

# THE VISION

The Official Newsletter of First Baptist Church Fort Thomas

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## Office Hours:

Monday: 9a-12p (phone only)  
Tuesday: 9a-12p (in office)  
Wednesday: 9a-12pm (phone only)  
Thursday: 9am-12pm (in office)  
Friday: Closed

## Church Staff

Rev. Jeremy Shannon  
Pastor  
jshannon@fbcftthomas.com  
859-536-2250

Kaitlyn Runion  
Childrens Minister  
krunion@fbcftthomas.com  
859-279-8924

Kayla Swope  
Ministry Assistant  
office@fbcftthomas.com  
859-441-8884

Miriam Fuller  
Worship Leader  
mfuller@fbcftthomas.com  
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)  
Adult Sunday School: 9:30a.m

## FROM OUR PASTOR

**Pastor Jeremy Shannon**

Greetings church family!

I have never really considered myself to be a creature of habit. As someone who knows that about myself, I admittedly use that to mess with folks who are more likely to fall into routines. When Jenni and I lived in Cynthiana, we would spend many date nights driving to Lexington. To get to Lexington there are about 4-5 different roads that all take about the same amount of time. Just to keep Jenni on her toes, I'd take as many different routes as possible, just to see what happened. It drove her crazy!

As I get older, I do find that while I do not have precise routines, I am more and more a creature of habit. I think that is because we get older, we gain better understanding of what we like and what we do not like. And so it just so happens that looking back over the past few weeks, months, or years, it turns out that many of our rhythms are unintentional. They are just what we like to do and we think nothing of it. If we are not careful, those routines can become ruts.

A few weeks ago you all gave me the opportunity to attend the Fresh Expressions Conference in Richmond, VA. The conference was eye opening and one of the best events I have ever attended. The idea of what the church can look like and how we adapt can be intimidating and exciting all at once!

Just as we get into personal routines, churches can fall into routines and ruts. We do the same things for so long that we forget the joy in trying something new. Pastor Leonard Sweet presented at the conference and reminded me of the importance of randomization. Sometimes our best chances of being shaped come from trying new things. An example for Sweet meant grabbing random magazines and reading whatever he finds. The spiritual insights are incredible and come from unexpected places. A person with no background in knitting or hunting or fashion might learn something about the world that helps us understand God better.

It is good to have some routine, but never to the point where we forget we serve a God who promised to do a new thing! If you are feeling like you might be in a rut, what can you do try something new? Take up a hobby or watch a show you'd typically never pick. Take a left where you would typically would have taken a right. See how God takes our randomization to do something incredible!

Shine on. Press on. Go on

Pastor Jeremy



## FROM OUR WORSHIP MINISTER

**Miriam Fuller**

Dear church,

April was a great month of celebration: Palm Sunday, and Easter - with a great crowd, and full praise group leading worship, too! I'm grateful that Karen Thompson could join us on Easter and add to the mix of musicians. Creation Sunday started off with a baptism, Praise God! Lots to be thankful for.

Now we move on to May with expectations of warmer weather staying around, more flowers blooming and the rest of the trees becoming green with their leaves. Praising God for the beauty He has created for us to look at and take care of.

As far as music, those who are able continue to be faithful on Sunday mornings to help lead worship. I'm thankful for all who can be there at any time.

I will be off on May 1 and 8 for a little vacation time. David Shannon will lead the music as the Praise Team helps. I will be with you in spirit and online listening!

Take care, and remember...Sunday is coming! See you on May 15th!

Sunday is coming, see you then - in the NEW year!



## FROM OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTER

**Kaitlyn Runion**

Dear church,

Thank you for all of your involvement last month as we celebrated Holy Week and Earth Day. The kids had an excellent time and we are so grateful for your support!

This month our kids are continuing their chronological series going through the Bible. Right now the kids are in the book of Joshua.

We'll be celebrating Mother's Day this month so I want to say thank you to all the women in our church for the relationships you have with the kids in our church. You've been blessings to each of them and to our ministry as a whole.



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# SERVING SCHEDULES

## DEACONS

5/1  
Harry Weitkamp  
5/8  
Walter Mershon  
5/15  
Bill Klopp  
5/22  
Lori Orne  
5/29  
Harry Weitkamp

## TELLERS

5/1  
Kim Beagle & Barb Musick  
5/8  
Kim Beagle & Bill Eckerle  
5/15  
Lori Maines & Walter Mershon  
5/22  
Kim Beagle & Barb Musick  
5/29  
Kim Beagle & Bill Eckerle

## CHILDRENS MINISTRY

5/1  
Infants – Jeremy Runion  
Preschool & Elementary – Kaitlyn Runion and  
Mirm Fuller

5/8  
Infants – Jeremy Runion  
Preschool & Elementary – Kaitlyn Runion and  
Walter Mershon

5/15  
Infants – Jeremy Runion and Kaitlyn Runion  
Preschool & Elementary – April Ayers and Kim  
Beagle

5/22  
Infants – Jeremy Runion and Kaitlyn Runion  
Preschool & Elementary – Susan Meyer and  
Amy Shannon

5/29  
Infants – Carol Steffen and Jeremy Runion  
Preschool & Elementary – Kaitlyn Runion and  
Lori Orne

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## MONTHLY HIGHLIGHT



This month was a cause for many celebrations. We were especially pleased to celebrate the baptism of Jared Montgomery. Jared has worshiped with us for some time and decided that he was ready to make the next step in his faith. He especially noted that he wanted to set an example for his family. While talking to Jared, he mentioned many times that he was impressed by how welcoming and accepting everyone in our congregation has been. We are so pleased for the commitment that Jared made to God and to all of us as we serve together and seek God's will in our lives in the days and years to come.

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# MISSIONS UPDATES

## Holy Spirit Parish Food Pantry

Every month we collect for the Holy Spirit Parish. In April we have collected 81 boxes of Cheerios and 8 misc items.

For the month of May, we've been asked to donate Pasta Sides

Let's continue blessing those in our community.



## WOMEN'S MISSIONS CIRCLE

Every 1st Monday of the month we have a dedicated group of women that gather for a time of prayer, fellowship, and a lesson on missions involvement. They meet at 12pm in the fellowship hall. They maintain numerous additional activities throughout the year and are always looking for more people to join with them!

The next meeting will be held May 2nd at noon. Pack a lunch and have lunch together. It's a great way to enjoy lunch together, eat dessert, and socialize. We look forward to eating with you!


## EARTH DAY FESTIVAL 2022

On April 24th we participated in the Fort Thomas Forest Conservancy Earth Day Festival at Tower Park. This event regularly sees thousands of people come through the park to learn about ways that we can better care for creation. This year our church set up in the kids zone where the kids had a chance to plant herbs in clay pots. The clay pots were donated by Fort Thomas Florist and the church donated dirt and seeds. They were given the chance to plant dill or chives. We estimate several hundred kids had a chance to participate this year. Thank you to Kaitlyn Runion for organizing and to all of our volunteers that helped us be a faithful presence in our community!



# May 2022

## MONTHLY PLANNER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
25	26	27	28	29	30	01
02 WMC lunch 12pm	03	04 Jeff & Susan Smith*	05 Cinco de Mayo	06	07	08 Mother's Day
09	10 	11	12 Walter & Debbie Mershon*	13	14	15
16	17 Jim Scott	18 Jerod Guilkey	19	20	21	22 Lori & David Orne* Brian Silz
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Memorial Day	31 Harry & Tina Weikamp*	01	02	03	04	05

Children Birthday's \* Anniversaries ^

### NOTES

WMC= Women's Mission Circle

\*anniversary's