

Manna

March 2022



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

KEITH INMAN

This coming July, I will have spent 10 years in community with First Baptist Church. These 10 years have been a time of joy and pressure: joy in realizing that Christ has been with us on the journey, pressure in that anytime a person, a group, an entity is seeking to please God, there will be spiritual tension, unease, or downright warfare. The joy has been a gift from God through His Spirit. Most of the pressure has been self-inflicted. There have been times when I confused pleasing God with pleasing people. Knowing so many of you upon my arrival, my fear was that I would disappoint.

The crucible of church leadership has a way of bringing to the surface the strengths and weaknesses of leadership. There are two prayers that have found their way to my heart. The first is, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me, Your Beloved." The second is, "I can do all things through Him who gives me strength."

I have spent a great deal of my life with a longing to know God and love God, praying that others might do the same. I have been fortunate to be occupationally involved in such a way to do this more easily than some. There has been an ebb and flow of arranging my life for spiritual seeking. However, Sabbath on my part has been neglected. These COVID days were sustainable by "Be still and know that I am God." There have been days I felt as if treading water described the journey. I neglected rest. Sabbath.

I have been challenged by my desire. Do I desire His presence or His activity? Do I desire His blessing, my comfort, or my "success"?

My definition of "success" regarding the harmony of "pastoring" and "living" has been illusive at times. Being a pastor has proven to be what I sensed it to be: hard. I am so grateful for the prayers of Boyd Smith, who weekly in the back hallway would lift me up into the grace of God. Many of you have prayed for me. Thank you.

I am so grateful to have journeyed these years with you. And I am so grateful the staff that serves you has been such a beautiful source of encouragement to me. I cannot imagine doing this alone. Jesus chose a small community to be with Him. He then passed the baton of ministry to these disciples who did likewise to the next generation. This assuming the "gospel responsibility" was not easy and it took great discipline: discipline that needs to be nurtured in the context of community.

Community is not easy. We are so "busy", occupied by things that compete for our attention, our very souls. Don't be fooled. We need each other. I am grateful. I am grateful God designed it that way.

Keith

GIVING SUNDAY

MARCH 20, 2022

WE ARE APPROXIMATELY \$80,000 FROM COMPLETELY PAYING OFF THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER. CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERS WHO MADE PLEDGES OVER FIVE YEARS AGO CONTINUE TO FAITHFULLY GIVE AND THE LORD HAS PROVIDED.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022 WE CAN HONOR PASTOR KEITH & CAROLE INMAN IN A BEAUTIFUL WAY THAT WILL BRING CLOSURE TO A GREAT SEASON IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH. WE CAN DO SO BY JOINING TOGETHER FOR A SPECIAL OFFERING TO PAY OFF THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER.

LOOK AT WHAT GOD HAS DONE! THE VISION FOR THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER BECAME A REALITY UNDER PASTOR KEITH'S LEADERSHIP. OUR CHURCH FAMILY HAS LITERALLY SERVED HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES AND SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH OUTREACH PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS. IT HAS SERVED AS THE HUB AND HOME FOR KBC DISASTER RELIEF AND OTHER NATIONAL RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS. GOD HAS SO MUCH MORE IN STORE FOR HOW HE WILL USE IT IN THE FUTURE.

WILL YOU PRAY AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND AS FAMILIES OVER HOW YOU MIGHT GIVE SACRIFICIALLY AND GENEROUSLY TO HELP CLOSE OUT THIS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN? SEVERAL LAY LEADERS IN THE CHURCH HAVE ASKED IF WE MIGHT LAY OUT THE CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE A PART OF THIS.

LET'S SEE WHAT GOD DOES THROUGH US FROM NOW UNTIL
GIVING SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Retirement Party

HONORING

PASTOR KEITH AND CAROLE INMAN

MARCH

27

SUNDAY

4:30 PM

FAMILY
LIFE
CENTER



NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR JASON ELLERBROOK



On Saturday, March 12, FBC Murray will host The Guy Conference. The goal of this conference is to help churches strengthen families beginning with men. You can register for the conference at guyconference.com.

