salvador in sweltering humidity which is the constant climate so close to the equator. We spent a week offering the gospel to kids and parents through an hour-long program filled with acting, story-telling, and singing assisted by interpreters. At each mission we intentionally spent time with the local leaders, sharing a meal and hearing their stories. We wanted to know how God had called them to serve the way they were serving, and to let them know that we truly cared for them and the work they were doing. Before we left we gathered around and prayed blessings of strength and protection over each leader. As the week closed we spent an evening with the leaders of the main church we work with in Montelemar. There were around 20 leaders present. We shared some teaching, encouragement and testimonies, and we invited them to share their own stories with us. A group of 16 adults made their way to the El Salvador airport around 4am on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>. About 16 hours later we began to load our luggage on the church bus and make our way home. We were a little tired, some were sick, but somehow amazingly blessed.

We go to El Salvador to proclaim the gospel to every creature. It's important that we see what that means in other cultures, lands and languages. We call it “missions”. When we do the same at home we call it “ministry”. Lately, I have been describing our “ministry” to consultants, bankers and non-profit agencies as we work on the vision, building project and capital campaign. As I describe what we do, I am amazed and encouraged. Everything we do is for the community. We have as many children attending our programs who belong to other churches or no church at all as we do from our own church body. That is not an accident. We are community-minded and our heart is for outreach. We want every creature to hear the gospel and that means we open our doors wide. We teach God's Word unashamedly, and we present God's grace freely. We invite and welcome any and all to join us and we go out and serve our community every chance we get. From Helping Hands Service projects, to hosting Kids Zone at Rhubarb Fest, to Praise in the Park Family Fest, and after school programs, to Family Night at the Y, and on and on it goes. We spend long hours planning and preparing and serving, exhausting ourselves every bit as much as a team of missionaries to get the gospel to every creature in Mercer County. It's a ministry and it's a mission, and it's what we are all doing together as the First Baptist Church. Thanks for your help in making it possible.

In Christ,  
Pastor Luke



**Giving Needed To Meet 2024 Budget YTD**  
**\$210,803.09**

**Current Expense Giving YTD**  
**\$214,814.09**

**Building Fund Designations YTD**  
**\$17,964.00**

**Deacon Fund Designations YTD**  
**\$710.00**

# KIDS CLUB MINISTRY

## KIDS CLUB MAX @ APOLLO

K-5th Gr. After-School Program

Wednesdays 2-4pm May 1st, 8th, 15th



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



Follow Us @  
"First Baptist Family Ministry: Aledo, IL"

Get more info & register at  
[firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com)

## Kids Worship

The 2nd-5th grade class will check-in downstairs then sit with their families until dismissed to Kids Worship down the back staircase before the message. \*Students attending SS classes will be dismissed to parents at 10am.

The Pre-K-1<sup>st</sup> grade class will continue to go directly to Kids Worship after Sunday School.

## Moo-ve'n on Up!

Sunday, June 2nd, 5th grade graduates will promote to the Refuge Youth Ministry. These students can start attending youth ministry events and programs on this date.

Sunday School students will have their promotion party on Sunday, June 9th. The following grades will promote to the next class on June 16th: Going into K, 2nd, 6th & 8th Grade

Kids Worship students going into 2nd grade will promote into the 2nd-5th grade classroom. Our 5th grade graduates may continue to attend Kids Worship through August 4th.



