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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FORT THOMAS

July 2021

*The Vision
Proclaiming the
good news*



Sunday Morning Worship

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:45 a.m. in-person & online morning worship.

Children's Church upstairs in children's department at 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Jeremy Shannon
Pastor Cell phone: 859-536-2250
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Miriam Fuller
Worship Leader
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Kaitlyn Runion
Children's Minister
Cell phone: 859-279-8924
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April Ayers (*Piano*)

Barb Musick (*Keyboard*)

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Administrative Assistant
Debbie Mershon
859-441-8884
office@fbcftthomas.com



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Greetings, church family!

The past Sunday of June was a particularly meaningful one in the life of our congregation. During the morning service, we celebrated our children through Promotion Sunday. It was so encouraging to see many of our children up front as we recognized their move to new classes in the upcoming school year. I know when we were on our way home, my three kids were so excited to talk about their new Bibles. At one point in the van, Asher closed his bible and said "Amen! I love that story."

On Sunday night, we had a memorial service to recognize those church members that have passed away since we first shut down normal operations due to the pandemic. We remembered the lives of eight saints of our congregation that passed away and had a time of prayer and reflection to honor their lives. It was particularly meaningful to see their pictures on the screen and think of happy memories of time spent with each person.

One of the things I really appreciated about this Sunday is that we recognized different transitions in our Christian walk. We are thankful for the growth of our kids and as a church I am grateful for the commitment we are making to invest in their spiritual lives. The lessons they are learning and the relationships that they are building will last a lifetime. At the same time, it is also important that we honor the memory of our loved ones as they transitioned from this life into the next. Celebrations like that on Sunday morning are only possible due to the faithfulness of many people who have created a legacy of faith, those eight saints that passed included on the list.

While we might not all have experienced a transition in our lives over the past year that might be celebrated from the pulpit in the same way, it is important to recognize that as God's people we will always be in a state of transition. Our lives have been changed by the events of the past year and a half, but they will also be changed over whatever comes in the days ahead. Whether you are walking through an illness or injury, changing jobs, experiencing a new phase of life, or whatever else it might be, our goal as the people of God is to walk through these phases together.

We are being renewed day by day. Praise God for the faithful ways that the Spirit works in and through us as we seek to be the hands and feet of Christ in every phase, every transition, every day.

Shine on. Press on. Go on.

Pastor Jeremy

From Our Worship Leader

As I write this, July is just around the corner. This past Sunday evening we had our special Memorial Service for those of our church family who've passed away since early 2020. It was a moving service for me as I remembered each one. Gene Stephens, Joyce Morgan, Jeanette Dittoe, Gene Scroggin, Bev McClanahan, Norma Jolly, Carol Thompson, and Jane Bickel. If you missed the service, you can go to our Facebook page and watch it.

Now to get ready for the Fourth of July float! The parade theme is The Roaring 20's.... I'm not sure what we can do with that but April is working on it. It will be fun, and not nearly as hot as it was a few years ago. Thank you Dale for setting up the float for everyone to ride on.

I'm so happy to see many of you back in church. It's wonderful to hear you singing again. I was excited to have Crosley up in front with us last Sunday to help sing "Who You Say I Am." She put me to shame because she knows the song by heart...I still have to read some of the words. And, it was so very good to have the kids join us in the service for a few minutes for Promotion Sunday. As I said in the service, I can't wait to have them in the service with us each week at the beginning. They have all grown so much; it saddens me that I've missed over a year of being with them...that we've all missed a year watching them grow.

I'm looking forward to a new month to worship with each of you, praying that more folks will feel comfortable to come back to church. As I always say...

Sunday is coming, see you then (hopefully!).

Mirm

From Our Children's Minister

Dear church family,

We just celebrated Promotion Sunday and our kids are so excited about their new classes! It is still so joyful to see them enjoying each other's company once again.

We still have a few weeks left of our Better than Gold series and the kids are having a blast learning about the Bible while sporting their new pirate names.

We are still on the hunt for someone to hire for our open child care position. If you know someone who would be a good fit please have them send me their resume.

Blessings,

Kaitlyn Runion

Note from Thelma Boehne

6/24/2021

My prayers have been answered! I am getting my last chemo today. This will be the 18th one.

Now I have to work on getting my strength and my hair back. The scan showed me to be in the clear.

I am hoping my legs will get me back to church sometime. I've missed it so much.

Love to all,

Thelma

Holy Spirit Parish Pantry

In June you donated 329 cans of Ravioli!!

Way to go! Thank you so much for your generous hearts and being so willing to help those who are in much need.

In July we are being asked to make donations of Hamburger Helper.



Thank you for your continued support of this outreach ministry.

“Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.”