The Guy Conference is a “NO EXCUSES” conference. The \$48 registration fee provides Engage Men through Ministry Alliance a 501(c)(3) the financial resources needed to cover the expenses. However, if it’s too much for any individual or group to invest we understand and we still want you to be there!!

If you need to register for the conference using the discount, just enter the discount code “noexcuses” above the General Admission ticket when checking out and it will take \$38 dollars off. You can experience this life-changing conference for the cost of lunch!

Registration includes admission, a Guy Conference journal, pen, donuts, coffee, snacks, a box lunch, and a life-changing experience for every man! Just have a Bible in hand or on your device!

Coach Sherman Smith represented one of the key stories shared in the Kendrick Brothers film “Show Me The Father.” He will be there in person along with four other keynotes who are having a significant impact in the lives of men, families, and churches across the country. We are anticipating a few other surprise guests as well.

I am challenging every man at FBC to register. It is also a great opportunity for a father/son day. This conference is for men of all ages ranging from high school and up. If you can attend a portion of the day or the entire conference, please plan to do so. This is a unique opportunity for the men in our church during this season in the life of our church. If you are a father wanting to attend with your son(s) or an individual interested in bringing a friend who needs to be there, please let me know. We have scholarships that can assist with these specific situations.

Please contact me directly if you have questions and make plans to join us on Saturday, March 12, for The Guy Conference. Let’s do this, guys!

Jason



NOTES FROM MATURE ADLTS GROWING IN CHRIST (SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY) BOYD SMITH

M.A.G.I.C. Friends,

It is 68 degrees as I write this article. I believe we may have an early spring! I know for many of you it can’t come fast enough. We have some exciting things taking place for you. Below is the schedule for our monthly luncheons/day trips. As you know, we have been having our luncheons catered so you don’t have to worry about cooking. I need your assistance to help this run smoothly. Please call the office by the deadline to let us know you are coming so we can have enough food. That way, everyone will have plenty to eat. The deadline is always the Wednesday before the luncheon.

- Tuesday, March 29 – Day trip to Adams Breezy Hill Farm Restaurant, Princeton, KY. Call the office to make a reservation by Wednesday, March 23.
- Tuesday, April 26 – Regional Seniors Celebration at FBC, Murray! More details to come!
- Monday, May 23 – Dinner at the FLC at 6:00 pm. Call to make reservations by Wednesday, May 18.

NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY

MIKE ROSE



Hello First Baptist!

It's time for us to think about Easter at First Baptist. I want to begin our Easter music in the next few weeks. I have chosen some wonderful music and we would love for you to join us as we begin to prepare for this wonderful day in the life of our church. I would like the loft to be filled for Easter Sunday. We rehearse at 4:30 pm on Sunday afternoons. Please consider joining us!

Have you heard about the addition we have made in the 8:30 am worship service? We have added timpani to help accentuate some of the bigger hymns. It is such a pleasure to have Christopher Powell joining us as he uses his talent to help us in our worship experience. Do you have an instrument you could offer to help us in this worship time? We are in need of brass instruments at the 8:30 am service and would love to discuss where your talent could be used to help give God glory!

There is much going on musically, and we would love to plug you in. Let us know how we can use you to help us worship our Lord together!

NOTES FROM MOTHER'S DAY OUT

LAUREN DUNLAP



In February, every child at Mother's Day Out made a card that was delivered to homebound FBC members and to the local hospice house and nursing homes for Valentine's Day. What a great way to show God's love to those in our community!

March 29-31, MDO will be hosting an Art Auction where all proceeds will go towards our First Loves Murray initiative. Each child at Mother's Day Out will create one or two pieces of art that parents, family members, and community members can purchase. Look for pictures of our projects on the Mother's Day Out Facebook page later in the month.

