

#### Greetings FBC Family!

The Lord is at work here at First Baptist. Life Action Ministries is here for an 8 day Summit Conference and they are knocking it out of the park!!! God knew exactly what he was doing when He chose this week to bless us with the Silver Team. They have truly been a breath of fresh air to our church. One thing you might not know is that Shane and Garrett have been meeting with the staff, including myself, and they have been amazing encouragement to everyone. I have a couple of updates for my areas of ministry that I thought you might find interesting:

#### **Building Committee Update:**

With Pastor Luke and Mollie prayerfully answering the call that God has put on their hearts, the building committee has decided to take a "pause". I use the word pause because we are still praying for The Lord's direction and His timing. We still believe that he has something in store for us in regards to our building needs, but we are praying for Him to reveal exactly what that plan is. We are currently in uncharted waters and waiting for His guidance in this situation. We don't yet know if that will be waiting until a new Senior Pastor has been called or if He will reveal His plan before that time. We will continue to be in prayer and ask that you all do the same. In the meantime, I would ask that if you have thoughts or suggestions feel free to reach out to myself or one of the other members of the Building Committee.

#### FBC Administrator Update:

When Pastor Luke announced he would be moving on from our church, I felt The Spirit immediately telling me that I would have to step up in some way. I didn't know what He meant at the time, but after a lot of prayer and wise council, it was revealed to myself and others that the staff and Pastor Seth specifically would need someone to help with the administrative duties at the church. Pastor Luke was an amazing Senior Pastor and had an immense amount of responsibilities that many people may not have even recognized. Pastor Seth and I discussed how best to fill those shoes and presented a plan to the Church Council at a meeting in March. The Council approved that Pastor Seth would continue filling his current role as Associate Pastor and all the responsibilities that it entails as well as taking the reins in regards to leading the spiritual direction of our church.

It was also decided that I would temporarily step into the role of Church Administrator. What exactly this role looks like will be determined over the next several months as needs arise. Currently, I have been meeting with the staff weekly (or more often) to ensure that their needs are being met. I have been assisting with workload balancing, staffing decisions, staff coaching, decision making in regards to budgets, time off, purchases, etc. Over the next several months, I will be developing some procedures for staff reviews as well as beginning the process of reviewing our Church Constitution, By Laws, and Standing Rules. At some point, the need will likely arise to appoint a committee to look into all these things, but I would like to take some time and really digest all of these documents and discern what direction The Lord is leading us as a church. Also, I'm planning to meet with each board and committee to get a better feel of their roles and responsibilities.

As we wade forward into this pool of unknown, my prayer is for all of us to feel The Lord's Spirit washing over all of us. He is in control of this situation and His Will Be Done! I am happy to meet with any of you and answer any questions that I can. At this time, I am not maintaining "regular" hours at the church, but will typically be in the office on Thursdays and otherwise available as needed by the staff and the church body. Please feel free to reach out at any time. God Bless,

Aaron Struble - FBC Administrator (309) 221-9239



#### 2025 Giving

Giving Needed to Meet 2025 Budget YTD - \$239,652.80

Current Expense Giving YTD - \$246,576.57

Building Fund Designations YTD - \$132,205.72

Deacon Fund Designations YTD - \$1,773.00

Total YTD Giving - \$380,555.29

### **PROMOTION SUNDAY**

Pre-K - 5th grade <u>Sunday School</u> classes will have their promotion party in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 1st. Kiddos going into Kindergarten, 2nd, and 6th grades will be promoting to the next class. Students going into 6th grade can stay with us for the party and then Mrs. Denise will take them into the Youth Sunday School Class with Pastor Austin.

<u>Kids Worship</u> kiddos going into 2nd grade will promote into the 2nd - 5th grade classroom with Mrs. Nancy, so on June 1st they will worship upstairs with parents and then come downstairs when dismissed during the worship set. Our 5th grade graduates may continue to attend Kids Worship through Aug. 10th.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

#### June 23rd - 27th 9:00-11:30am

3 years old - 5th grade

Sign up online at firstbaptistaledo.com

<u>VBS Service Project</u>: The crews will be encouraged to raise \$2,000 for FBC's Free School Supply Shop at the end of July. Kids can bring their donations to the front of the stage after check-in. Checks may be made payable to FBC and dropped in the bucket on the stage or given to staff in the church office.