Acts 10:4

The United States of America, our wonderful country, is 244 years old this year! I had to stop and to the math. I did not realize that she was that old already. She is not

perfect, but I would not want to live anywhere else. Please join me in praying for the U.S.A. this year more than you ever have.

Debbie's Vacation Calendar/Office closed



Thursday, July 1, Monday, July 5 and Tuesday, July 6 and will return to work on Wed, July 7th.

Monday July 19th thru Thursday, July 22nd and will return to work on Monday July 26th.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Kid's Helpers PLEASE

We also still need more help in the children's department. Working with the children is so much fun! They are all so sweet and are little sponges soaking up everything we say about Jesus. The lessons are easy and Kaitlyn will have all you need in a basket on your table to lead the lesson. The kids love it and so will you!

Mary Francis Gould Summer Mission Giving 2021!

Our summer mission dollars will go to Olive Branch Ministries lead by Scarlette Jasper in McCreary County Kentucky and surrounding areas. These are not only some of the poorest areas in Kentucky but the poorest in our nation as well. She is out in the field helping their kids get what they need for a good education, food, shelter and clothing. She does a lot to help the parents in many ways such as jobs, and homes. This is why we are choosing her ministry for our summer mission giving. Please consider this and give what you can to help those in our state that are the poorest. Thank you!

Our goal is \$500.00, but we can do more if we try.

For those of you who may not have heard the news, I (Debbie) have made the decision to retire from working at FBC Ft. Thomas. I love working here and I love this church, but Walter and I have discussed it much and have decided it is time for me to step down so that I will have time to do other things I have wanted to do while I am still young enough to do so. My last day will be September 2nd of this year. Thank you very much for all the years of working for you.

PRAY FOR AMERICA





Extreme Build 2021



It has been a busy two weeks here in McCreary County. I have learned new skills, been blessed by the company of CBFKY folk and hit my thumb a few times with a hammer.

I always look forward to Extreme Build and am excited that on Saturday, we will dedicate the 16th house built here. We make a substantial donation toward the cost of the house and provide much of the labor for its construction as volunteers.

This year's house will be become home to a single mother and her two children. Without our help, she would not qualify. With our help, she will now have a mortgage payment less than her rent had been and will gain equity.

The street we are building on is one with which we are familiar. Down the street is a house I helped with while still the pastor at Faith. Taj is now a fifth grader who lives in that house who comes down to check on us everyday after school on his bike. His mischievous smile and excitement are reminders that his childhood has changed in immeasurable ways because of Extreme Build. Caddy corner to our lot is one of the earliest houses that we built still occupied by the family for whom we built it.

If you haven't already, I would encourage you and your church to make a donation to Extreme Build that has changed so many lives. We have been joined in our efforts this year by Scarlette Jasper a CBF Global Field Personnel and Keith Stillwell with together for hope.

This program is only possible because of our partnership with Kentucky Highland Housing and many of the local churches and ministries here. We have established important lasting relationships here over the years.

As I watched the house rise and take shape, I am reminded that what seems impossible is possible as we follow Christ together.

Peace,

Bob Fox, Executive Coordinator CBFKY

I have always been amazed that ordinary people from Kentucky churches can build a house in 2 weeks. It has to be a God thing. Lord, thank you for your help!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FORT THOMASKIDS

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR JULY

PRESCHOOL

6/6

Dakota Guilkey
Jerod Guilkey

6/13

Debbie Mershon
Kaitlyn Runion

6/20

April Ayers
Kim Beagle

6/27

Susan Meyer
Amy Shannon

ELEMENTARY

7/4

Walter Mershon

7/11

Lori Orne

7/18

Kaitlyn Runion

7/27

Kaitlyn Runion

Children's Ministry: Here's Why What You Do Matters

We never know what we say or do with a child that will change their lives forever. This is why it is so important to work with children.

The pandemic has been really hard on everyone. I am especially proud of how our pastor handled taking care of us without even a mention from anyone on how to do it. After all, we did not know anyone who had ever pastored a church during a pandemic and Rev. Jeremy stepped up and did a great job. So did Miriam and April I am proud of both of them for all the extra work it took to keep things moving. Miriam does way more than most people know anyway, and this took even more work. To the three of you, I say, "Thank you!"

Another person I should mention that most of us did not see doing anything during the pandemic is our children's minister, Kaitlyn Runion. She worked a lot trying to keep our kids engaged in learning about Jesus. She copied and mailed and hand delivered lessons to each of our children weekly. She had craft days with them with one family at a time. She kept all the kids lesson videos on Facebook for them. She did a weekly online video chat where the kids could talk to her and each other. She kept up with every single one of them. I only mention these things because I know most of us have no reason to know what all she does. It was a lot of work and she never missed a week. She deserves our thanks as well. Thank you, Kaitlyn.

