



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FORT THOMAS

THE VISION

July 2022 | Issue No. 7

The Official Newsletter of First Baptist Church Fort Thomas

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Office Hours:

Monday: 9am-12pm
Tuesday: 9am-12p
Wednesday: 9am-12pm
Thursday: 9am-12pm
Friday: Closed

Church Staff

Rev. Jeremy Shannon
Pastor
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859-536-2250

Kaitlyn Runion
Childrens Minister
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Debbie Mershon
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Miriam Fuller
Worship Leader
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859-391-9220

April Ayers (piano)
Barb Musick (Keyboard)

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning: 10:45am
in-person & online
Children's Church: 10:45am
in-person (mask required)
Sunday School: 9:30a.m

FROM OUR PASTOR

Pastor Jeremy Shannon

FBC Fort Thomas Family,

By now I am sure you have heard the news that on June 26th I announced my resignation as pastor of FBC Fort Thomas. In my new role I will serve as the pastor of First Baptist Church Williamsburg (KY). Additionally, Jenni will be returning to the classroom as a first grade teacher. This was a decision that my family and I did not make lightly as we have such great affection for you all and for everything that you mean to us. The past four and a half years have been some of the best years of my life and that is largely because of the joy that I have found in being your pastor.

During my final weeks, I hope to spend as much time with you all as possible. I have already begun meeting with the church council to help ensure that we are doing everything to help the transition be as smooth as possible. The thing that makes this church so special is that it is filled with people who want to see the church thrive and are willing to serve sacrificially. I am thankful for those who are stepping in and serving to help navigate the future and I personally feel better about our decision to leave knowing that the church is in capable hands. They will be reaching out to you all with more information about plans for the church going forward.

At the end of each service, I offer an invitation to join with our fellowship knowing that we commit to serving, crying, laughing, worshiping, studying, eating, and learning together. While my official relationship with the church will take on a new identity, I want you to know that our bond through the Spirit of God is one that is eternal. I will be rooting for you and praying for you and will do everything that I can from a distance to help the church as much as possible.

In closing, thank you. Thank you for the great support you have shown. Thank you for caring for me as a pastor, but more importantly as a father. Thank you for loving my wife, for loving Crosley, Asher, and Henry. Thank you for making church a place that they are excited to be and to know that is a place to be loved and to know about God's love. I look forward to keeping up with you and seeing the many ways that FBC Fort Thomas will continue to Share God's Light and Shine God's Love.

Shine on. Press on. Go on.

Pastor Jeremy



FROM OUR WORSHIP MINISTER

Miriam Fuller

It's July - Happy 4th. I know in my neighborhood the fireworks have already started and it's not even the weekend yet. The year is half over; our church is now in transition. But, God is still the same. He will supply for us.

As Jeremy and his family leave us, I want to take this time to say THANK YOU to David Shannon. Thank you for always being faithful. Thank you for sharing your talent with us. You have been a vital part of this music ministry for the church; you think you haven't, but you have! Thank you for leading music when I've been gone during the year. Thank you for adding harmony when the songs allow. You will be missed.

As I stand in front leading worship, it is good to see a few more folks back with us regularly now. It's good to be back with family, isn't it?

Remember to pray for us, the church, as we all move forward during this transition time. God has a plan; we just don't know what it is, yet! His timing is perfect; He doesn't need our help, He just needs us to be faithful and do what He asks us to. Ask God what He wants you to do...He will answer in His time. Be patient and wait for His answer.

Sunday is coming...see you then!
Mirm

FROM OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTER

Kaitlyn Runion

Dear Church,

In June our kids learned all about David, Saul, and Elijah! It's so beautiful to see how our kids soak up these Bible stories and ask big questions about who God is and how he loves us. In the kids' service we get to see a mini version of church life. The kids fellowship together by rolling up in the worship rug and playing "taco", they serve together by taking turns spraying the chalkboard clean, they minister to each other by drawing each other pictures to take home, and they dig into the Bible together when they get elbows deep in our Bible story sensory bins.

Recently I posted an Amazon wishlist in our info group of items that would enrich the experience our kids have in church and immediately several items were purchased for us and I'm so excited to see how they make every Sunday better. We have several babies at church now and the blackout curtains and baby monitor are going to help so much with their mid-church naps (they can have those since they're babies!). The prospect of missing naptime can make it hard for families with infants to make it to church at all, so these items are going to help families worship Jesus on Sundays, including my own! So we are so so grateful. We also received a sensory table and the kids are already stoked to see what kinds of media we'll fill it with to bring our Bible stories to life! Sensory time is their favorite part of church so this is a true blessing.

