

MANNA

June 2022



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



NOTES FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

RUSTY ELLISON

What a day it was! Sunday, May 22, 2022. Our belated 175th Anniversary Celebration!

If you were present Sunday, May 22, I hope you enjoyed the service as much as I did! I know it was longer than we are used to, but it's so hard to make 175 years fit into 75 minutes! I realize that there is so much more that we could have said. Please forgive me for my oversights as I wrote the narrative. In "normal" times (what is "normal" anymore?) we would have had five months to work on several services of celebration. But instead of five months we had five weeks or so.

I want to thank all those who helped make this happen. It was great to see and hear our beloved Dr. Bill Whittaker from the pulpit. I thank all the former pastors (and the transitional pastor Henry Webb) who sent letters and videos. My appreciation to my friends Todd Gray, Executive Director of the KBC, and Paul Chitwood, president of the International Mission Board. It was good to hear from William Walker as work aboard the Amor Beatriz continues in Brazil. My thanks to Jill and Ken Asher for traveling to Frankfort to accept the award from the Governor.

Thanks also to your staff who worked so hard to make this happen in a short amount of time. Megan Downey put the screen presentation, senior adult video, and "retro" bulletin together. She put up with my multiple changes and revisions (9, seriously!). Mike, JK, our accompanists and our choir...the music was fabulous. I will continue to encourage this church to show appreciation for the strong choral heritage that still prevails at FBC. Thanks to our tech team that met me early Sunday morning to go over the entire service. Belinda and all who served, you are the best! Rachel, thanks for the work on missions giving, which we will recognize this coming Sunday. Eden Cunningham, thanks for the photography. And to my dear friend and your beloved pastor, Keith: it was great to be "up there" with you.

I know I have left some off, but finally my gratitude to Boyd and Jason...you guys help make this season of my ministry so incredibly enjoyable. Without both of you and without the entire staff pulling together, you just cannot get a service like this done. I love working with all of you!

Church, this Sunday, May 29, we will observe the Lord's Supper and we will pick up where we left off last Sunday. I was cutting elements in the Celebration service near the end since I realized we were running long. We'll also lay the groundwork for *Experiencing God*, a church-wide study that will take us through our summer. Even if you did *Experiencing God* years ago, let me encourage you to get a book and do it again.

I love you all, I am thankful to be with you. I remain excited about what God will do in the coming years through this great church! I hope you share my feelings! Pray for our search team as their work continues!

I look forward to seeing you this weekend with a Bible in your hand (or on your phone!) and the love of Christ in your heart. Come Sunday with a grand sense, expecting an encounter with God!

Blessings,
Rusty

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

JASON ELLERBROOK



Church Family,

The Personnel Committee and Budget, Finance, and Stewardship Committee unanimously approved a plan to contract with Michael Higdon for the next 11 weeks to assist with the planning and implementation of our combined summer worship services. Michael will also help us evaluate our technical needs for the future to improve our live services and online experiences. The church body affirmed this plan by voting to move forward with it during the May 22 church business meeting.

Michael Higdon has an extensive amount of experience with audio production and has served as the lead Worship Pastor for Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg, KY and Fellowship Church in Dallas, TX. While at Fellowship Church, Michael was responsible for the production and the music at the multiple campuses running 18,000 plus in person for worship.

Last summer our services at FBC Murray rotated every other week between traditional and contemporary services. We are excited about involving our choir, accompanists, praise band, and worship leaders all together in the worship services this summer.

When you run into them on campus, please join me in welcoming Michael and Rebekah Higdon to FBC Murray! We are excited about what God is doing here at FBC. This is going to be a great summer of worshipping together and experiencing God together!

For His Glory,
Jason Ellerbrook

POOL PARTY AT THE OAKS

6:00 PM | 363 OAKS COUNTRY CLUB RD, MURRAY, KY

**JOIN US AT THE OAKS COUNTRY CLUB THIS
SUMMER FOR A POOL PARTY!**

SUMMER POOL PARTIES AT THE OAKS:

MAY 29

JUNE 5

JUNE 26

JULY 10

JULY 24

AUGUST 7





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

Hello M.A.G.I.C. Friends!