Debbie Mershon



7/11
David & Amy Shannon

7/17
Bob & Marty Draper

7/30
Bob & Annette Rose
 &
Dan & Carol Steffen

THE BRIGHT SPOT

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.”

Psalm 33:12



Happy Birthday

7/1
 Ron Morgan

7/2
 David Shannon

7/5
 Kerstin Orne

7/9
 Katilyn Runion

7/16
 Karl Larsson
 &
 Debbie Mershon

7/20
 Nancy Larsson

7/22
 Angie Hornsby

7/24
 Jackie Harry

7/25
 Dale Ayers

7/28
 Steven Coghill

7/29
 Stephen Becka

7/30
 Donna Stormer



DEACON
 MINISTRY

TELLERS

7/4
 Bill Klopp

7/11
 Lori Orne

7/18
 Harry Weitkamp

7/25
 Walter Mershon

7/4
 Kim Beagle
 Barb Musick
 Bob Peelman

7/11
 Kim Beagle
 Bill Eckerle

7/18
 Lori Maines
 Walter Mershon

7/25
 Kim Beagle
 Barb Musick

A JOYFUL HEART IS GOOD MEDICINE...

Me: (sobbing my heart out, eyes swollen, nose red)...I can't see you anymore...I am not going to let you hurt me like this again!

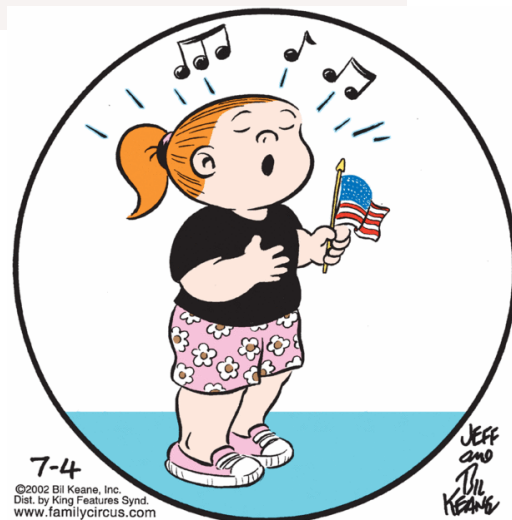
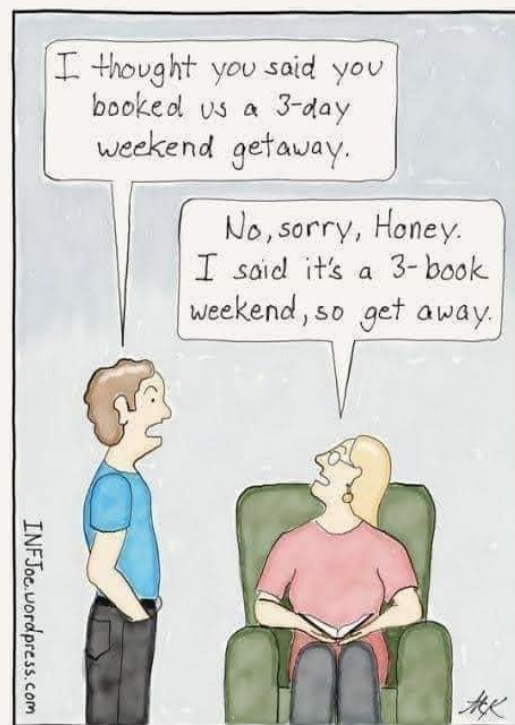
Trainer: It was a sit up. You did one sit up.

Things that used to hurt my back:

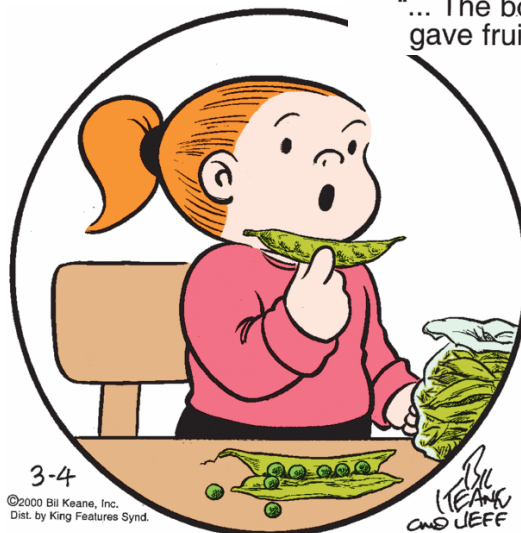
- Jumping off of garages
- Crashing my bike
- Falling out of a tree
- Diving in the shallow end
- Contact sports

Things that hurt my back now:

- Sneezing
- Washing the dishes
- Brushing my teeth
- Tying my shoes
- Rolling over in bed



"... The bombs bursting in air ... gave fruit through the night ..."



"When did they start sellin' peas in these little green envelopes?"