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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FORT THOMAS

September 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
jshannon@fbcftthomas.com

Miriam Fuller
Worship Leader
Home phone: 859-441-8220
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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
Kayla Swope
859-441-8884
office@fbcftthomas.com



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Greetings church family!

It is a busy time in the life of our church. I have a few important things to note and so I will keep my introduction time brief :) :

- As you are probably aware by now, September 2 marks the last day for Debbie Mershon serving as our office ministry assistant. We will have a time to recognize Debbie during a church service in the coming weeks, but I wanted to quickly share a word of gratitude for everything that Debbie has meant in the life of our church. Personally, I have enjoyed our conversations and I have relied upon her wealth of information regarding the history of the church and how we are all connected. I am sure that many of you have called in or stopped by the office and appreciated the heart that Debbie has for this church and for her work in the office. The past few years have presented many challenges and Debbie has shown a willingness to step up to the plate. We are so thankful for you, Debbie and wish you the best in retirement!

- The month of September also marks the beginning of our time with Kayla Swope as our new office ministry assistant. You will have several chances to hear from Kayla, but I ask that you be in prayer as she begins in this new position. Transitions are never easy and taking over for someone who has been as incredible as Debbie is not without challenges. That said, I think you will be impressed with Kayla and all of the things that she will bring to the church in this new chapter. Some things might be a little different and that's okay! Thank you for welcoming her in as only FBC Fort Thomas knows how.

- Finally, I want to announce a new sermon series starting September 12 called "Sacred Stories." This is a series that will last until summer of 2022 and is based on the Narrative Lectionary. What does that mean exactly? We often talk about the Bible and share many stories, but rarely do we examine the story of the bible from Genesis all the way until the end. Each week we will focus on a different story of the Bible, telling the main Old Testament events that paved the way for a man named Jesus who came and showed us a new vision for a new kingdom. I have been looking forward to this series for months and I believe it is going to be an incredible time in the life of our congregation.

There is so much to say, but my space is limited! I love you all and cannot wait to see what God has in store for us in the weeks and months to come!

Shine on. Press on. Go on.

Pastor Jeremy

From Our Worship Leader

Happy September, Happy Labor Day,
Happy Fall - Y'all!!!

I hope this finds you all well. It's been HOT, as you all know, but I'm hoping for some cooler weather now, and a long Fall season.

I'm grateful for those who are singing with us each Sunday but would welcome others if you'd like to join us. We practice each Sunday morning at 9:30 AM. The more, the merrier... and there is safety in numbers!

I am still praying that others will join us again, physically, in church on Sunday mornings. I miss seeing those not with us.

As I write this we are getting some much-needed rain...Praise the LORD!!! Thank you, God, for the blessings of rain; but praying for those in flooded areas, which I know will happen.

Praying you stay healthy.

Sunday is coming, hoping to see you then.

Mirm



**Coming Sunday,
September 12th.**

**You will not want to
miss this.**

From Our Children's Minister

Dear Church,

I hope your kids and grandkids are enjoying the school year (however it may look for them!), and that everyone is staying safe and healthy. If your young loved ones need any support please let us know how we can help.

We've just begun a new series called **Wonder Why**. This series encourages kids to dive into their questions about God and the world and to seek answers in Scripture. We're teaching the kids that God is so big that we can never know or understand everything about him, but that it's good to ask questions and seek answers.

This series is science themed and we love that in a world where science and religion are often pitted against each other we can show the kids that God made the world we live in and that science can teach us about the beautiful universe God created.

I know that many people have grown up in churches that didn't encourage questions about God or the world, and sadly that has turned many people away from God! I'm glad that our church has the opportunity to do better for our kids. Asking questions and answering honestly (even if the answer is "I'm not sure!") is good for kids, good for the church, and good for the world. Let's do what we can to encourage our kids to bring their brains with them to church and think about God and his world every day.

Early in October we may have the opportunity to do another craft day with the Fort Thomas Farmer's Market, so please be thinking about whether you could volunteer with us. We still haven't learned to predict the future of this pandemic, so we aren't sure if we will have a Trunk-or-Treat next month, but we are making tentative plans, so please be aware of this potential serving opportunity.

Early in November we will be welcoming the birth of Dakota and Jerod Guilkey's baby boy! We're very excited and planning to bless them with a meal train after his delivery. More details on this will be coming soon!

Love you all,

Kaitlyn Runion



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH PANTRY

In August, you donated 109 jars of gravy and 5 Miscellaneous items.

That is super fantastic! Thank you so much for your generous hearts and being so willing to help those who are in much need.