It's hard for me to believe we are about to be in June already. It was so nice to be able to have our monthly lunches and day trips after missing so many during the pandemic. We had our largest crowd in May and that's something to build on when we start back in August. The activities have already been planned and it's going to be great. Meanwhile, I want to encourage you to be involved in other areas of the church this summer. Rachel still needs help with Vacation Bible School in various areas. Please continue to pray for the Pastor Search Committee. Finding the next pastor is a tall task and they wouldn't want to do it without our prayers. I'm excited to see what the Lord has in store for First Baptist Church. Good days are ahead!

Boyd

NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY

MIKE ROSE



Hi FBC!

It's so good to be worshipping together again! I enjoy these times each year when we can combine our worship. I would like for us to use this time together to build up our worship choir. I'm sure there are many of you who have participated in choir before, and I would love to have you join us this summer as we do all we can to enhance worship at First Baptist Church. Please consider joining us as we rehearse on Sunday afternoons and as we sing at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings.

We will be singing songs throughout the summer that we have sung before and will be learning a few new ones as well. It would be so nice to have the choir loft completely full on Sunday mornings. If you have any questions regarding choir, please feel free to reach out to me and I will do my best to answer those.

Thank you so much for the ability and the opportunity to work alongside you as we minister to this great community. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Blessings,
Mike



Save the date for VBS 2022!

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

Links for registration and volunteering
for Vacation Bible School can be found
at fbcmurray.org/events!

Sign up today!



NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY

RACHEL RIQUELME



Summer is here! And VBS is here!

Sign ups to volunteer and registration for your kids, grandkids, neighbors, and friends can be found at fbcmurray.org/kids. Contact Rachel at 606-224-3160 or rriquelme@fbcmurray.org with any questions.

This year for VBS there will be a hospitality room for volunteers. We need your help with providing food for our volunteers. Please let Jonathan and Erin Clark (jonathanclark00@gmail.com) know how you would like to help.

Bring your friends and neighbors to the Oaks Country Club on May 29, June 5, and June 26 at 6:00 pm!

Important VBS Dates:

*VBS Work Week: Decorate and prep | June 6-9 10:00 am-3:00 pm

*VBS | June 12-16 5:00-7:30 pm (clean up and tear down at 7:30 pm on the 15th)

*VBS Family Night | June 16, at 5:00 pm (clean up at 6:30 pm)

Our Princess Tea and Brave Knight Parties are happening Tuesday, June 21, in the church library for the princesses and the FLC for the knights. They are both from 10:00 am - 11:30 am. Kids can dress up if they would like.

Join us at Holiday World Thursday, June 23! Kids must have a grown up with them; families are welcome to drive themselves or ride the church bus!



NOTES FROM STUDENT MINISTRY

JON KYLE ALLRED

Student Camp @Crossings

JULY 3-7 | \$325 PER STUDENT

How do we live with wisdom and remain faithful to God when we live in a culture that is hostile to God and his ways? We will look at how the prophet Daniel navigated the courts of the rebellious nation Babylon.

Remind 101 Texts



Text @fbcmky
to 81010 to stay
connected and
up to date on
all youth
ministry things!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

TINA MYERS

We now have comic book style graphic novels about Bible heroes. Kids, come by and find one that interests you! Also, stop by the library beginning Sunday, May 29, and pick up a summer reading bingo card. Receive candy each time you "bingo" by reading books. If you cover the whole card, you will be registered to win a graphic novel at the end of the summer!

The Princess Tea Party will take place in the library on Tuesday, June 21, from 10:00 am – 11:30 am. At the same time, the Brave Knight Party will be going on at the FLC. Sign up at fbcmurray.org/events. We will be having story time in the library each Thursday in July. Information regarding the time for each age group is available on the church's summer activity schedule.

Dr. Henry Blackaby's books will continue to be on display throughout June, since we will be beginning the *Experiencing God* study as a church.

Princess Tea Party

JUNE 21 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM | CHURCH LIBRARY

JOIN US FOR A FANCY TEA PARTY, SNACKS, AND A STORY.
YOUR PRINCESS IS SURE TO HAVE A BALL.



THE BRAVE KNIGHT PARTY

Snacks, stories, and a Nerf War!

June 21

10:00 - 11:30 AM

Family Life Center



July 11-15
9:00 am-1:00 pm
Family Life
Center

\$10 per child,
\$20 max per
family

Gaga ball,
9 square
in the air,
dodgeball,
and more!

