

MANNA

MAY 2022



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



NOTES FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

RUSTY ELLISON

As your newly arrived Transitional Pastor, I am very thankful that God has arranged the circumstances in which Pam and I can come and be with you all for this season of transition in which the search is underway for the man God has to come and serve this church. We are truly blessed with this opportunity! Easter was wonderful with a great, enthusiastic crowd present!

If you were here on Easter, you saw and heard the emotions I felt as I stepped into the pulpit. It was the most overwhelming and humbling feeling I have ever had in a pulpit. The memories of so many years ago when I was a young child in your church were so vivid. Remembering not so much Dr. Chiles sermons but rather the atmosphere of worship 65 years ago! Remembering the sense of safety that came as our family went to church every Sunday morning and Sunday night, but not Wednesday, since my granddaddy was a farmer who worked until dark much of the year.

As we get to know each other, don't give me a test on names! My memory of newly met names and faces is flawed at this stage in life! It'll take time for Pam and I to put names and faces together in the weeks ahead.

Let me urge you to pray for your Pastor Search Committee daily. This team is outstanding and as I write this column, I've only been to one meeting. But this I know from my experience both as a pastor and a transitional pastor, the process of a pastoral search MUST be bathed in prayer, for a search committee today faces many challenges in this complex ministry world. So, will you commit to pray each day for your team? Just to refresh your memory, your search team is as follows:

Sarah Cunningham
David McDowell
Catherine Lanier
Don Herndon
Jill Asher
David Parker
Warren Edminister

I also ask you to be patient with me. While both Pam and I feel a clear call of God to be here with you all, it's a huge load juggling my responsibilities with Crossings with the travel and preparation to serve you all, and our arrangement is part-time, not full-time. I know you will want my presence at meetings and events, but that just will not be possible. Our plans at the moment are to travel down on Saturday afternoons, to be there for services Sunday and meetings as appropriate. I'll be around the church to be present and work with staff on Mondays. Then Monday afternoons we will head back to Louisville. Only as a result of God's call and His strength can I find the energy to work like this. However, know that I am blessed beyond comprehension that, at the soon to be age of 73, I still get to do what I love to do...serve the local church and the camps.

More to come as we get to know one another. I hope to see you Sunday with a Bible in your hand and the love of Christ in your heart!

Blessings,
Rusty



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



BEGINNING SUNDAY, MAY 15, WE WILL TRANSITION TO ONE WORSHIP SERVICE FOR THE SUMMER. THIS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH AUGUST 7.

SUNDAY SCHOOL | 8:45 AM

WORSHIP | 10:00 AM



NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

JASON ELLERBROOK



Church Families,

I hope you take some time to look at the “FBC Murray Happenings” for May through August. Our prayer is that every event on the church calendar is placed there with purpose - to lead people to a life-changing and growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Take note of a few events coming up in May...

Friday - Sunday, May 13-15, is opening weekend for *Family Camp* (the movie). Leigh-Allyn Baker (a graduate of Murray High School) stars as the lead actress. This is a faith-based Christian Comedy for the entire family from Provident Films and KLOVE. This film is a SKIT GUYS movie starring Eddie James and Tommy Woodard (The Skit Guys). We are challenging the church to blitz the theater by picking a showtime on opening weekend and going as individuals, with friends or family members, or even as a Sunday School class. If you go to see the film on opening weekend in Murray, you will run into a theater full of FBC Murray members! That is our goal. Let's support our local theater and these films!

Sunday, May 15, we move to one service through the summer. **Sunday School will begin at 8:45 am and worship at 10:00 am.** This schedule will allow us to worship as one church. It will also allow us to have the weekly hour of fellowship and Bible Study we need with our Sunday School classes on Sunday morning.

Sunday, May 22, is the 175th Anniversary Celebration of FBC Murray. The worship service on May 22 will be specially crafted to celebrate the past and look toward the future. What a rich heritage and responsibility we have at FBC Murray to carry that heritage forward as we do our part to advance the Kingdom as the body of Christ. There will be a lunch in the Family Life Center immediately following the service.