Mother's Day Out is a ministry of Kids1st and provides childcare and preschool opportunities for children ages 6 months through pre-Kindergarten. The program operates on a school year calendar (August – May) and is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Mother's Day Out is a state-certified childcare center, so drop-ins are not permitted. Enrollment is for the full school year and parents may request any combination of days that are available. FBC members have priority on the waiting list, so please call if you would like to inquire about enrolling your child for the 2022-2023 school year. Visit our website at fbc-murray.org/mdo or contact Lauren Dunlap during MDO hours at 270-753-3711 for additional information.



**OUR MDO TEACHERS
COLLECTED FOOD ITEMS FOR
THE BLESSING BOX AT FBC! WE
ARE THANKFUL FOR THE WAY
THEY SERVE THIS COMMUNITY.**



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY

NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY

RACHEL RIQUELME



In Kids1st we want to focus on what really matters and teach with the end in mind. What is the end or purpose? It is to create strong children of faith who become lifelong disciples! What is a disciple? A disciple is someone who is following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus. How do we do this? We do this by intentionally cultivating our Sunday school hour to center around God's Word in fun, age appropriate ways! Did you know that the single greatest thing you can do for a child to point them toward a lifelong faith in Jesus is to create a love of Bible reading? Statistically, reading the Bible is the single greatest influencer on a child's faith.

How do we do this in Sunday School? Our Sunday School morning is divided up into three sections. Each week, our kids have a rotation where they participate in each activity.

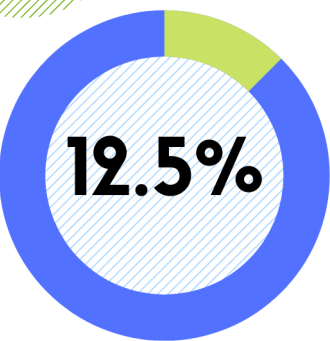
We have our Gospel Project section where kids read the Bible and study the Bible chronologically through a gospel lens. We are currently in the book of Numbers and every three years we make it systematically through the whole Bible.

Next, is our Bible literacy section where kids are learning about God's Word, learning the books of the Bible, how to find Scripture passages, the different literary genres and how they are read, and the 99 essential doctrines of our faith.

Lastly, we have our prayer and connection section where kids get to spin the wheel of prayer and spend time strategically learning to pray while praying for missionaries, friends, family, and neighbors. During this time they get to build community with each other and establish friendships.

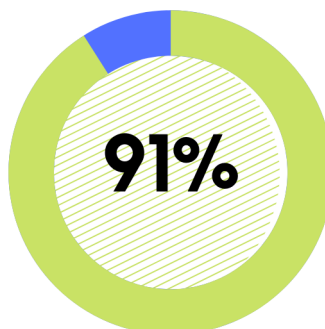
Did we mention that it is FUN? Sunday school matters! Join us this week.

According to the research project, *Nothing Less, by Lifeway...*



A child who reads their Bible regularly has **12.5%** stronger spiritual health as a young adult.

Among adults, **91%** say that Bible reading has the greatest impact on their spiritual lives than any other influence.



A disciple is someone who is following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus.



Save the date for VBS 2022!



June 12-16 | 5:00-7:30 pm



NOTES FROM STUDENT MINISTRY

JON KYLE ALLRED

DNOW 2022

CROSSINGS



**Student
Camp
@Crossings**



July 3-7

\$325 per student

**Sign up at
fbcmurray.org/students**

**Email jallred@fbcmurray.org if you
have questions!**

**FBC Youth! Join us for
DNOW at Jonathan Creek,
April 22-24. The total cost is
\$125. A deposit of \$75 is due
by March 16 to reserve your
spot. The final payment is
due April 13. Sign up at
fbcmurray.org/students!**



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

TINA MYERS

Stop by the library and look at some of our new books! We have material from Jackie Hill Perry, Lee Strobel, and Lysa TerKeurst, just to name a few. Also, don't forget to come by and get information on how to sign up to use the online e-book system. We have fiction, non-fiction, and audio books available for you to enjoy!