Sign up at
fbcmurray.org/events

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastor Search Committee will be hosting two church-wide listening sessions this summer. Church members are invited to come to these sessions and engage with the Committee. There will be a list of questions that the Pastor Search Committee will be asking at the sessions (questions are the same for both sessions). The sessions will be on Wednesday, June 8, and Wednesday, June 22, at 5:00 pm in the FLC worship center.

June Prayer Guide

A Prayer Guide for the Pastor Search Committee, the process, and the people of FBC

June 1

Psalms 115:9-11 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee will trust in the Lord for wisdom, guidance, and protection during this journey in search of God's chosen pastor. Pray for the staff of FBC to trust in the Lord as He gives them strength and grace during this time of waiting. Pray for the whole of the church to fear the Lord, revering Him as One who is holy and righteous, trusting and relying upon Him to be our present Help and our Shield.

June 2

Psalms 90:13 | Pray against any spirit of discouragement that might come upon the Pastor Search Committee and that any delays in this search will be used by God for a greater purpose than we can imagine.

June 3

Proverbs 27:17 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee will form relationships with one another that will allow them to challenge each other and sharpen their thinking to make the right decisions throughout this process.

June 4

Psalms 122:1-3 | As the church moves through this period in transition, pray we will gather in the house of the Lord, being solidly united in Christ. Pray that our worship would be a time when God and man mingle together.

June 5

John 15:11 | Pray the words appointed through Rusty Ellison will bring joy that will fill our hearts with overflowing gladness, preparing us for the one who will come as pastor.

June 6

Psalms 17:5 | Pray for the coming pastor to stay on God's path for his life and not waver from following the Lord as He leads.

June 7

John 1:16 | Pray for the Pastor Search Committee to receive one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, even favor upon favor and gift heaped upon gift as they freely give of themselves and their time to seek the Lord in this journey.

June 8

Psalms 32:8 | Pray that the Holy Spirit will instruct the Pastor Search Committee and show them the way to go throughout this search.

A Prayer Guide for the Pastor Search Committee, the process, and the people of FBC

June 9

Psalm 18:1-3 | Pray that the pastor who will come to FBC will trust in the Lord as his strength, his rock, and his fortress. May God be his shield and place of safety.

June 10

Psalm 115:12-14 | May we remember as the Body of Christ that the Lord is mindful of us as we look to Him to be our Source of blessing for those who reverently and worshipfully fear Him.

June 11

Romans 8:26-27 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee, the church staff, and the people will not be discouraged in the wait, realizing God's Spirit is walking alongside us and helping us to move forward. May we trust that when we do not know how to pray, we can be assured the Spirit is praying in and for us, for He knows far better than we know how to pray.

June 12

Psalm 21:6-7 | Pray that God will give the new pastor and his family unimagined blessings that will cheer them with joy in God's presence. May they rely upon the Lord through faithful love of the Most High and not be shaken as the Lord leads them to this place of service.

June 13

James 4:8 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee will continue to draw near to the Father as He draws near to them and reveals His mind to them.

June 14

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 | Pray that the church will recognize the church staff with honor and deep appreciation as they labor among us and lead us during this season of transition. May they be highly regarded in love because of their work.

June 15

1 Thessalonians 5:14 | Pray that we as the church body will fulfill our spiritual obligations to one another to instruct and exhort those who have wandered from the truth, to encourage those who feel inadequate, to be faithful to stand our ground, and to be quick to demonstrate patience with everyone.

June 16

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 | Pray for the Pastor Search Committee to rejoice always, to pray constantly, and to give thanks in everything, knowing this is God's will for them in Christ Jesus.

A Prayer Guide for the Pastor Search Committee, the process, and the people of FBC

June 17

Colossians 1:28 | Pray for Rusty Ellison as he preaches...may he proclaim, warn, and teach with all wisdom that will grow the people to maturity in Christ Jesus.

June 18

Romans 8:28 | Pray that the coming pastor and his family will be confident in knowing that the Lord will work through all the details in their lives and their transition, working all things for their greatest good and His highest purposes.

June 19

1 John 4:1 | Pray the Pastor Search Committee will have discerning minds as they review and analyze the resumes and references of applicants.

June 20

Psalms 91:1 | Pray for the Pastor Search Committee to be under the protection of the Most High, dwelling in the shadow of the Almighty.