## First Baptist Family Ministry & FCA Presents...

Friday, May 31st 5-8pm  
Fenton Park, Aledo, IL

# SUMMER Kick-Off

5pm (Pavillion) Play & Enter to win Give Away  
5:15pm Family Max Moment & BIG Prize Give Away  
5:30-7pm Walking Tacos & Ice-Cream  
6:30-8pm Kickball (Fenton Ball Park)  
5:30-8pm Swim & Play (Aledo Pool/Park)



Follow Us @  
"First Baptist Family Ministry: Aledo, IL"





# SUMMER to the MAX

## FREE FAMILY EVENTS 2024

<b>MAY 31</b>	<b>SUMMER KICK OFF: 5-8PM @ FENTON PARK, ALEDO</b> Family Kickball, Swim, Play, Walking Tacos, Ice-cream *NO RSVP- Invite a freind and see you there! Event link on FB page.
<b>JUNE 16</b>	<b>FATHER'S DAY NERF WARS &amp; NACHOS: 4-7PM @ ALEDO Y</b> Loaded Nachos, Floats, Nerf Wars, Open Gyms, & Open Swim *Register at <a href="http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com">www.firstbaptistaledo.com</a> by June 14th. Event link on FB page.
<b>JULY 17</b>	<b>MESSY ART IN THE PARK: 10AM-NOON @ FENTON PARK</b> Messy Art Stations, Inflatable Obstacle Course, Snow Cones, & Popcorn *NO RSVP- Invite a friend & see you there! Event link on FB page.

**\*AUG. 3RD-SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVE AWAY @ FBC**  
**\*EVENT LINK WILL BE POSTED ON FB PAGE.**

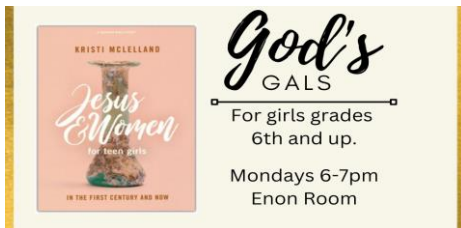
[WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM](http://WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM)

Follow Us @  
"First Baptist Family Ministry: Aledo, IL"

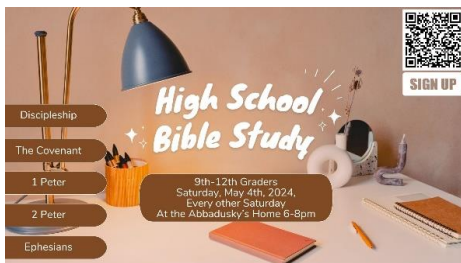
# Refuge Student Ministry



**Refuge Student Ministry**-Refuge is for students grades 6th-12th, and we meet on Sundays from 6-8pm. At Refuge we focus on living and encouraging each other through scripture and community. We make sure students have a safe place to come, have fun, laugh and be the person God has made them to be. Life can be difficult, but together in Christ we can sharpen one another and find Refuge within our Father in heaven. Bring your Bible, get ready for some healthy competition and enjoy the fellowship with like-minded friends. No Refuge May 12<sup>th</sup> for Mother's Day.



**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](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).



**High School Bible Study**- Our next meeting is Saturday, May 4th @ 6pm and will continue every other Saturday. We are 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 (408 NE 12th St, Aledo) and dinner will be provided. Free to attend, sign-up today at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com)!



**Boomsisters** - All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade girls invited to join us here at the church on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am-11:30am. Sign up online!

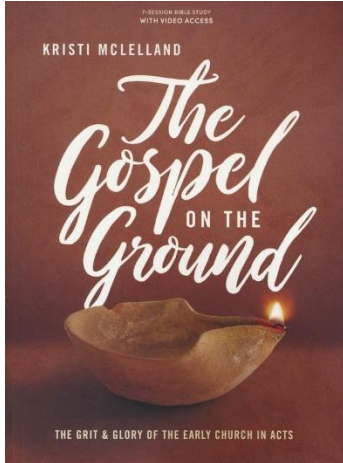


**CIY MOVE**-MOVE is a 5-day summer event designed for high school students to know Jesus better, deepen their relationships, and to be sent out to do Kingdom Work. This year we are going back to Bowling Green State Univ. June 22<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$200 per student, the deadline to sign up is June 1st!



**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 28<sup>th</sup>-August 1<sup>st</sup>. Cost will be \$190 per student, the deadline to sign up is July 6th!