The “FBC Murray Happenings” will give you a few of many ways to plug into the ministry of the church. Vacation Bible School, Mega Rec Camp, the church-wide pool parties, student and kids camps are great ways to grow in our relationships with each other and with Jesus. They can also be great ways to serve. Take advantage of the summer to get together with your small group or Sunday School class as well. You could do a fellowship one month and a service project the next.

Remember that life-change takes place best in the context of relationship! Excited about what God is doing in the life of our church!
Jason



| **Sunday, May 22** |

**Lunch in the Family Life
Center immediately following
the 10:00 am service.**

**Please RSVP at
fbcmurray.org/events!**

FBC Murray Happenings

Check out our Summer Calendar for 2022. **Kids1st events will be GREEN, Youth events will be RED, Senior Adult events will be WHITE, and church events will be BLACK.**

Combined Worship Services on Sundays will begin on May 15 at 10:00 am. Sunday School will be at 8:45 AM.

May 8: Baby Dedication

May 9: Pickleball | 9:00 am (senior adults) and 6:00 pm (adults)**

May 13-15: *Family Camp* Movie Blitz Opening Weekend at Cheri Theater

May 15: High School Senior Day and Banquet

May 16: M.A.G.I.C. Dinner | 6:00 pm

May 18: Family Game Night in the FLC | 6:00 pm

May 22: 175th Celebration of FBC Murray | lunch in FLC at 11:00 am

May 29: Pool Party at the Oaks Country Club | 6:00 pm

June 5: Pool Party at the Oaks Country Club | 6:00 pm

June 6-9: VBS Workweek | information can be found at fbcmurray.org/events

June 8: VBS Canvassing and Outreach | 6:00 pm, meet at FLC

June 12-16: VBS | 5:00-7:30 pm, sign up at fbcmurray.org/events

June 21: **Princess Tea Party (Library) and Brave Knight Party (FLC) | 10:00-11:30 am, sign up at fbcmurray.org/events**

June 22: Mega Rec Camp Canvassing and Outreach | 6:00 pm, meet at FLC

June 23: Holiday World Trip

June 26: Pool Party at the Oaks Country Club | 6:00 pm

July 3-7: Student Camp at Crossings

July 7: Story Time in the Library | 9:00 am story and craft (age 2-preK with parent), 10:00 am story and craft (K-2nd grade), and 11:00 am reading club (grades 3-5)**

July 10: Pool Party at the Oaks Country Club | 6:00 pm

July 11-15: Mega Rec Camp | 8:00 am-12:00 pm in the FLC, sign up at fbcmurray.org/events

July 17-20: Kids Camp at Crossings

July 24: Pool Party at the Oaks Country Club | 6:00 pm

August 7: End of Summer Bash | lunch in FLC at 11:00 am

August 7: Pool Party at the Oaks Country Club | 6:00 pm

August 14: 8:30 am worship, 9:45 am Sunday School, 11:00 am worship

**repeats weekly unless there is a conflicting event

Updated event information will be made available via fbcmurray.org, the bulletin, the Manna, FBC Facebook, Instagram, and Thursday Updates throughout the Summer.



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

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

I am so excited to have Rusty Ellison leading us as our Transitional Pastor! First Baptist Church is in good hands (as long as we do what our heavenly Father tells us to do). The staff is working hard on planning activities/ministries that will bring the church family together. On Sunday, May 22, we will be celebrating the 175th anniversary of First Baptist Church. There have been so many godly people who have helped shape First Baptist Church throughout the years.

You may recall that we had planned our last M.A.G.I.C. gathering for Monday, May 23. However, due to celebrating the 175th anniversary on May 22, we have moved the M.A.G.I.C. dinner to Monday, May 16. Therefore, please call the church office by Sunday, May 11 and let us know if you will be attending.

NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY

MIKE ROSE



Wow! What a wonderful time of worship we had on Easter Sunday! It was so good to work with the praise team as we were able to work together to glorify Christ! I am hoping we will be able to do a little more of this over the summer months as well. Thank you praise team, Jon Kyle, choir, Joyce, and Eleanor for working so hard. To everyone who served on the tech team, thank you for all you did and do for us each week.

