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First Baptist Church
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FORT THOMAS

*The Vision
Proclaiming
the good news*

July, 2018

hello



SHINE GOD'S LIGHT, SHARE GOD'S LOVE

Worship and Ministry Schedule

Sunday

9:30 a.m. ~ Kingdom Kids for
Children & Bible Study for Adults

10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Service

Third Sunday Brunch will resume
in September

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting and Bible
Study will resume in August

Thursday

Choir Practice will resume
after Labor Day



*The Vision
Proclaiming the
Good News!*

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April Ayers (*Piano*)

Barb Musick (*Keyboard*)

Worship and Ministry Schedule

Sunday

9:30 am. Sunday School for
children &
Small Group Study for adults

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting

Thursday

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ministry Assistant

Debbie Mershon

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From the Pastor's desk...

What a great month we have had at First Baptist! This month we have had great times of worship, fellowship, and missions! Since I last wrote to you, we welcomed Linda and Nadia Mingo to our church family. June brought a cookout at the home of Jerod and Dakota Guilkey where lots of folks showed up, a summer ice cream fellowship at Fort Thomas Ice Cream, kids trip to the aquarium week of working with Kentucky Changers mission team including having them in worship, and that's not all! We've also had several visitors and they have bragged to me about how welcoming you have been. Thank you for being a welcoming church!

Looking to July, I am already excited about our participation in the Fourth of July Parade. It is a great opportunity to be involved in the life of Fort Thomas and hopefully meet some new folks along the way. We will have another ice cream gathering, and many more opportunities will present themselves along the way if we are faithful to keep our eyes open.

As we enjoy the summer, we also want to make the very best use of the time that we have as we look towards the start of a new school year. We are going to continue to seek out as many ways to connect with the community as possible. Our desire is that those connections give us an opportunity to share with others the reason we have such hope in Jesus Christ. We want to re-establish ourselves as a church that cares about our community and wants to serve alongside our neighbors. As we prepare for what lies ahead, there are several ways that we will need you.

One way that you can help is by praying. I believe we are on the verge of seeing great things. Pray that we would have clear direction and that our actions would be dictated by where the Spirit leads. Secondly, how can you be involved? There are going to be many needs and while we know that we have our limits, I believe we need to push ourselves to see just how much we can do. Case in point, we have seen more and more children coming to our church and many visitors bringing their children. We need additional folks willing to step up and help make sure that they are loved on well. A huge thank you to those who have already helped.

It isn't only about our children's ministry. The needs are great and we are ready for folks to step out in a leap of faith. Enjoy the rest of summer! Soak up the rays and have safe travels as you are out and about. As you do so, how can you also prepare to be involved in this new and exciting chapter in the life of our church?

Shine On. Press On. Go On.

Jeremy

EARLY FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS

In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king's birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. By contrast, during the summer of 1776 some colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King George III, as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy's hold on America and the triumph of liberty.

Festivities including concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets usually accompanied the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war.

George Washington issued double rations of rum to all his soldiers to mark the anniversary of independence in 1778, and in 1781, several months before the key American victory at Yorktown, Massachusetts became the first state to make July 4th an official state holiday.

After the Revolutionary War, Americans continued to commemorate Independence Day every year, in celebrations that allowed the new nation's emerging political leaders to address citizens and create a feeling of unity. By the last decade of the 18th century, the two major political parties—Federalists and Democratic-Republicans—that had arisen began holding separate Fourth of July celebrations in many large cities.

FOURTH OF JULY BECOMES A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

The tradition of patriotic celebration became even more widespread after the War of 1812, in which the United States again faced Great Britain. In 1870, the U.S. Congress made July 4th a federal holiday; in 1941, the provision was expanded to grant a paid holiday to all federal employees.

Over the years, the political importance of the holiday would decline, but Independence Day remained an important national holiday and a symbol of patriotism.

Falling in mid-summer, the Fourth of July has since the late 19th century become a major focus of leisure activities and a common occasion for family get-togethers, often involving fireworks and outdoor barbecues. The most common symbol of the holiday is the American flag, and a common musical accompaniment is "The Star-Spangled Banner," the national anthem of the United States.

SINGING OUR FAITH TO OUR CHILDREN

“Go in peace, go in love, go with blessings from above.
Help a friend, say a prayer for the children everywhere.
Amen. Amen. A-a-a-a-a-men.”



Have you heard that one?