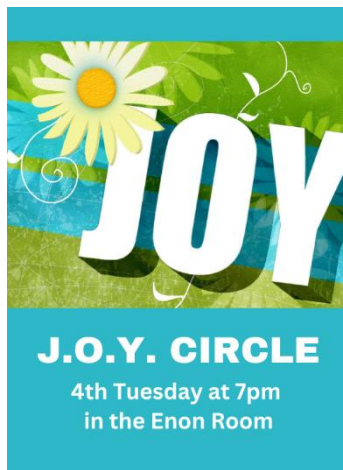
# Flourish Women's Ministry



**Tuesdays With Jesus  
Women's Study**  
We meet Tuesdays at 2pm  
in the Enon Room. Join us  
for **"The Gospel On The  
Ground"**- Led by Rhonda  
McKinley. Come along with  
Kristi McLelland as she  
unpacks the life of the early  
church in the book of Acts.  
Sign up at  
[firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).



Britni Ewing hosts a verse-by-verse study of 1 Peter at her home. The class takes place on Wednesdays at 1pm. Handouts provided, bring your Bible and a notebook! Contact Britni 309-224-4184 for more details or directions to her home.



**Joy Circle**  
All ladies are invited to  
J.O.Y. Circle on Tuesday,  
May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Enon  
Room.  
Come join us for fun,  
fellowship and a devotion.

Sheri Olson hosts a study of the book of Matthew. The class takes place on Tuesdays from 10-11:30am at her home (720 SW 2nd Ave Aledo). This is an ongoing study, so jump in at any time.

Sheri Olson also hosts study on the book of Daniel. The class takes place on Tuesdays from 12-1:30pm at her home (720 SW 2nd Ave Aledo). This is an ongoing study so jump in at any time.

## Women's Better Together



Friday, May 10th | 6:00 pm  
Justina Abbadusky's Home  
(408 NE 12th St, Aledo)

Pulled pork will be provided. Bring a dish to share and a lawnchair.

No signup. Our theme for the night is  
*Rooted & Thriving.*

# Upcoming Events



## Praise & Worship Night

Everyone is welcome to join us Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at First Baptist as we lift up our voices in song and prayer at our Night of Praise and Worship. No need to sign up, just show up.

## GriefShare Class

We will begin a new session of the GriefShare Class in May at First Baptist. This class is open to everyone. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. This 13-week class is taught by Joe and Kathy Olson and will be held Thursdays beginning, May 16<sup>th</sup>-Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm at FBC in the Enon Room. *This class is free to attend.*

An advertisement for the GriefShare class. It features the GriefShare logo at the top, which includes a stylized cross. Below the logo, the text reads 'Grieving the death of a loved one?'. A photograph shows a person's hands clasped in prayer. Below the photo, it says 'Join us: Thursdays from 6-8pm May 16th - Aug. 15th sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com'. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for 'FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALEDO, ILLINOIS'.

An advertisement for Mercer County Food Pantry volunteers. It features a colorful illustration of various food items like bread, milk, water, and vegetables. Below the illustration, the text reads 'MERCER COUNTY food pantry volunteers'. It then states 'First Baptist has the opportunity to serve at the Mercer County Food Pantry on: Tues., May 28th - 5:30-7pm Fri., May 31st - 8am-Noon'. At the bottom, it says 'We need 2 volunteers for each day. If interested, call the church office at (309) 582-7812.' The background is green with white decorative elements.



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRAYER FOCUS

For the success of our fundraising and building project, it is vital that we seek the Lord. The Spiritual Emphasis team has been formed to ensure that our Capital Campaign is bathed in prayer. In the weeks leading up to our Commitment Sunday in June, our team will be providing a weekly prayer focus. It is our hope that this will be a reminder for all of us to pray and also promote unity of purpose in knowing the Lord's will. You can find the prayer focus each week by checking the bulletin, FBC's Facebook page, our Church Center app, or the FBC website. We have the opportunity to see the Lord move in mighty ways. Please join us as we ask for His direction and favor both as individuals and as His Church.