The author of the month for March is Dr. Paul David Tripp. Dr. Tripp is a pastor, speaker, and award-winning author. He has written more than 30 books and video series on Christian living. His passion is to connect the transforming power of Jesus Christ to everyday life. Dr. Tripp's books will be on display until March 31.

THE GUY CONFERENCE



MARCH 12, 2022 MURRAY, KY

REGISTER NOW AT GUYCONFERENCE.COM

Men, we hope you will join us for The Guy Conference on Saturday, March 12, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm here at FBC!

The cost of the conference is \$48 and you can register at the link above. If you are unable to pay the \$48 fee, enter the code "noexcuses" before you buy a ticket and it will take \$38 off. We do not want finances to be an issue!

March 19
9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Family Life Center

RENOVATED

A Wife According to God's Design

**A MARRIAGE CONFERENCE
FOR
WOMEN ONLY**

Cost: \$10
Lunch is included.
Details about childcare to follow.

Register at
fbcmurray.org/women or text
Paula Alcott at 270-293-2903



Speaker:
Susie Walther



This women's conference simulcast is focused on a wife's role in marriage benefitting both the married woman and single woman who is engaged or marriage-minded. Blending powerful teaching sessions with small group prayer and discussion, Renovated is unlike any marriage conference you've attended.

PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

“THANK YOU FOR YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND PRAYERS AS WE BEGIN THE SEARCH PROCESS. WE HAD OUR FIRST MEETING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, AND ELECTED SARAH CUNNINGHAM AS CHAIR, DAVID MCDOWELL AS VICE CHAIR, AND CATHERINE LANIER AS SECRETARY. WE PLAN TO UPDATE THE CHURCH BODY REGULARLY THROUGH THE MANNA AND PERIODIC ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PULPIT, AND WE WELCOME ANY QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM OUR MEMBERS. PLEASE CONTINUE TO LIFT US UP IN PRAYER AS WE TAKE THE FIRST STEPS IN FINDING OUR NEXT SENIOR PASTOR. BLESSINGS TO EACH OF YOU - GOD HAS AMAZING PLANS FOR FBC MURRAY!” SARAH CUNNINGHAM (CHAIR), DAVID MCDOWELL (VICE CHAIR), CATHERINE LANIER (SECRETARY), JILL ASHER, WARREN EDMINSTER, DON HERNDON, DAVID PARKER

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm for MidWeek!

Check out the studies below for adults:

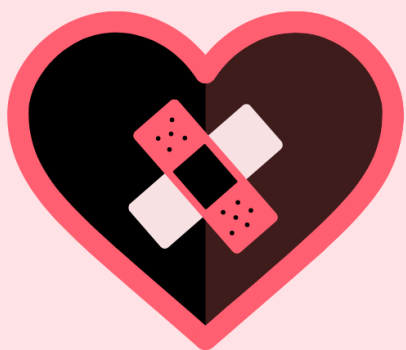
Adult women:

- *"Christian Beliefs"* by Wayne Grudem, led by Megan Downey, location room 306.
- **Shoulder-to-Shoulder Bible Reading Groups**, led by Debbie J. Bell (room 304) and Paula Alcott (room 302)
- *Loving the Lord with all your Heart, Mind, Soul, and Strength*, led by Carole Inman, location room 305.



Adult men:

- **Men's Ministry** led by Jason Ellerbrook, location 303.



Give blood. Save lives. Do it often.

BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, March 9

5:00–8:30 pm | Room AE310

Our next blood drive is planned for Wednesday, March 9, from 5:00–8:30 pm in Room 310. The procedure usually takes 30–45 minutes. You must be at least 18 years of age and weigh at least 110 lbs. A sign-up sheet is located in the Welcome Center or you may contact Debbie in the church office. Please plan to donate!

MEET THE CHURCH MEMBER

Gabby Zuckschwerdt



Hey FBC Church family!