Or maybe: *“Raindrops, oceans, lakes and rivers; welcome, child of God. Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters; welcome, child of God. When the world feels wide around you, when the dark of night surrounds you, we are here to tend and guide you. Welcome, child of God.”*

Singing songs of faith to our children is an important part of faith formation. In a chapter on singing in “Practicing Our Faith,” Don Saliers noted: “When life is deeply felt of perceived, music gives shape and voice to the very pattern of our experienced world. ... The tensions, resolutions, moods, convictions, and playfulness of everyday life are translated into the patterns of sound ... the act of singing together of life lived and felt binds heart and mind together.”

In other words, music binds the community together and thus singing to our children, surrounding them with the music of our faith, should be an everyday way that we encourage the faith development of our young ones.



“Jesus loves the little children ...” “Jesus loves me this I know ...”

“The B-i-b-l-e, yes that’s the book for me ...” Sing on parents & grandparents This is a great gift we can share with our children.

If you have young children in your life, whether it be your own or grandchildren, start singing songs of faith to them. They are a great way to teach children about Jesus!

Do not judge, or you too will be judged.—[Matthew 7:1](#)

I’ve been quick to judge anyone I saw walking in the street while staring at a phone. *How could they be so oblivious to the cars about to hit them? I’ve told myself. Don’t they care about their own safety?* But one day, while crossing the entrance to an alleyway, I was so engrossed in a text message, that I missed seeing a car at my left. Thankfully, the driver saw me and came to an abrupt stop. But I felt ashamed. All of my self-righteous finger-pointing came back to haunt me. I had judged others, only to do the same thing myself.

My hypocrisy is the kind of thinking that Jesus addressed in the Sermon on the Mount: “First take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye” (Matthew 7:5). I had a huge “plank”—a blind spot through which I judged others with my own impaired judgment.

“For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged,” Jesus also said (7:2). Recalling the disgusted look on the driver’s face that day, after having to make an abrupt stop when I walked in front of the car, I’m reminded of the disgusted looks I gave others engrossed in their phones.

None of us is perfect. But sometimes I forget that in my haste to judge others. We’re all in need of God’s grace. —Linda Washington

A WORD FROM Debbie

On June 17th, First Baptist Church had so many wonderful things to celebrate. First, it was Father's Day! We recognized all the Godly men in our church with a token of our appreciation. Our church is blessed with many earthly, Godly fathers.

Next, we also had a large group of Kentucky Changers with us. We helped to support a group of kids that worked on a house in Bellevue. There were ladies from our church that took them snacks and lunch throughout the week and many of us prayed for them to accomplish much in God's name while working. From the report I have gotten, many great things were accomplished that week because of this wonderful summer program. I am so happy that our church family stepped up and helped them, so they could get these things done. We also had lunch for many of them while they were here on the 17th. Thank you to all who were a part of getting the lunch together and donating your delicious sides and desserts. We received many thanks from the group with Kentucky Changers.

There was one more thing I wanted to tell you about. One lady that was with the group brought her 14 month old daughter. Miriam brought them upstairs where I was already with Crosley. I showed her how to check in with her daughter and shared our space with her. She sat in the floor and played with our toys with her daughter. By the time Worship Service came around, she was downstairs to listen to the sermon. After the service was over, she came to me and gave me a hug and thanked me for helping her get her little girl settled and showing her around. She also said it felt really good leaving her up there in such a great kid friendly area that was clean and beautiful. Obviously, this mother will not be bringing her child back to our church because they are not from here, but if she thought that about our space upstairs, then many others may feel the same. I tell you this so that you know that all the time and work we put in to our new space was well worth it. Thank you to anyone who helped with the process. It is truly a wonderful space for our kids.

ON THE JULY CALENDAR

July 4th~ Happy Independence Day!! FBC Ft Thomas will have a float in the parade this year. Come on out and give us a cheer!



July 11th~ Quarterly Business Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

July 18th~ Ice cream meet up at Fort Thomas Ice Cream at 6:00 p.m. Come out for fellowship and good ice cream!

July 25th~ Kids fun day at the church! We will have a bouncy house for the kids to jump in and we will provide activities involving water. Bring the children with sunscreen and bathing suits already on! This event will start at 10:00 am and go to 12 noon. We will also provide grilled hotdog, freshly popped popcorn, etc for lunch! Invite the kids you know.

Pantry Outreach Ministry!

During the month of June you donated 205 cans of chili & 1 miscellaneous item!

Way to go FBC, Fort Thomas!!!

