



Pastor's Perspective

"GO" - Isaiah 6:8

As we gear up for the fall, I am continually reminded that I did not grow up in a midwestern state. Here are a few examples. If you have ever put ski gear on underneath a costume for Trick or Treating, you might live in the Midwest. If you have ever stood outside in your wife's robe to see a category five tornado take your neighbor's mailbox, you might live in the Midwest. I get this constant reminder from God that, though I am not built for the Midwest, it is where God has called me. And to think if I wasn't faithful in the big decisions of my life, how could God expect me to take care of all the blessings I have now? Like my beautiful wife, my amazing son, and the home He's provided for both. All I had to do was say, "I will go, Lord. Send me," and He did all of the rest. I am not saying that He will get you that Lamborghini, or pay off your mortgage, but what would happen if Jesus were asking you to do something, and you were to say,

"YES LORD, SEND ME"? In this passage in Isaiah, God is asking Isaiah, "Whom should I send as a messenger to these people? Who will go for us?" and come on, who else would God be talking to in this moment? And yet it is still on the decision of Isaiah to be used by God for God. What work is God trying to bless you with? I know work isn't something that we think of as a blessing very often, but when you look in scripture, it was a gift to Adam even before the FALL....Eh? Eh? Come on, guys, that's funny. Where is God asking you to go next? What would be brought to your table if you were to say "Yes"? I don't know the answers to that, but I can tell you from my experience and from the experience of Isaiah that you will never regret it. You just have to trust in the Lord, and He will set the paths of our lives straight (Proverbs 3:5). Here at this church, we are in need of people who can and will be used by God. That means you. He doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called. How will God use you this Fall? And why haven't you said "yes" yet?

In Christ,
Pastor Austin Shields



2025 Tithes & Offering - Year To Date

Giving Needed to Meet 2025 Budget - **\$455,340.32**

Current Expense Giving - **\$452,644.94**

Building Fund Designations - **\$144,987.07**

Deacon Fund Designations - **\$2,755.00**

Total Giving - **\$600,387.01**

KIDS CLUB

All kids ages 3 years old - 5th grade are invited to join us for Kids Club on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm starting September 10th - November 12th.

Theme

"We are God's Masterpiece." Kids will learn about the life and ministry of Paul through the Gospel Project. We will have fun playing games, engaging in Bible activities, eating snacks, and making new friends.

Registration is strongly encouraged for our planning and for easy check-in each night. Please sign-up online at firstbaptistaledo.com. Come every week or come when you can!



Mission Project

This session we are collecting items and cash donations to fill 50 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Kids are encouraged to bring school supplies, personal care items, and "Wow" items each week of Kids Club.

- "Wow" Items - soccer ball (deflated) and pump, doll, stuffed animal, musical instrument, large toy truck/car
- School Supplies - notebooks, pencils, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, crayons, stickers, etc
- Personal/Other - toothbrush, washcloth, comb, flashlight, sunglasses, fidget toys, hat, water bottle/cup
- Additional Suggestions can be found on the OCC Website (<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>)



Fun Nights this Session

October 8th "Favorite Color Night": Kids, come dressed in your favorite color from head to toe! We're celebrating the amazing way God made each of us unique and special. This helps us learn how our differences make the world more beautiful!

November 12th "OCC Packing Party": Kids, wear red or green and join us as we celebrate all the amazing items we've collected for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! We'll pack boxes, have fun, and take a big group picture to include in every shoebox we send—sharing joy and Jesus with kids around the world!



REFUGE STUDENT MINISTRY



Refuge at the Y!-All 6th-12th grade students join us at the YMCA in Aledo for the Refuge Youth Group on Wednesday nights! Games, small groups, snacks, and more will be provided on Wednesdays from 6 pm (check-in) to 8 pm (pick-up). Hope to see you at the YMCA this Wednesday!



God's Gals-Girls 6th-12th grades are invited to join us on Mondays from 6-7 pm in the Enon Room. Our new study is Jude-Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture by Jackie Hill Perry. Jump in any time.



Boomsisters-October 4th Boomsisters will be on mission to Faith Lutheran Church, Moline to tie quilts for missions. We will leave the church at 8:30 am and return to the church at 3 pm. Lunch will be provided. Please text Rhonda McKinley or Britni Ewing to let us know if you will be joining the fun.