We are just a few weeks out from scheduling single services on Sunday morning. This is an excellent time for you to join us as we lead others in worship. There is a space for you in our worship choir, and we would love to add you. We rehearse one time each week, currently at 4:30 pm on Sunday afternoons. Why not consider joining us for the summer?! God has blessed us with many talented folks and I know there are others who could use their talents to serve Him! Please pray about what your part would be this summer.

This fall, we will begin working on Christmas music. More about this at a later date! Thank you so much for your encouragement and support. It is always a pleasure to serve Christ here at FBC!

Blessings,
Mike

**FAMILY
GAME
NIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 18
6:00 PM
FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

**Gaga Ball
9 Square in the Air
4 Square**



**COME KICK OFF
SUMMER WITH**

NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY

RACHEL RIQUELME



Have you used the Parent Hub yet? The Parent Hub is across from the Library and it has specially curated books for you for each stage and phase of your child's life and each stage of parenthood. All of the new spring information is there too! Stop by and check out a book!

Our hero of the faith this month is Corrie Ten Boom! In Kids1st worship kids will be able to learn more about Corrie Ten Boom and the way she faithfully dedicated her life to the Lord!

Registration for VBS is open! Sign your child up at fbcmurray.org/events.

There is a need for VBS volunteers! We need Bible teachers, assistants, registration table volunteers, and more! Please sign up to volunteer at fbcmurray.org/events.

Final Crossings payments are due the first week of June. You can pay in the office or at fbcmurray.org/kids.

Spring is here and Summer is just around the corner. Check out our Kids1st Happenings in May!

Sunday, May 8th: Do you have an infant or toddler and would like to participate and commit to raising your child up in the Lord? Email Rachel at rriquelme@fbcmurray.org to get signed up.

Wednesday, May 18: Family Game Night at the FLC at 6:00 pm. Parents and kids join us for fun family games as we end this semester's Midweek and look forward to summer!



**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!



**MEGA-REC
CAMP**
FIRST BAPTIST MURRAY

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

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

July 11-15
8:00 am-12:00 pm
Family Life Center

Sign up at
fbcmurray.org/events!

NOTES FROM MOTHER'S DAY OUT

LAUREN DUNLAP



Hello FBC Family,

We are about to finish up our year at MDO. This year, and especially this semester, has felt like a "normal" year for the first time since COVID. We have had a total of 83 children enrolled this school year (August to May). On May 10th, we will graduate 25 preschoolers to kindergarten. These children are ready to go and do BIG things in our local schools.

In March, we held our first ever "Art Sale." Under the direction of Ms. Erin Clark, the children created two pieces of art that were sold to family members and MDO Staff. We raised over \$1400 for First Loves Murray! We pray that the money from the Art Sale will bless those families and children in August as they purchase school supplies and clothing.

We love FBC Murray and are so thankful to be a part of this church. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

Lauren



NOTES FROM STUDENT MINISTRY

JON KYLE ALLRED

We will be having our annual High School Senior Recognition Sunday service on May 15. High School Seniors will be recognized and then a banquet will immediately follow in the FLC for them and their families.



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!





NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

TINA MYERS

Summer is just around the corner, and we have some fun activities planned for the kids! Keep an eye out for more information about the Princess Tea Party for girls, Brave Knights party for boys, and Story Time/Reading Club.

Would you like to volunteer in the library or sign up to be a substitute? We want to add some new members to our team! Call 270-753-1282 or stop by the library to sign up.

Our author of the month for May is Dr. Henry Blackaby. He is the president of Blackaby Ministries and has written more than a dozen books, including the best-selling *Experiencing God* Bible studies. Dr. Blackaby's books will be on display until May 31.

THANK YOU NOTE FROM KEITH AND CAROLE INMAN

THANK YOU

Dear First Baptist Friends,

Thank you so much for your many kind words and expressions of love this past March 27. The times we had together these almost 10 years were a tremendous blessing. I am grateful for our friendship and look forward to the years we have yet to experience together.