<u>VBS Program</u>: Kids will show what they learned at our VBS Program on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am. Practice is in the sanctuary at 9am before the program. We encourage kids to attend this practice, but if they are unable to, please bring them to the front of the sanctuary no later than 10am.

# SCHOOL SUPPLY SHOP

#### Sat., July 26th 10:00am - 12:00pm

at First Baptist Church | 800 NE 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, Aledo Pre-K - 12th Grades Public & Homeschool Families are welcome. No need to sign up. First Come First Served.

<u>Donations:</u> During VBS week, we will be collecting cash donations to purchase items for the School Supply Shop. We are also accepting donations of large/full-size backpacks. Please leave new or gently used backpacks in the KidMin office no later than July 20th



**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 on Wednesdays from 6:00 pm (check-in) to 8:00 pm (pick-up). Please pick up the Summer schedule for Refuge in the Lobby. No Refuge Wednesday, June 4th, we'll resume at the YMCA Wednesday, June 11th, for the pool party.

**God's Gals-Girls in 6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup>** grades are invited to join us on Mondays from 6-7pm in the Enon Room. The current study is "Graffiti: Learning to See the Art in Ourselves" by Erin Davis. Sign up at <u>firstbaptistaledo.com</u>.

**High School Mission Trip**- We are visiting The Ark on June  $14^{th}$ , and then June 15th- 20th, we are working with Group Mission Trips to serve the communities in Cincinnati. There will be a mandatory fundraiser on May  $30^{th}$  & a meeting on June  $3^{rd}$  that each student is required to attend.

Jr. High Camp-@ Spring Valley Camp in Muscatine for students going into 6th-8th grade! 6th grade will be July 6th-11th and 7th-8th grade is July 13th-18th. Pastor Austin will be joining the 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders at camp! This is a smaller, local, traditional camp. \*Parents are responsible for getting their camper and from camp. Register to at www.springvalleycamp.org, pick a camp week. \*Please indicate that FBC will pay 50% of your child's camp fee. This discount can only be used for FBC families and regular FBC program attendees of Refuge. You're not finished! Next, register on the church's website underneath "FBC Camper Sign-up for Hidden Acres Camp & Spring Valley Camp Summer 2025" so your child is signed up with us so we know to pay half of your camper's fee.

**Promotion Sunday**-Sunday, June 1st, students in 5th grade can be promoted to Jr. High Sunday school with pastor Austin in the back Refuge room, they will start out that day in the fellowship hall with Mrs. Denise. 8th graders may be promoted to Mrs. Kim's high school class and will start in the Berean room that day. These students are also invited to join us on Wednesday nights, starting June 11th, for Refuge. Seniors can stay in the Refuge until Aug. 3rd.

**Kick off to Summer Bash** - Wednesday, June 11th, all Students are invited to join us at the YMCA for Pizza + Pool!! We will be playing games in the community room and then at 7 pm going into the pool for an all-Refuge swim! Students, bring your favorite games, modest swimsuits, and a friend! No need to sign up, just show up.

Starting May 5th ER IN DAVES High School Modes School May 5th Encounter June 14TH ALL DAVATTHE ENCOUNTER

MY GOD IN WHOM I TAKE REFUGE..." PSALM 18:2 STUDENTS 6TH-IZTH GRADE

WEDNESDAUS MON-ROODM

**REFUGE JUNE 4TH** 



G WEEK OF HOPE

Hidden Acres Camp & Spring Valley Bible Camp www.firstbaptistaledo.com

DATE: JUNE 13TH-20TH

WHERE: CINCINNATI, OHIO

COST: \$300 PER STUDENT











Buy Your Ticket & Reserve Your room for the True Woman '25! 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 <u>http://www.reviveourhearts.com</u>. Tickets are \$209. After you purchase your ticket, sign up at 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.







### FBC Men's Rooted Conference 2025

Please be in prayer for our annual Men's Rooted Conference as we work out the details for this event.

Also, make sure you clear your calendar for Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> for this daytime conference. Details and sign up are coming soon. Questions, see Kevin Ricke.