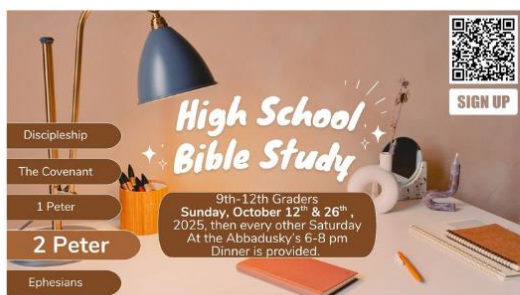


Fall Retreat-All students are welcome to join us on October 11th for an all-day event at Camp Summit! Check-in and breakfast will be at the church at 7am. Jr. High will be riding the bus back to the church at 9pm, High schoolers will be staying at the camp until 10pm. Registration cost is \$30. We will be having Worship, Camp Fire, Archery Tag, Zip Line, Board Games, GAGA Ball, Basketball, and 9-Square In the Air! Sign up online today at firstbaptistaledo.com! Also, printed copies of the Camp Summit Health form can be found at Information station. Return completed form to the church office.



FCA-We are challenging all students to join us for Fellowship of Christian Athletes Huddles at Mercer County High School and Jr. High. The high school will meet every Thursday at 7:15-7:50am in room 210, and the Jr. High will meet every Friday at 7:30-7:55am in room 23. All students are free to join; breakfast will be provided!

High School Bible Study-We meet from 6-8 pm at Nick & Justina Abbadusky's home. Our next meeting is on Sunday, October 12th & 26th, and will back to every other Saturday, November 1st. Join us as we continue the journey and study 2 Peter. We will learn the importance of becoming mature in our faith so we can be strong, effective, and productive in our knowledge of Jesus Christ. Please bring your Bible. Dinner is provided and free to attend. Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com.





Women's Better Together Event Nov. 8th | 9am-Noon @ FBC

Please join us for a time of growing together in God's Word and worship with **Guest Musician** and **Speaker Delayna Sneed**. A delicious brunch will be provided, but childcare will not be offered. Sign up for this FREE event will run October 5th - October 26th @ firstbaptistaledo.com.

Women's FLOURISH Small Groups!

Are you ready to deepen your relationship with Christ, while also growing in community with others? Sign ups for Women's Small groups will be starting soon for the 2026! More details to come!



Welcome Better Together Event Speaker & Musician Delayna Sneed!

Delayna Sneed has many titles . . . wife, mother, corporate leader but her greatest title is "Worshipper of Jesus". Delayna has been a worship leader for 25+ years across the US and she has opened worship conferences for *I am They*, *Micah Tyler*, *Jordan Feliz* and more! In 2021, she won the National Hallelujah Auditions competing with fellow worshippers across the country. She currently lives with her family in Eldridge, IA where her greatest passion is to bring people closer to the hem of His garment and deeper into His presence.



Men's Momentum Retreat-Oct. 24th-26th in Buchanan, MI. Food, fellowship and spiritual recharging mark these men's time together. Speaker Jeremiah Canfield will bring the Word, and we'll enjoy great meals, solid teaching, and plenty of guy time. Be challenged in your Christian walk and encouraged to lead your family with deliberate action. Sponsored Cost is \$150/Full Price is \$195. Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com



Momentum Speaker Jeremiah Canfield



Jeremiah & Stephanie Canfield have been married since 2003 and are raising their 5 children in Pittsburgh, PA. In 2013, they planted a church together, where Jeremiah now serves as Lead Pastor. With over 20 years in ministry his passion is helping families live gospel-centered lives, taking one faithful step at a time.

Other Happenings!



Do you or your kids need a winter coat? Or, maybe you're someone who can donate a coat. First Baptist is having our Annual Coat Collection/Give-Away! We are now collecting NEW or like new condition kid and adult winter coats, scarves, mittens/gloves, hats, snow pants, and boots. Leave donations in the collection tote outside the church - 800 NE 6th Ave. Aledo from now thru Oct 22nd. The giveaway will take place at FBC on Thursday, Oct. 23rd from 6-7:30pm and Saturday, Oct 25th from 9-10am. There are no income guidelines. Items will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. No early distribution. Questions, contact the church office at 309-582-7812.

We are also in need of many volunteers for the Coat Giveaway, sign up to volunteer at firstbaptistaledo.com.

1 Night Grief Seminar Coming to FBC in November!

Grieving a loss? Know someone who is? Join us for GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays, a one-night seminar offering hope and support during a difficult season. This event is designed to help you navigate the challenges of grief during the holidays.

Date: Thursday, November 20th 6- 8PM

Location: FBC, Enon Room

Leaders: Joe & Kathy Olson

Register online: firstbaptistaledo.com

You're not alone—find comfort and community as we walk through this season together.