# FBC Men's Ministry

## What's Coming Up?



2024  
**MEN'S ROOTED CONFERENCE**

JULY 20, 2024  
8AM-2PM  
@FBC

**BE wise**

**TOM HARMON**  
Speaker & Evangelist

Online Sign Up Coming Soon!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
ALEDO, ILLINOIS

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a trivia night for the whole church family sponsored by the Men's Ministry Council. It will take place in the church's sanctuary beginning at 5pm and will end somewhere about 8:30pm. You may bring your own team or just show up as a couple or single and we will put you on a team. Bring your own snacks/ hors d'oeuvres to be shared at your table. Sign up online.

Then, on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> our annual Men's 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.

The Men's Ministry is planning a night at the ballpark in August. It is Faith and Fellowship night on August 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30pm with the Quad City River Bandits hosting the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers. Tickets are \$5 when purchased online at FBC website. This includes your ticket and a voucher for a hotdog, chips and drink and to top it off there is a post game fireworks show.

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.



### Mark Your Calendars!

The FBC Men's Ministry is sponsoring A Night at the Ball Park during the QC River Bandits Faith & Family Event.

**Date:** Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

**Tickets** are \$5 each (this is a discounted price as the Men's Ministry is paying the remainder) and includes a voucher for a hot dog, chips and a drink!

Online sign up is coming soon!



**TRIVIA NIGHT**

FREE EVENT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

4 MAY

5-8 PM  
IN THE SANCTUARY

Form a team of 8 or be assigned to one | bring your own snacks  
SIGN-UP AT [FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM](http://FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM) NOW THROUGH APRIL 28TH



### FBC Security Team Training

The FBC Security Team is having their quarterly training Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm in the Enon Room. Also, if you have interest in learning more about joining our Security Team, see Corey Smith or call the church office at 309-582-7812.

# Celebrate our FBC Graduates

## Congratulations!

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates

*Mercer County Jr. High*  
Parker Dixon, Kathy Norton & Noah Nelson

Evan Clark

*Bonyng Academy*  
Sadie Bonyng

*Bowker Academy*  
Jadon Bowker

*United Jr. High School*  
Noah Peoples & Reagan Shike

### High School Graduates

*Mercer County High School*  
Karlee Gerber, Addilyn Hammill, Lucas Shadden,  
Xavier Woodbury, Darron Moffitt,  
Logan Thomas & Caleb Scott Wagner

*Northgate Academy*  
Lauryn Russell

*L'Abris Academy*  
Elijah Dahl

### College Graduates

Rachael Gochee – *Liberty University*  
Eli Kelly – *Monmouth College*

*Does your family have a Graduate that is not on our list? If someone from your family is graduating from 8<sup>th</sup> grade, High School or College, call the Church office ASAP at 309-582-7812 so we can add them to the Graduate Recognition list. Graduation Recognition Sunday is May 26<sup>th</sup> during the 10:15am service.*



## You Are Invited!

### **Graduation Party for Addi Hammill**

Dear church family, The Hammill family would like to invite you to help celebrate Addi's graduation from Mercer County High School on Saturday, May 11th from 2-4pm at First Baptist Church Aledo.

Please come hungry, we are having walking tacos and desserts. It would mean a lot to Addi if you would come and share your favorite Bible passage, prayers and some words of wisdom she can take with her for her future at St. Ambrose University. It would be such a blessing if you could come.

Lovingly, Matt and Lisa Hammill

### **Graduation Party for Karlee Gerber**

The church family is invited on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> to the Aledo V.F.W. Basement from 5-8pm to celebrate Karlee's graduation from Mercer County High School.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
800 NE 6<sup>TH</sup> AVE.  
ALEDO, IL 61231

PHONE: 309.582.7812  
E-MAIL: FBCALEDO2@FRONTIERNET.NET  
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALED.COM

PRE-SORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 102  
ALEDO, 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](http://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.***

***Coming up in May!***

