

#### **Good Problems and Bad Problems**

"...And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."  $\sim$  Acts 2:47

The church is never without problems. The book of Acts shows us that no matter how good things are going, there will be problems. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost, 3,000 people were added to the church in one day, and God continued to add daily to the growth of the church. The very next thing that happens is that Peter and John are thrown in jail. As the story continues, we see that many were extremely generous, giving sacrificially, but almost immediately a couple in the church try to lie to God and the apostles in an effort to seem generous, while hiding their greed and selfishness. Their immediate death at Peter's feet must have been a shock to the church. As the church continued to grow, there also grew a division in the church that necessitated the call of Deacons to handle the growing division. Once that matter was settled, we see a different attack, this time from the outside. Persecution began to rampage through Jerusalem. Deacons and Apostles were killed and the believers were scattered. It might cause some to wonder why God would allow so much turmoil in the church His Son to died create.

The church is never without problems. There are a few underlying principles that help us make some sense of the problems that occur in the church. Sometimes churches have problems because of disobedience, sin or neglecting God's calling, will or Word. This kind of problem will often manifest

itself in church splits, decline, or instability. If unresolved, the church will eventually face the threat of closure. Other churches face "good" problems. A "good" problem is when the church has grown rapidly enough or large enough that it causes stress or strain on space, relationships, budgets or logistics. In other words, the more people that are added to a church the more changes have to be made to accommodate the growth. This is a problem in the sense that the church is "forced" to change. If no changes are made, the growth will stagnate and decline. The problem is "good" because it is the result of fruitful ministry. But if not addressed well, it never ceases to be a real problem. The third problem is what we call "spiritual attack". Often times a spiritual attack is an effort of the enemy to thwart, stall, or reverse a movement of God in His church. It's not always easy to understand the nature of spiritual attack. The evidence is seen in how Christians treat and talk to each other. The Holy Spirit will not lead a person to lie, defame, be malicious, vengeful, or prideful. A person walking in the Spirit will be humble, respectful, kind, and gentle even if they disagree with a person or decision in the church.

We are almost a year into a very intense process of seeking to address the "good" problem we've been dealing with for many years. By God's grace we continue to grow and need space. In the next couple weeks, we will conclude the capital campaign, and begin discussions about how to move forward with building plans. It has been stressful, exhausting, and spiritually stretching for all of us. Our prayer is that the end result is a unified, healthy church that can face whatever problems may come.

In Christ, Pastor Luke



Giving Needed To Meet 2024 Budget YTD \$277,384.93

Current Expense Giving YTD \$272,051.44

**Building Fund Designations YTD** \$32,636.30

Deacon Fund Designations YTD \$750.00

# KIDS CLUB MINISTRY



### Mooo-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 & 9th 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.



Visit the Kids Zone during Aledo's Rhubarb Fest June 7th & 8th from 10am-2pm! Rhubarb Hunt on Saturday!



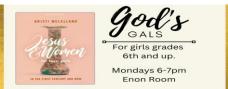


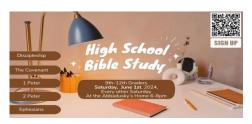
# Refuge Student Ministry

















#### **Refuge Student Ministry News**

Refuge Student Ministry-Refuge is for students grades 6th-12th, and we currently meet on Sundays from 6-8pm. June 12th Refuge will be moving to Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm! We make sure students have a safe place to come, have fun, laugh and be the person God has made them to be. Bring your Bible and enjoy fellowship with like-minded friends.

**Refuge Luau Party**- All students are invited to celebrate the Summer here at FBC Aledo, Wednesday June 12th from 6:30-8:00pm! Music, hotdogs, water games, treats and more! Invite all of your friends to join us and wear your best Hawaiian shirt! Sign up online for a food headcount!

Refuge Summer Bible Reading Challenge - All students are challenged from June 1st - August 3rd to read through the book of Romans! ESV Illuminated Scripture Journal will be provided so you can highlight and take notes! There will be prizes for those who complete the challenge! Sign up at <a href="firstbaptistaledo.com">firstbaptistaledo.com</a>. Questions? Contact Britni Ewing 309-224-4184

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.

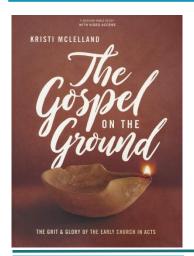
<u>High School Bible Study</u>-Because of graduation weekend our next meeting is Saturday June 1st @ 6pm and will continue every other Saturday. We are diving into the Bible so we can continue to be grounded in GOD's truth and growing in His love. We meet every other Saturday night, 6pm-8pm at Justina Abbadusky's home (408 NE 12th St, Aledo) and dinner will be provided. Free to attend, sign-up today at <u>firstbaptistaledo.com!</u>

**Boomsisters** - All 6th-12th grade girls invited to join us here at the church on Saturday, July 13th from 10am-11:30am. Sign up online!

<u>CIY MOVE</u>-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, the **deadline to sign up is June 1st!** 

<u>CIY MIX-</u> 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. Cost will be \$190 per student, the deadline to sign up is July 6th!