In September, we are being asked to make donations of Jelly.



Thank you for your generous support of this outreach ministry.

“Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.” Acts 10:4

Carol Jean Hardin...obituary



We have sadly lost another church family member. Carol Jean Hardin passed away on August 7. She was 86 years old. We ask that you pray for her family and friends during this difficult time.

Carol was a retired Vice President with PNC Bank in Bellevue. She enjoyed cross stitching, crocheting and taking pictures, but what she loved most in life was spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her family always came first.

Her funeral was held on August 11, 2021 at the Doblbing, Muehlenkamp-Erschell Funeral Home in Bellevue. It was requested that memorials be sent to First Baptist Church Ft Thomas.

The Mary Francis Gould Mission Group will have their next meeting on September 7 At 12 noon. Pack a lunch and you will all have lunch together. Dessert will be provided!

If you have not joined these ladies during one of their meetings, now might be a good time to give it a try. They have lots of fun and do lots of good things.

Hello! My name is Kayla Swope, I am so excited for this new journey. A little bit about me? I am from Dayton OH and moved to Independence KY in the 3rd grade. I ventured to University of Louisville for college, where I received my B.A in Social-Cultural Anthropology (study of human behavior, and patterns). I wear a few different hats, my most favorite two being a wife to Tyler and a new mother to Theo. I look forward to meeting everyone, and will try my best to be as great as Debbie ;)



New office ministry assistant...

Kayla Swope

Office hours:
Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

Monday & Wednesday: Kayla will work from home and you can reach her by calling our normal office number. Her



CALENDAR...

LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

Summer's final fling has arrived in the form of Labor Day. Yes, most of us get the day off, but this holiday triggers mixed emotions. While summer still has 21 calendar days left, it's time to get serious. School's starting and there's a sense that summer vacation is over.



PATRIOTS DAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

Patriot Day, holiday observed in the United States on September 11 to commemorate the lives of those who died in the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Virginia and those who perished when the hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania.



GRANDPARENTS DAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Is grandparents day a real day?

Grandparents Day is an official national holiday, signed by President Carter in 1978 and celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. This year, that's Sunday, September 12! While we honor our grandparents every day, take an extra moment to appreciate all the joy and wisdom that grandparents bring to our lives.



Business Meeting
September 15th
At 6 p.m.

Please make every effort to attend.



September 22nd
Time for crisp air and colorful leaves!!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FORT THOMAS KIDS

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

INFANTS

9/6
Kaitlyn Runion
Jeremy Runion

9/12
????????????

9/19
Patty Adams

9/26
Carol Steffen
Jeremy Runion

PRESCHOOL

9/6
Dakota Guilkey
Jerod Guilkey

9/12
Debbie Mershon
Kaitlyn Runion

9/19
April Ayers
Kim Beagle

9/26
Susan Meyer
Amy Shannon

ELEMENTARY

9/6
Walter Mershon

9/12
Lori Orne

9/19
Kaitlyn Runion

9/26
Kaitlyn Runion

Another reason children's ministry everyday matters ...
 God is in the church nursery. The Bible has specific promises about God's presence when children are welcomed and loved in Jesus' name. God wants the children to learn about Jesus. They pick up stuff so easily. When you think no one is listening, they go home and tell mom and dad what they have been learning in church.

We need your help.

Kids Volunteers Needed

**Come help us touch a child's heart
for Jesus. It is the best
feeling ever!**





THE BRIGHT SPOT

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Happy Birthday



9/6 Lori Orne
9/12 Harry Weitkamp
9/19 Walter Mershon
9/26 Bill Klopp

TELLERS

9/5 Kim Beagle Barb Musick Bob Peelman
9/12 Kim Beagle Bill Eckerle
9/19 Lori Maines Walter Mershon
9/26 Kim Beagle Barb Musick

9/6 Peggy Spradlin
9/12 Bill Eckerle
9/15 Ray Thompson
9/17 Bob Peelman
9/18 Jenni Shannon
9/30 Jefferson Orne

**A JOYFUL HEART IS
GOOD MEDICINE...**



No math is harder than toilet paper math...



The fastest land mammal is a toddler who's been asked, "What's in your mouth?"



Sleeping is hard in the summer because blankets are too warm but without blankets I'm vulnerable to monsters.



"MY DAD SAYS THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE... AN' YOU'RE TELLIN' ME A ROOT BEER FLOAT ISN'T ONE OF THEM?"

This has got to be the photo of the year.



My wife just opened my car door for me.

Would have been a nice gesture had we not been going 70mph.