

# HELLO March



## Pastor's Perspective

*“As you received Christ Jesus the Lord,  
so walk in him...” ~ Colossians 2:6*

Earlier this year I began a sermon series on “walking”. Initially I planned a few sermons on what it means to walk in the spirit. As I explored this topic further, I began to realize that the theme of walking is very prevalent in the New Testament, and that we are called to walk, not only in the Spirit, but in faith, in love, in a manner worthy of our call, and in Christ.

I will be turning our attention to the many ways that people walked with Christ throughout the Gospels as we approach Easter. While everyone who walks with Christ is changed, our journeys are all different. I'm looking forward to sharing the different journeys people took with Christ, such as Peter, John, Mary, and many others.

One of the things I love about this series is that it reminds me that we are all on a journey. Philippians tells us that “He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it.” It might be scary at times, and we may think we'll never arrive, but if we trust the one who knows the way, we need never fear. Jesus knows us and He knows the plans He has for us and the path we need to take. 2 Peter 3:9 reminds us that “God is not slow in keeping His promise... but He's patient toward you, not wishing anyone to perish.” I've always understood that to mean that Jesus hasn't returned yet because He wants more in His kingdom. I still think that, but I can't deny that He is equally patient with His children on our journey of spiritual growth. I think we will discover that as we see just how far the disciples had to go when they were called to walk with Jesus. How far have we walked with Jesus? How much farther do we have to go? No matter what the answer is, you can trust Him. His goal for you is heaven.

In Christ, Pastor Luke

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## 2025 Giving

Giving Needed to Meet 2025 Budget YTD - **\$95,861.12**

Current Expense Giving YTD - **\$95,123.88**

Building Fund Designations YTD - **\$118,830.44**

Deacon Fund Designations YTD - **\$185.00**

**Total YTD Giving - \$214,139.32**







KID'S PASTOR: MOLLIE DUNN  
 CELL: (309)371-6962  
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 CHURCH: (309)582-7812

**KIDS CLUB: WINTER/SPRING '25**

Kids Club: Kids ages 3-5th grade can join us anytime throughout the session. Get more info & register at [www.firstbaptistaledo.com](http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com).



Church Camp: We have camp options for all grades. Get more info & register at [www.firstbaptistaledo.com](http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com).



*Mark your Calendar*







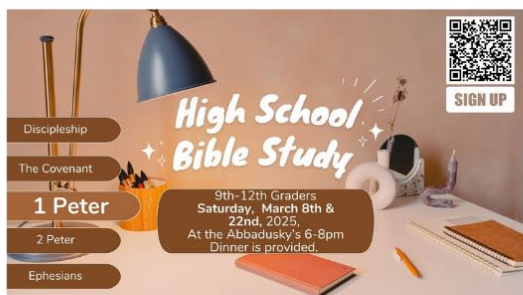
# REFUGE STUDENT MINISTRY

**Refuge at the Y!**- All 6th-12th grade students join us at the YMCA in Aledo for the Refuge youth group! Games, small groups, snacks, and more will be provided from 6:00 pm (check-in) to 8:00 pm (pick-up).



**God's Gals-Girls** in 6th-12th grades are invited to join us Mondays from 6-7 pm in the Enon Room. The current study is "The Gospel on the Ground Study Grit & Glory of the Early Church in Acts." Sign up at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).

**FCA-Calling** all students to join us for Fellowship of Christian Athletes huddles at Mercer County High School and Jr. High! High school will meet every Thursday at 7:15 am in room 210, Jr. High will meet every Friday at 7:30 am in room 23. All students are free to join; breakfast will be provided! We still need breakfast provided and the meal train is still active, questions see Andrew Hofer of Austin.



**High School Bible Study-** Attention high schoolers, join us on March 8th, and 22nd at 6 pm as we study 1st Peter. Please be sure to bring your Bible. Dinner is provided and free to attend. This study meets at Nick & Justina Abbadusky's home-408 NE 12th St. Aledo.