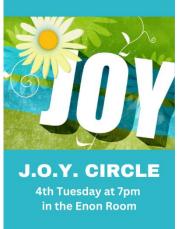
# Flourish Women's Ministry



### 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.

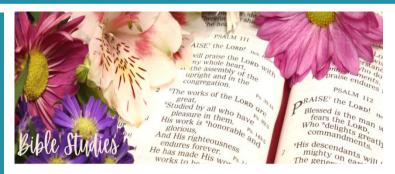
Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com.



### **Joy Circle**

All ladies are invited to J.O.Y. Circle on Tuesday, June 25th at 7pm in the Enon Room.

Come join us for fun, fellowship and a devotion.



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.

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.

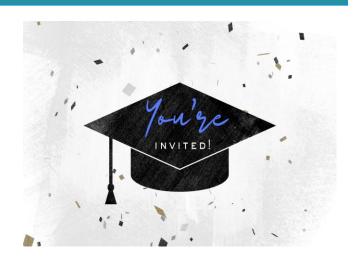


## **Upcoming Events**

### You Are Invited!

<u>You're Invited to a Graduation Party for Trae Clark</u>-The Clark family would like to invite you to help celebrate Trae's High School graduation on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2-4pm at First Baptist Church in Fellowship Hall.

<u>Graduation Party for Lauryn Russell</u>-The church family is invited to celebrate Lauryn Russell's graduation from High School. Join Lauryn and her family in the FBC Sanctuary on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm.









Everyone from our church age 65 and older is invited to **Generation Celebration** on Thursday, June 27th at 11am in Fellowship Hall. You'll enjoy food, fun and fellowship. This event is FREE to attend. Please RSVP by Noon on June 18th on our website or by calling the church office at 309-582-7812.

This event is sponsored by the FBC Women's Ministry.



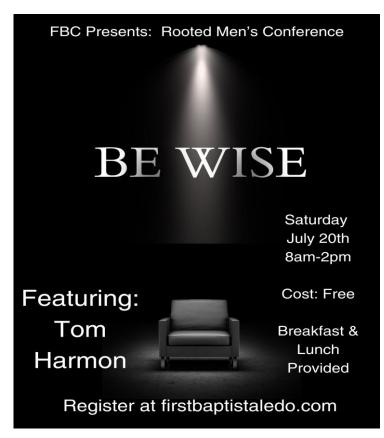
We need volunteers for pie baking on June 5th and 6th and sellers at the Rhubarb Fest on the 7th. Most importantly, we need Rhubarb donations. Please bring your washed and cut Rhubarb (1" pieces in gallon zip lock bags) to the church starting June 2nd. Sign up to volunteer at the Welcome Desk or contact Ashley Reick at 641-840-2706.

Also, please stop by under the Central Park Pavilion on Friday, June 7th from 11am-2pm as we sell our pie by the slice.

## FBC Men's Ministry

## What's Coming Up?

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. The Men's Ministry is planning a night at the ballpark in August. It is Faith and Fellowship night on August 9th 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.



Join us for the Men's Rooted Conference Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at FBC. This year's theme is "Be Wise" and Tom Harmon from Life Action Camp will be our featured speaker. Over 80 guys are already signed up! We'll feed you breakfast & lunch and it's free to attend! Sign up today at firstbaptistaledo.com



### Take Me Out To The Ball Park!

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!

Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com today!



## Important Campaign Update!



During His final days on earth, Jesus continued to teach the disciples. He knew that even though His ministry was ending, the work of His followers was just beginning. Even as our campaign nears its completion, all of our prayers and sacrifices have been given for a new beginning.

In the days ahead, you are encouraged to ask God:

- Are there any areas of my life that I have not fully surrendered to You?"
- How do You want to use me to accomplish Your purposes in and through our church?

There is a sense of urgency as we come to the closing days of the campaign. What we do today means so much for tomorrow. The campaign that we have begun will affect generations to come.

This coming **Sunday**, **June 2**<sup>nd</sup> is Commitment Sunday – when we present our commitments as an act of worship. May it be a "defining moment" in the life of our church!

Commitment Sunday – June 2<sup>nd</sup> –Our initial campaign commitment card return date is this Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you've prayed and feel ready to turn in your Commitment card, please either mail in your card this week or bring it this Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and drop it in the Commitment Card Drop Box in the lobby.

Extended Commitment Date - If you still have questions and aren't quite ready to make your Commitment, we have extended the deadline to return commitment cards to June 9<sup>th</sup>. There are new Financial Q & A information packets at the Welcome Desk or call the church office and we can e-mail it to you.

### One Last Question for You:

Is there anything you need clarified before you sacrificially commit to the Standing Firm Building Faith Campaign?

If so, please contact one of the following people:

Pastor Luke Dunn 309-582-7812 or <a href="mailto:fbcaledo@frontiernet.net">fbcaledo@frontiernet.net</a>

Ron Moffitt–General Campaign Co-Chair ron.moffitt@yahoo.com

Chase Burns – General Campaign Co-Chair chase@landguys.com

Aaron Struble-Building Committee Chair <u>astruble83@gmail.com</u>

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# 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.



Pray for our church as the Capital Campaign nears its completion.