October Is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Did you know October is Pastor Appreciation Month? What a great chance to let our pastors know just how much they mean to us! We are so thankful for the Bowker and Shields families and the way they pour into our church. They faithfully teach, encourage, pray, and walk alongside us through life's joys and struggles. Their love for the Lord and for our church family shines through in so many ways.

This month, we'd love for you to join us in showing them some extra encouragement. A handwritten card, a quick note, or even just a word of thanks can go a long way in reminding them how deeply they're appreciated. Cards can be left at the Welcome Desk in the lobby anytime through the end of October.

Let's surround the Pastor Seth & Denise and Pastor Austin & Brynn with love and gratitude this month—lifting them up in prayer and letting them know how thankful we are for all they do.





Operation Christmas Child Kicks Off @FBC Sunday, Oct. 19th!

Operation Christmas Child uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Beginning Sunday, Oct. 19th, you may pick up an empty OCC shoebox with instructions in the church lobby! Return your filled box by Sunday, Nov. 23rd along with \$7 for shipping cost (check made payable to Samaritan's Purse). The Women's Ministry pays the remainder of the shipping cost. Questions, see OCC Coordinator Pam Ricke.



OCC Collection Week at FBC

FBC Aledo is excited to be a Collection Site for the Samaritan's Purse project, Operation Christmas Child. We are honored to be a place where individuals, churches and organizations can bring all the shoeboxes that they have filled.

National Collection Week is November 18th - 25th. We are looking for volunteers from all area churches to help with various aspects of this event; set-up, tear-down, and collection of boxes. If you'd like to volunteer, please sign up on our website or in the Church App.



**Thursday, November 27th
starting at 11:00am**



Three Options to Receive Your Free Meal
Pick-up at FBC. Delivered to your home. Dine In at the Senior Center.

RSVP Required. Call 309-582-7812 or visit FirstBaptistAledo.com



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

CHECK IN AT 7:30AM
IN THE CHURCH FOYER
RETURN AT 12:00PM FOR
FOOD & FELLOWSHIP
SIGN UP BEFORE
TUE. OCT. 28TH
FIRSTBAPTISTALED.COM



Thanksgiving
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH
SIGNUP AT FIRSTBAPTISTALED.COM**



Communion & Food Pantry Sunday Is October 5th

This Sunday is a special one! As we gather around the Lord's Table for Communion, we also have the opportunity to share Christ's love in a practical way by bringing food for the Mercer County Food Pantry. The Boomsisters are on mission to collect nonperishable items through Oct. 5th. You can leave donations in the bushel baskets or totes under the lobby coat rack. Let's come together as a church family to bless our neighbors and help keep the pantry shelves full!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER
IN HONOR OF

Brynn Shields

OCT | 18 | 1 PM

AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
800 NE 6TH AVE, ALEDO

RSVP BY 10/16 TO DENISE AT 309-270-1883
BRYNN IS REGISTERED AT
TARGET & AMAZON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ALEDO

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

FALL '25 SESSION
WEDNESDAYS FROM SEPT. 10TH-NOV. 12TH
6:30-8PM

Classes & Programs for the whole family!

SIGN UP AT
FIRSTBAPTISTALED.COM

FREE to Attend! Open to the Public!

Join us at FBC Sept. 10th-Nov.12th each Wednesday from 6:30-8pm for Wednesday Night Live!

There are classes for the whole family designed to help grow your faith and deepen your fellowship with others! Adult Classes Include: **A Women's Study – Seamless-Understanding The Bible As One Complete Story**-Led by Karyn Smith, **A Men's Verse by Verse Bible Study**-Taught by Troy Riddell & A Couples Marriage Study-**A Lifelong Love**-Taught by Steven & Felicia Bonynge. **Kids Club**: Kids ages 3 years old through the 5th grade. **Nursery** for babies ages 0-2 for the parents taking classes or volunteering. **Refuge Student Ministry**-Students grades 6th-12th grade at the YMCA. It's free to attend and open to the public! Invite your friends!

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PRE-SORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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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.

A graphic for a church business meeting. It features a black briefcase with a gold handle and latch. The text "CHURCH BUSINESS meeting" is written on the briefcase, with "meeting" in a cursive font. Below the briefcase, it says "MARK YOUR CALENDAR".

Quarterly Church Business Meeting
October 19th at 11:40am .

Church Council Meeting Oct. 14th at 7pm.