**Boomsisters Breakfast and Movie** - All 6th-12th grade girls are invited to join us here at the church on March 8th, 10 am-12:15 pm to watch the movie, "October Baby" as well as eat breakfast. This faith-based movie is rated PG13. October Baby is loosely based on Gianna Jessen's life story. Gianna was born during a failed abortion attempt and is now a Pro-Life advocate speaker. Sign up online today!



**Winter Jam 2025** - All 9th-12th grade students are invited to join us Thursday, March 20th in Peoria for Winter Jam concert! Skillet, KB, Anne Wilson, New Song and more will be performing live! The cost is \$15 and registration closes on March 15th. Students should bring extra money for food at the civic center. Sign up online today!



**Boomsisters will be on Mission** in April, and the ladies of First Baptist are invited to join us! -We will be helping the ladies of Faith Lutheran Church, Moline to create hygiene kits, fabric kits, and to tie quilts which will be sent throughout the United States and around the world as needs arise. We will meet and leave First Baptist at 8:15 am to arrive at Faith Lutheran Church, Moline at 9:00 am. We will return back to FBC around 3:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Please sign-up before March 28th. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda McKinley.





All ladies 13 years old and up are invited to attend the Iron Sharpens Iron Conference held at Calvary Church in Moline Saturday, April 12th from 8:30am-4pm. First Baptist Women's Ministry is covering the cost of this one-day event, which includes a boxed lunch. Join us for a great time of Biblical teaching, encouragement and fellowship with one another! Please register online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) by March 23rd. Please note this event sells out, so the sooner you register the better.

## Revive Our Hearts True Woman '25

Buy Your Ticket & Reserve Your room for the True Woman '25 TODAY! The True Woman Conference hosted by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth will be held Oct. 2nd-4th, 2025 in Indianapolis, IN.

If interested in attending, please purchase your conference ticket yourself at <http://www.reviveourhearts.com>. Tickets are \$209. After you purchase your ticket, sign up at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) for lodging so we know to hold a shared hotel room for you. The Women's Ministry covers your hotel cost. You are responsible for food and transportation costs. Questions, see Crystal Clark or e-mail her at [crystal\\_clear\\_ann@yahoo.com](mailto:crystal_clear_ann@yahoo.com).



# FBC MEN'S MINISTRY



## Men's Momentum

It's time to sign up for the April Spring Momentum event taking place at Life Action Camp in Buchanan, MI, dates are April 4th through the 6th. The cost for that event is \$150. Mark your calendars for trivia night on Sunday May 4th from 6-8pm. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun. It will be a bring your own food and drinks event, sometimes the food is the best part. Also, please remember that we host a Men's Breakfast every Sunday morning beginning at 7am. We have breakfast then follow up with discussion 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.

If you have questions about the FBC Men's Ministry, please see Men's Ministry coordinator, Kevin Ricke or email him at [ricke13@mchsi.com](mailto:ricke13@mchsi.com).



## Life Action Is Coming to FBC in May 2025!

### Mark your calendars for May 18th-25th

Hey FBC Family, we've got some exciting news! In May, we will be hosting a Life Action Summit Conference at our church!

This will be a unique time where everyone will be able to take a pause from serving to be fully engaged and encouraged by this event, from the youngest in our church family to our most senior members.

There is no cost to attend, and youth and children's ministries are provided. I believe this will be a really pivotal moment for our congregation! Would you join me by praying for our church as we prepare for this conference?

"Lord, work within us as we set aside time to meet with You and each other during this conference. Prepare our hearts for the work You want to do within our church, and within me."

A poster for Host Home. It features a group of people sitting on a couch with a dog. The text reads: "Please be in prayer about being a Life Action Host Home More Information about being a Host Home, please call Laurie Louck at 309-236-9751. We are also in need of Loaner Vehicles for the team while they are in Aledo May 16th-May 26th. Call or text Pastor Austin for details at 817-630-5522".

