



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FORT THOMAS

THE VISION

September, 2022 Issue No. 9

The Official Newsletter of First Baptist Church Fort Thomas

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Thomas KY 41075
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www.fbcftthomas.com

Office Hours:

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

Church Staff

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

Debbie Mershon
Ministry Assistant
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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

Adult & Children's
Sunday School: 9:30am

CHURCH TRANSITION PONDERING THOUGHTS

In time of change and transition it's easy to feel overwhelmed with uncertainty. Losing a pastor is very stressful on a church, but it's an opportunity to reflect on the spiritual condition of the church to help determine the best future direction. A key word in this process is TIME.

Jeremiah 29:11 is a reminder that God is in control and knows exactly what our church needs..."For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

We just need to be a little patient and not rush into selecting a pastor until we are comfortable with the mission and goals of FBC Fort Thomas, so when that occasion arises to establish a Pastor Search Committee we are prepared. This is anticipated to happen in late fall.

The Church Council is working hard to keep communication open and members informed. Our first step is to get input from members on the current status of the church. Everyone is invited to attend a CHURCH CHAT LUNCHEON on September 11 immediately following the morning service. During that time an open discussion will occur to discuss plans for the future of our church. The second step will be for our members to complete a brief survey to evaluate the needs of FBC Fort Thomas. Copies of the survey will be available September 18-October 2. After surveys are submitted, the Church Council will review the results and present at a follow-up luncheon in October.

Self-reflection helps us grow in understanding and love for God, yourself and others. It is intentional but does not need to be complicated. Please take time over the next couple of weeks to reflect why you are a member of FBC Fort Thomas, in what ways is the church special in your life, and how are you helping serve the mission of the church?

Questions to ponder during your self-reflection of Fort Thomas Church.

- Who are we at FBC Fort Thomas?
- What is the ministry of the church?
- Do we understand the fundamental differences between CBF (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) and KBC (Kentucky Baptist Convention) church?

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- What are some strengths of FBC Fort Thomas?
- In what ways are you currently serving in church activities? Are you interested in something else?
- How can FBC Fort Thomas better minister to your needs?
- If FBC Fort Thomas ceased to exist tomorrow, would the community notice?

Please continue to pray for the growth and ministry of FBC Fort Thomas.

FROM OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTER

Dear Church,

Our kids have started their chronological journey through the New Testament! After learning dozens of stories from the Old Testament they're now learning about Jesus' life and ministry.

October 5th we will be popping popcorn for the Fort Thomas Farmer's Market Fall Fest! This was a huge success when we did it on Kids' Day and we gave out nearly 350 bags of popcorn. We have more time to prepare this time and I'm hoping to really show our community our support so please consider joining us from 3pm-7pm.

Thank you!
Kaitlyn Runion
Children's Minister

FROM OUR WORSHIP MINISTER

If you have not read the first page of our newsletter, please do so every month. It is written by a Church Council member and will always have good information in the article. We want to keep everyone as informed as possible, as best we can.

The year is 2/3's of the way finished. Fall starts this month. You may think we should coast the rest of the year, but we have lots to do as a church family. Continue to pray for our church. Please pray for the Church Council as we meet sometimes weekly and most of the time every other week. Our first "Church Chat" is September 11th, with lunch. Please plan to attend.

I hope you noticed a BIG difference in the sound in the sanctuary this past Sunday if you were in church. I had several different people come in (One being our own David Adams) this week and work on our soundboard and the computer. Our on-line service seemed to be up and running very well, too. Our other helper was Hank Adams, from FBC Cold Spring. He is very knowledgeable of our type of sound system and was able to reset things and make some good changes for us. So, Thank you to both!

As you can tell, "Choir" or "Praise Team" or whatever we tend to call ourselves these days...we are down... Please Pray for Susan Bacher and healing for her ankle; for Cindy Stricker and healing for her knees and for her grief; Bill (and Judy) are enjoying their beach house; Walter sometimes is on call on the weekend (as well as Barb occasionally); Candy struggles with arthritis - and you know that is tough; Lori sometimes needs to watch her grandson, and she also suffers from bad allergies which cause her to feel terrible at times. Dale seems to be the last man standing at times (and he is ok with that), although it seems that someone will always show up to help. These are not excuses, these are reasons for absences. Would you please pray for all of these people so we can have a full group on Sunday mornings again soon??? Then you won't have to hear me so much!

Remember, Sunday is coming...See you then!
Mirm

SERVING SCHEDULES

DEACONS

9/4
Walter Mershon
9/11
Lori Orne
9/18
Harry Weitkamp
9/25
Walter Mershon

TELLERS

9/4
Kim Beagle & Barb Musick
9/11
Kim Beagle & Bill Eckerle
9/18
Lori Maines & Walter Mershon
9/24
Kim Beagle & Barb Musick

CHILDRENS MINISTRY

9/4
Infants – Jeremy Runion & Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary –
Walter Mershon & Miriam Fuller

9/11
Infants – Jeremy Runion & Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary – Barb Scott &
Donna Stormer

9/18
Infants – Jeremy Runion and Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary – April Ayers & Kim
Beagle

9/25
Infants – Jeremy Runion and Kaitlyn Runion
Preschool & Elementary – Susan Meyer

WE NEED HELP WITH BABIES

Don't we all love babies? I know I do. Who in our church would love to help the FBC Kids department with their babies? What better way can you serve God than to serve babies. As Christians, it is our responsibility to see that all the children in our church get to really know Jesus. Show our babies the love of Jesus while we rock them. love on them, and play with them. If interested, please let Kaitlyn Runion know by calling or texting her at 859-279-8924 or by calling the church office at 859-441-8884.



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 August we were able to collect 193 boxes of pasta and 10 miscellaneous items. Way to go FBC.

For the month of September, the pantry has requested canned pasta sauce.

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 be having a meeting in September.

Let's Chat

On Sunday, September 11th, we will be having a luncheon immediately following our morning worship service. There will be sandwiches and dessert provided and you will be asked to bring a side. If you have not done so yet, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Oh, but this isn't just any luncheon. We are going to gather and chat about our church. What do we think of it? Why do you want to be a member here? What is our mission? What does our new pastor need to know about us to know who we are? Do we know who we are and many more questions and thoughts. We, as a church family, need to know who we think we are and where we want to go. We need you all to be here expressing your opinion. Thank you.

Holding Hope Podcast

Our Friend, Dr. Charles will be hosting a weekly podcast on Facebook Live starting on September 6, at 11a.m. It will be on his personal Facebook page, Charles Bugg (Chuck). If you are not friends with him on Facebook, you will not be able to see the podcast. Go in ahead of time and add him as a friend. It will work like out worship servies on Facebook Live did when the pandemic started. We just go to his page and wait for him to come on.
If you are unable to watch it at 11am, it will stay on his page for a few days like our worship services do.
Dr. Bugg would love to see some of our members join him.

Happy Anniversary

9/7

Dale & April Ayers

9/11

Bruce & Jackie Harry

9/30

Bill & Ruth Eckerle



Ministry Ordination

You are cordially invited to attend the Service of Ordination into Christian Minsitry of Melissa Stephens on Sunday, September 18 at 3:00 p.m. It will be held at St. John United Church of Christ in Bellevue Kentucky. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall.

Happy BIRTHDAY

9/6

Peggy Spradlin

9/12

Bill Eckerle

9/15

Ray Thompson

9/17

Bob Peelman

9/30

Jeff Orne