My name is Gabby Zuckschwerdt. I am from Puryear, TN, where I live with my sweet Grammie. I am the proud daughter of Danny and Stephanie Zuckschwerdt, who are also faithful FBC members. We have been attending FBC Murray for about 4 years now, and it has been a tremendous blessing of community and fellowship. I recently graduated from Murray State University in December of 2021, where I now get to work on campus with the BCM, doing full-time college ministry. During my time at FBC, I have had the honor of serving in a variety of areas: Summer Impact Team (2020), Children's Ministry Intern (2020-2021), Custodial Staff (2020-current), College Ministry, and most recently International Ministry. It has been a joy to serve at FBC and I look forward to the many years of service to come!

During this season, I am finding true REST in the Lord, as there are a lot of moving parts and changes happening in this life. The Lord reminds me often of James 1:2-4 which says, *"Count it all JOY, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds. For you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness, and let steadfastness have its full effect, that you'll be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."* The Lord sustains. The Lord is faithful. I sure am thankful for this promise in scripture and the hope we have in Jesus, that one day we will be in perfect union with Him and the Father!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

Simeon Littlepage joined by Profession of Faith/Baptism on Sunday, February 6.
Ben, Jennifer, and Sadie Littlepage joined by Letter on Sunday, February 6.
Graig and Terry Wortham joined by Statement on Sunday, February 13.

THANK YOU NOTES

Bill Whittaker thanks FBC for the contribution made to Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in memory of his wife, Rebecca.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Members and friends of First Baptist Church have established scholarships to help students further their education. Scholarship applications for Fall 2022/Spring 2023 are available in the church office and on the church website, fbcmurray.org, under the "Contact" tab. Limited scholarship funds are available and are awarded each year to students with FBC affiliation, in particular with emphases on Christian and Music Ministry. If you have any questions or need further information, you may contact Lori Morgan at the church office: 270-753-1854 or by email: lmorgan@fbcmurray.org. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Fellowship Suppers are Wednesday evenings at 5:00 pm in the Family Life Center! Adult meals are \$5, children ages 3-12 are \$3, college students are \$1, and children 2 and under are free. Each week will include the following: vegetable side item, salad, bread, desserts, and drinks.

- **March 2:** Sloppy Joes
- **March 9:** Chicken Spaghetti
- **March 16:** Tater Tot Casserole
- **March 23:** Beef Vegetable Soup
- **March 30:** Barbecue Chicken

RADIO/TV

Our 8:30 am worship service is aired at 11:00 am on WAAJ-FM 89.7. Our services are also broadcast on Thursday at 8:00 pm on Murray Electric System's channel 15.

CHURCH INFORMATION

FINANCES (AS OF JANUARY 31, 2022)

\$ 137,815.00	Budgeted as of 01/31/2022
\$ 82,532.42	Budget Receipts as of 01/31/2022
\$ 116,258.42	Budget Expenditures as of 01/31/2022
\$ 161,702.00	WMO 2022 Goal
\$ 4,702.82	WMO Receipts as of 01/31/2022
\$3,705,708.37	Family Life Center Receipts as of 01/31/2022
\$ 89,020.19	Family Life Center Borrowed as of 01/31/2022

MEMORIALS

Financial

Contributions to the Family Life Center Building Fund have been received in memory of Cindy Ragsdale, Vicki Woods, Mike Ingersoll, Preston Foley, and Bill Adams.

A contribution to the 2022 General Budget in support of the Music Ministry has been received in memory of David Finch.

A contribution to the 2022 World Mission Offering has been received in honor of David Parker.

VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of March is John Rudolph. If you would like a ride to the traditional worship service (8:30 am), Sunday School (9:45 am) or the contemporary worship service (11:00 am), contact John at 270-752-0179.

There is a need for people to serve on FBC's bus and van ministry on Sunday mornings. The Lord has blessed us with people who need transportation to and from church services. If you can help us, please contact Boyd Smith (bsmith@fbc-murray.org) or Steve Alcott (salcott@twc.com) for more information.

ATTENDANCE

	8:30 am Service	11:00 am Service
January 30	113	257
February 6	122	227
February 13	134	236
February 20	163	255