Dear FBC Family! Thank you for the lovely send-off reception and all the lovely cards & gifts. You were very kind and generous to think of us. We will miss each of you and hope to keep in touch.

Much love, Luke, Mollie, & Girls

New Address: 1110 Walnut Street Williamsport, PA 17701

The time is approaching fast when we will begin holding Focus Group Meetings to discuss priorities in a unified vision and expectations for our new pastor. Sign up sheets will be available or call the church office to see about scheduling. Eight people at a time will meet with us to review information and to discuss expectations. The first meeting is with the Deacons on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Look for sign up sheets on selected dates after that. Cover this in prayer.

~The FBC Search Committee





## Father's Day is Sunday, June 15th

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Psalm 37:23



# **FBC Marriage Ministry**



**Couples' Game Night** - Couples are invited to join us Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at FBC from 5-7pm for a fun evening of playing games and great fellowship. Bring your favorite card/board game and an appetizer to share. Childcare will be provided. Please sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com by June 10th so we can ensure we have enough sitters.



The Art of Marriage Study - Join Pastor Seth and Denise on Sunday evenings at First Baptist Church Aledo starting July 6th through Aug. 10th from 4:00 - 5:30pm for a marriage class. Every marriage has its strengths and its stresses. There's not one that can't be improved, fine-tuned, made stronger-or even overhauled-if needed. 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. This class is free to attend. Childcare will be provided. Please sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com.

We want to thank the church Helping Hands we had. They washed the windows, put in light bulbs we couldn't reach. We enjoyed the children. We could tell they were God's children. Thanks again. Ed & Mary Schrock

I want to give a huge thank you to the Helping Hands group that came and cleaned up my leaves. I had a ton of them. They all did an excellent job on my yard. Betty Dowd

Thank you

Dear Helping Hands Ministry, I want to thank all the folks who came over last Saturday to help with leaf and dryer vent clean up. Your ministry is so important and appreciated! Sincerely, Barbara Nesbitt

# **Rhubarb Fest!**

Hey church family, we will be selling pie by the slice at this year's Aledo Rhubarb Fest on Friday, June 6th to help fund two approaching activities for our youth and young adults. We have a few high schoolers that will be leaving for a Mission trip June 13th-20th, 2025 in Ohio, and we have a small group of young adults that will be attending a conference in January 2026. We are asking for your help in a variety of ways:



Rhubarb growers - If you have been blessed with a rhubarb crop this year and would like to share, we are asking for at least 35 – 1 gallon size bags filled with cut (1" pieces) and washed rhubarb. Please bring the fresh (not frozen) Rhubarb to the church between May 29th-June 1st, and place it in the basement refrigerator. If you have the rhubarb and would like someone else to harvest it for you, then just let us know!

Seasoned Rhubarb Pie Makers – We are looking for 3 seasoned rhubarb pie makers to impart their wisdom of rhubarb pie making to some of our youth on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, and possibly Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be using premade Amish crusts this year but need your skills to teach us how to make and assemble these pies. Those with an Oven – We are looking for volunteers within our church to pick up pies throughout the day on Wednesday June 4th, and possibly Thursday, June 5th to bake them. It will take about an hour to an hour and half for two pies. Free smells are included!

**Packaging Partners** – We would love to have a few volunteers on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> to help with cutting and packaging the pie slices. Laughter and wonderful conversation will be included.

Everyone – Please lift all our high schoolers and young adults in prayer. We are praying that each group will continue to seek God and His will for their lives, to be encouraged and strengthened in their walks, and to be filled with His light and wisdom so they can continue to point others to Christ.
"Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints" Ephesians 6:18 (CSB)

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Justina Abbadusky at 563-506-8891 or <u>JustinaAbbadusky@gmail.com</u>. We appreciate all your help and support!



### Aledo Rhubarb Fest is June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

First Baptist Refuge students will be selling rhubarb pie by slice Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> under the Central Park pavilion from 11am-2pm and bring the kids out to the FBC sponsored Kids Zone (behind the Central Park Bandshell for FREE inflatable fun on Friday & Saturday from 10am-3pm.





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

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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.



Love Christ. Love Others. Think Biblically.



·Find Us On Facebook.

•Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.