For the Month of July, the pantry is asking for donations of spaghetti sauce.



Thank you very much for your continued support of this very worthy ministry outreach!

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Prayer calendar for North American missionaries 2018



Taylor & Susan Field: 8/5-8/11

New York, NY

Send Relief Missionary

Andrew & Katie Spink: 8/12-8/18

Seattle, WA

Church Planter

Matthew & Courtney Bolling: 8/19-8/25

Minneapolis, MN

Church Planter

Romeo & Marietta Gonzales: 8/26-9/1

Jamaica, NY

Church Planter

Fort Thomas Independence Day Parade!

Our church family will have a float in the parade this year. The parade starts at 10:30 a.m. Come on out and watch and give a big cheer when you see First Baptist Church of Fort Thomas go by!

This is another way for us to get out and be a part of our community!

Richard & Barbara Hardin gifted a donation to our church in memory of Richard (Nub) Hardin.



Kingdom Kids

TODDLERS- PRE-SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

Debbie Mershon

Children's Worship Hour

Toddlers

7/1

Dora Griffin

Barb Musick

7/8

Donna Stormer

Walter Mershon

7/15

Amy Shannon

Barb Scott

7/22

Susan Smith

Jeff Smith

7/29

April Ayers

Dale Ayers

Grade School Teacher

Lori Orne

We still need more volunteers for the baby nursery!

Happy Anniversary

7/15~ Mario & Angelica Carrier

7/17~ Bob & Marty Draper

7/20~ Ron & Donna Stormer

7/30~ Bob & Annette Rose

7/30~ Dan & Carol Steffen



THE BRIGHT SPOT!

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31-32



USHERS



DEACON
MINISTRY

7/1

Walter Mershon

7/8

Bill Klopp

7/15

Lori Orne

7/22

Harry Weitkamp

7/29

Walter Mershon

7/1

Jeanette Dittoe
Debbie Mershon
Kathleen Webber
Jim Scott

7/8

Dakota Guilkey
Thelma Boehne
Jackie Harry
Mary Strange

7/15

Bob Peelman
Bill Eckerle
Carol Steffen
Cindy Stricker

7/22

Lori Maines
Jerod Guilkey
Debbie Mershon
Kathleen Webber

7/29

Walter Mershon
Mary Strange
Jackie Harry
Bill Eckerle

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/5

Kerstin Orne

7/13

Ray Leurck

7/16

Debbie Mershon

7/19

Sue Norris

7/21

Rozellen Griggs

7/24

Jackie Harry

7/25

Dale Ayers

7/29

Stephen Becka

7/30

Donna Stormer

Independence Day Jokes!

**What happened as a result of the Stamp Act?
The Americans licked the British!**

**How come there's no Knock Knock joke about
America? Because freedom rings.**

**What's red, white, black and blue? Uncle Sam
falling down the stairs.**

**What kind of tea did the American colonists
want? Liberty.**

**What was General Washington's favorite tree?
The infantry.**

**What was the most popular dance in 1776?
Indepen-dance.**

**What does the Statue of Liberty stand for? It
can't sit down.**

**Who was the biggest jokester in George
Washington's army? Laughayette**

**Why did the duck say bang? Because he was a
firequacker.**

**What's the difference between a duck and
George Washington? One has a bill on his face,
and the other has his face on a bill**

**Why were the first Americans like ants? They
lived in colonies.**

**What do you eat on July 5th? Independence
Day-Old-Pizza.**

**What protest by a group of dogs occurred in
1772? The Boston Flea Party.**

**Why did Paul Revere ride his horse from Boston
to Lexington? Because the horse was too heavy
to carry.**

**Did you hear the one about the Liberty Bell?
Yeah, it cracked me up!**

**What do you call a duck on the fourth of July? A
fire quacker.**

**What would you get if you crossed George
Washington with cattle feed? The Fodder of Our
Country!**

"A joyful heart is
good medicine"



HOW HOT IS IT?

- The cows are giving evaporated milk
- The chickens are laying hard boiled eggs
- Hot water comes out of both taps
- The potatoes cooked underground, all you have to do is pull them up and add butter, salt and pepper
- You eat hot chilies to cool your mouth off
- Your dream house is any house in Alaska
- You can make instant sun tea
- Your car overheats before you drive it
- You learn that your seat belt makes a pretty good branding iron
- When the temperature drops to 95, you feel a bit cold
- You would give anything to splash cold water on your face.