June 21

Matthew 16:17 | Pray that the Lord will anoint Rusty Ellison with revelation knowledge that he may communicate truth to the congregation.

June 22

Isaiah 6:1-6 | Pray for those who plan and lead our worship services that the people will be stirred to recognize God is the "audience" to whom we must offer our praise with worship that exalts the Lord above all and demonstrates reverential awe of the Triune God through music, prayer, giving, and proclamation of the Word.

June 23

Ephesians 6:11-12 | Pray for the church staff and the Pastor Search Committee to have discernment in standing against any scheme of the enemy that would be raised against them and their families. May the Lord show them how to pray against all the powers of this dark world and the spiritual forces of darkness in the heavenly realms. May the Lord's protection cover them.

June 24

Mark 1:35 | Pray that nothing will hinder the members of the Pastor Search Committee from sitting before the Lord each day to learn of His ways and to follow His lead.

June 25

Psalms 117:2 | Thank the Lord for His mercy and loving-kindness that He is pouring out upon First Baptist Church as He continues to reveal truth and demonstrates His faithfulness to us.

A Prayer Guide for the Pastor Search Committee, the process, and the people of FBC

June 27

1 Peter 3:12 | Pray that the eyes of the Lord would be upon the Pastor Search Committee and His ears open to their prayers.

June 28

Psalms 18:22 | Pray that the coming pastor will be one who follows God's commands and will not sin by ceasing to follow Christ, no matter what.

June 29

Leviticus 20:7 | Pray that we as individual members of the Body of Christ would dedicate ourselves unto the Lord and be holy because He is holy.

June 30

Ephesians 1:18-19 | Pray that the eyes of the Pastor Search Committee will be enlightened to know the hope to which they have been called and the incomparably great power which is within them as they believe.

MEET THE CHURCH MEMBER Sarah Cunningham



Our family loves a good laugh, a good book, and a good swim! Ryan grew up attending FBC. After being involved at other churches early in our marriage, Ryan and I returned to FBC in December of 2007.

I have participated in children's, women's, and international ministries (really, any ministry that can benefit from me jumping around) and am currently on the Pastor Search Committee. Asher (19) serves on the media team. Eden (17) has sung in the choir. Both she and Naomi (14) have served in children's ministry.

This week I am struck by Solomon's blessing over Israel in 1 Kings 8:56-61 and am praying it over FBC:

"...may the Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers; may He not leave us nor forsake us, so that He may guide our hearts toward Himself... so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no one else. Your hearts therefore shall be wholly devoted to the Lord our God..."

- Sarah Cunningham

MEET THE SUMMER IMPACT TEAM!

These college students are Interns at FBC this Summer! They will be working closely with the Kids1st and student ministry. You will want to get to know them!



Jonah Morgan



Aubrey Taylor



Blaire Gordon



Jacob Hudgin



Abbey Burns



Chaney Warren



This month's items are pop tarts and peanut butter! Items can be dropped off in the basket by the banner in the Welcome Center. Sunday School classes and families are invited to sign up to adopt the Blessing Box in Riviera Courts for a week at a time. Sign up at fbcmurray.org!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO/TV

Our 10:00 am worship service is aired at 10:00 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 APRIL 30, 2022)

\$ 468,571.00	Budgeted as of 04/30/2022
\$ 448,009.61	Budget Receipts as of 04/30/2022
\$ 475,920.21	Budget Expenditures as of 04/30/2022
\$ 161,702.00	WMO 2022 Goal
\$ 27,271.24	WMO Receipts as of 04/30/2022

MEMORIALS

Library

The book, *Hope in Times of Fear*, by Timothy Keller has been given to the FBC Library in memory of Bess Kerlick.

Financial

Contributions to the 2022 Budget in support of the International Student Ministry have been received in memory of Bess Kerlick.

Contributions to the Building Fund have been received in memory of Joe Rowland and Edna McKinney.

Contributions to the 2022 World Mission Offering have been received in memory of Bess Kerlick.

VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of June is John Rudolph. If you would like a ride to Sunday School (8:45 am) or the worship service (10:00 am), contact John at 270-752-0179.

ATTENDANCE

	8:30 am Service	11:00 am Service
May 1	147	250
May 8	146	276
	10:00 am Service	
May 15	357	
May 22	378	



**FIRST
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203 S. 4th St., Murray, KY 42071 | fbcmurray.org | 270-753-1854