I must say I was disappointed with the way the reception ended. As we were sitting there listening to each person speak, I was in the introductory stage of a stomach virus! I honestly did not think I was going to make it to the end! This was especially frustrating because I was not able to personally and properly speak with so many of my friends who made the effort to be at this special occasion. Yes, I disappeared and there was a very good reason to do so! This very unpleasant experience with my digestive track continued until Tuesday evening. While I needed to lose a few pounds, I do not recommend doing so in this particular manner!

There is so much to say and so many memories. I pray that you will continue to love one another and serve diligently for the cause of Christ.

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart."

Phil. 1:3-7a

With much love,
Keith and Carole Inman

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

MAY PRAYER GUIDE

May Prayer Guide

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

May 1

Psalms 100:4-5 | Pray the whole of the people will enter into this season of intercession and supplication with thanksgiving and praise declaring the Lord is good and His unfailing love continues forever.

May 2

Psalms 32:8 | Pray for the Spirit to instruct the Pastor Search Committee through Scripture as they proceed in this journey, providing godly counsel at each point of need.

May 3

John 16:13 | Pray the Spirit of truth will guide the Pastor Search Committee into all truth, speaking with authority and clarity as they examine each resume and follow each lead.

May 4

Psalms 25:4-5 | Pray the Lord will show the Pastor Search Committee the right paths to follow and lead them by His truth, teaching them from His Word.

May 5

Matthew 7:7 | Pray the church will continue to stand with the Pastor Search Committee and the staff in prayer, asking, seeking, and reverently knocking for the Lord to open the doors only He can open.

May 6

Ephesians 3:20 | Pray the whole of the church family will wait upon the Lord who is able to do exceedingly above and beyond all that we could ask, think, or imagine according to the working of His power in the Pastor Search Committee, the staff, the pastor to come, and in the people.

May 7

Proverbs 3:5-6 | Pray the Pastor Search Committee will have a yieldedness to trust in the Lord with all their hearts and minds and not rely on their own insight or understanding. May they in all their endeavors know and recognize God is their source, allowing Him to direct them each step of the journey.

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

May 8

Proverbs 16:9 | Pray that each member of the Pastor Search Committee will allow the Lord to determine the steps before us and will not run ahead of Him.

May 9

Matthew 6:33 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee would seek God's kingdom agenda and His righteousness above all things, trusting that He will provide all other things that are needed.

May 10

Galatians 5:22-23 | Pray for the Holy Spirit to produce in the lives of the people of FBC the spiritual fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

May 11

Colossians 2:6-7 | Pray for the people of FBC to continue to walk faithfully with the Lord in our conduct. May we keep our roots firmly and deeply planted in Christ as we allow His Spirit to build us up in the faith.

May 12

James 1:5 | As the staff continues to minister to the needs of the people, pray that where they may lack wisdom, they will ask God in full confidence that He will give generously and ungrudgingly to meet the need.

May 13

Titus 3:6 | Pray that the Holy Spirit would be poured out abundantly upon the Pastor Search Committee, the staff, and Rusty Ellison during this season of searching, preparing, and waiting.

May 14

Hebrews 13:6 | Pray that the incoming pastor will have a boldness and confidence in the Lord as his helper and not fear anyone but the Lord.

May 15

1 Samuel 3:10 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee would allow the Lord to speak to them individually and corporately, having listening ears.

May 16

Isaiah 58:11 | Pray that the Lord would always take the lead and strengthen the bodies, souls, and spirits of the Pastor Search Committee.

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

May 17

John 15:7 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee would remain closely connected to the Vine, holding God's Word within their spirits and asking boldly for direction and enlightenment as they proceed.

May 18

Exodus 15:13 | Pray God's faithful love will lead the people of FBC and guide us with His strength.

May 19

Romans 12:2 | Pray for spiritual leadership now and in the coming days that will direct us as a church in holding God's standard of holiness and not copying the behavior and thinking of those who are following the ways of the world. May God refine us as a people who will never compromise.

May 20

1 Corinthians 2:12 | Pray for the Pastor Search Committee to receive the leadership of God's Spirit throughout this process.