We're excited that our kids are going to start being a regular part of the worship service again beginning on July 10th! The kids and I will be in the pews with you all during the musical portion of the worship service to praise God with you each week. If you hear chatter, they're probably asking very important questions about how we do church, why we sing to God, and what our song lyrics mean, so thank you for always being a congregation that welcomes these sometimes big noises from our smallest members. They may not have been in the service much since before the pandemic started, so they'll be learning a lot about how we do things in the family worship service. Your kind faces, smiles, and waves will mean so much to them as they learn that they are welcome and wanted everywhere in our church.

If you didn't know, kids' Sunday School started back a few weeks ago, and they are just loving their extra time together under Ms. Debbie's loving care. She has offered a big part of her heart to these kids and to showing them God's love and I just want to extend this printed applause to her for following the Holy Spirit's call and filling this need in our church!

Blessings,
Kaitlyn Runion
Children's Minister

SERVING SCHEDULES

DEACONS

7/3
Walter Mershon
7/10
Lori Orne
7/17
Harry Drive
7/24
Walter Mershon
7/31
Lori Orne

TELLERS

7/3
Kim Beagle & Barb Musick
7/10
Kim Beagle & Bill Eckerle
7/17
Lori Maines & Walter Mershon
7/24
Kim Beagle & Barb Musick
7/31
Walter & Debbie Mershon

CHILDRENS MINISTRY

7/3
Infants – Jeremy Runion & Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary–
Walter Mershon & Miriam Fuller

7/10
Infants – Jeremy Runion & Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary – Barb Scott &
Donna Stormer

7/17
Infants – Jeremy Runion and Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary – April Ayers & Kim
Beagle

7/24
Infants – Jeremy Runion and Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary – Susan Meyer

7/31
Infants – Carol Steffen & Jeremy Runion
Preschool & Elementary – Kaitlyn Runion &
Lori Orne

PARKING LOT



The church recently completed repair and seal coat work for the parking lot. This was made possible in part due to a generous grant from the Oldham Little Church Foundation. Join us in praying that we can use our parking lot to be a place of ministry for our community in the days and weeks to come!

MISSIONS UPDATES

Holy Spirit Parish Food Pantry

For many years we have partnered with the Holy Spirit Parish Food Pantry in Newport, KY to collect items that they need. During the month of June we were able to collect 285 boxes of Jiffy mix.

For the month of July we have been asked to collect cans of ravioli.

These items can be placed in the bin in our lobby, order online and have shipped to the church, or you may give financially and we will order in bulk. Thank you for your continued support!



WOMEN'S MISSIONS CIRCLE

The women's mission circle will not meet during the month of July. They will be back on their regular schedule in August.

CHURCH LUNCH, JULY 10

We are having a church lunch immediately following our worship service on July 10 since this will be the last day that Pastor Jeremy and his family will be with us. We want to send them off with well wishes for "What's Next" for their family.

As we all know, Pastor Jeremy is in the White Castle Hall of Fame, we will be serving their regular sliders and their chicken sandwiches. We would like for you all to bring a side or a dessert. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. On this sheet you can check that you will bring a side or dessert. On the sign-up sheet, there will also be a place to check whether you would like sliders or chicken sandwiches.

This should be fun and our last chance to tell our pastor and his family bye for now. We know he will be back because he is such a huge Cincinnati Reds fan. He will not be able to stay away.

Pastor Jeremy, Jenni, Crosley, Asher & Henry, we wish you all much success and happiness as you follow God to this new place that you have been led to go.



July 2022

MONTHLY PLANNER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				01 RON MORGAN	02 DAVID SHANNON	03
04	05 KERSTIN ORNE	06	07	08	09 KAITLYN RUNION	10
11 ^DAVID & AMY SHANNON	12		14	15	16 KARL LARSSON DEBBIE MERSHON	17
18	19	20 NANCY LARSSON	21	22 ANGI HORNSBY	23	24 JACKIE HARRY
25 DALE AYERS	26	27	28 STEVEN COGHILL	29 STEPHEN BECKA	30 BOB & ANNETTE ROSE DAN & CAROL ^ STEFFEN DONNA STORMER	31

Children Birthday's * Anniversaries ^
WMC=Women's mission circle

NOTES