## How Can You Be Involved?

Designed for the entire church family, the Life Action Summit provides a one-of-a-kind experience of reconnecting with God and transforming relationships.

We need "Host Families" to house the young people on the LA Summit Team as well as needing other volunteers and resources such as vehicles for the team to drive. For more details about being a Host Home (May 16th-26th) call or text Laurie Louck at 309-236-9751. If you can spare a vehicle for the Life Action Team to drive while they are here during the Summit, call or text Pastor Austin Shields at 817-630-5522.





**A Marriage Study-Art of Marriage** - Led by Pastor Seth and Denise Bowker - Every marriage has its strengths and its stresses. Whether you're a newlywed or have been married for decades, this series can be your path to a stronger, more beautiful masterpiece of God's handiwork.

**A Study of Parables By John MacArthur**-*The Mysteries of God's Kingdom Revealed Through The Stories Jesus Told.* Led by Steve Struble and open to all adults. Understanding the parables is a crucial matter for followers of Jesus. Jesus told parables so His people might comprehend Book cost is \$22. You may pay if you are able.

**A Women's Class The Book of Titus** by Chip Ingram followed by **Living Life Together** by Shauna Neiquist taught by Kady Hofer.

**Men's Bible Study**-The Book 1st Corinthians-Led by Pastor Luke Dunn. Come join us as we read and discuss the book of 1st Corinthians each week. This study is open to all men.

**Men's Strength & Faith Class**- Led by Aaron Struble at the Merco YMCA. We gather in the lobby of the Y for a devotion and then proceed to the weight room to do a guided weight lifting. The cost for Non Y members is \$5 per person per night, if you are a member of the Y there is no cost for this class.

\***Nursery** for babies 0-2 years old is provided for adults who are attending a study or who are serving.

**Refuge Student Ministry**-Students grades 6th-12th grade are invited to join us at the Mercer County YMCA for Refuge Youth Group on Wednesdays. Doors open at 6pm and pick up is 8-8:15pm during WNL.

**Kids Club**-Kids ages 3 years old through the 5th grade are invited to join us at First Baptist Church on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm. Check-in starts at 6:15pm in the lobby and pick-up is in the lobby from 8-8:10pm. If you're new to Kids Club, register on the Kids Club registration at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).







## Other Items & Events *Of Note*

Dear Church Family,

We would like to again thank you so much for your February donations to Bushels of Love to support the Aledo Food Pantry!

We have learned that the food pantry not only supplies food and paper products to our community but they also supply families with birthday bags for the children of the pantry families.

The month of March, we are asking for donations of the following items to restock these birthday blessings for children. Below is a list of the items needed if you would like to participate.

Birthday bags large enough to hold a cake pan  
Foil cake pans, Cake mix, Canned frosting, Birthday candles  
Small paper plates, Napkins, Forks, Please place all donations in the Bushels of Love baskets located under the coat rack in the lobby. Just a reminder, April 6th will be our usual Food Pantry collection date. Thank you again for your support!  
Boomsisters



### Can You Volunteer on March 15th?

Volunteers Needed for River Bend Mobile Food Pantry-FBC is hosting the River Bend Mobile Food Pantry on Saturday, March 15th. If you can volunteer, just show up at FBC around 8:30am. Registration begins at 9:15am and Food Distribution begins at 10am and typically runs for an hour to an hour and a half. The mobile food pantry will take place outside so please dress accordingly.



Easter 2025 is April 20th! Now is the time to begin praying about who you will invite to join you for our special Easter Services. More details coming but mark your calendar for Good Friday, April 18th Family Easter Event, Good Friday Evening Services, Sunrise Service at 6:30am Easter Morning & Easter Worship at 8am & 10:15am on Sunday, April 20th!

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WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALED0.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.**