May 21

1 Corinthians 2:16 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee would be covered with the mind of Christ.

May 22

Philippians 4:6 | Pray that the Pastor Search Committee will not be haunted by worry but will turn every concern into prayer, asking the Lord for whatever they need and thanking Him for all He has done and will do.

May 23

1 Timothy 1:7 | Pray that the staff will move forward in a spirit of power, love and sound judgment.

May 24

Proverbs 28:13 | Pray that each of us as members of the body of Christ will genuinely examine our lives and confess any sin that stands between us and the Lord so we will receive mercy.

May 25

Matthew 5:13-14 | Pray for the people of FBC to become salt in our community that does not lose its effectiveness and to be the light of Christ to penetrate and spread throughout our community and beyond.

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

May 26

Galatians 5:16 | Pray that the incoming pastor would be a man who lives by the Spirit, being controlled and guided by the Spirit so that he will not be tempted to succumb to the desires of human nature apart from God.

May 27

Matthew 5:1-2 | Pray that the church will continue to gather around Rusty Ellison to receive the teaching and direction we need during this time.

May 28

Ezekiel 22:30 | Pray for the Lord to raise up intercessors who will stand strong during this time for the Pastor Search Committee, the staff, Rusty Ellison, and the pastor who will come to serve.

May 29

Isaiah 6:8 | Pray that the man God has chosen for FBC will hear His voice and be so yielded to God's call on his life that he will respond without doubt.

May 30

Jeremiah 33:3 | Pray for the Lord to reveal to the Pastor Search Committee great and incomprehensible things they do not yet know.

May 31

Galatians 6:9 | Pray against a spirit of weariness that could come upon the Pastor Search Committee and that they will be confident that at just the right time, the Lord will give them the reward for their work.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MURRAY, KENTUCKY

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

MEET THE CHURCH MEMBER

Jackie Harrison



Dan and I have been married for 58 years and have been blessed with three adult sons—Todd, Rick, and Brian—and four grandchildren. We joined FBC around 1974 and did so because of the outstanding children's activities and programs.

Throughout our years at FBC, we have served in many capacities: Dan on the Budget & Finance Committee, as Sunday School Superintendent, and as the long-standing teacher of an adult men's Sunday School Class and I have served in various capacities as the Church Clerk, Vacation Bible School, and as a team member serving Sunday lunches to the university students.

I got involved with Disaster Relief when FBC served Christmas dinner to the tornado survivors sheltering at KenLake Resort on Christmas Day. I met and got to know a single, senior adult male who had lost his home and all of his belongings during the December 10 tornado in Mayfield, KY. He was having difficulty navigating the myriad of forms of FEMA and Red Cross as well as trying to complete various housing applications. Through my continued interactions with him, the "word" spread that there was someone willing to listen and try to help them. Since FBC had received many private donations "earmarked for tornado relief," I was asked to help identify specific needs that could be met with these funds—rent, bedding, gas cards, etc. Along with Leslie Ellerbrook, we also helped with the many re-location moves they faced: some from KenLake Lodge to KenLake cabins, back to Mayfield motel rooms, and ultimately to state-provided mobile homes.

We also helped others move into rental housing and senior living facilities.

One of the many Bible verses that led me through this effort is James 2:18, *"Someone might claim 'you have faith and I have action'. But how can I see your faith apart from your action? Instead, I'll show you my faith by putting it into faithful action."*

Our drop-off for the Blessing Box has moved!

This month's items are canned chicken and tuna! Items can be dropped off in the basket by the banner. Sunday school classes and families are invited to sign up to adopt the Blessing Box in Riviera Courts. Sign up at fbcmurray.org!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tyler Mitchell joined by Profession of Faith/Baptism on Sunday, March 27.
David Murphy joined by Baptism on Sunday, March 27.

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.

- **May 4:** Soup and Sandwiches
- **May 11:** Beef Stroganoff
- **May 18:** Baked Ham

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 MARCH 31, 2022)

\$ 358,319.00	Budgeted as of 03/31/2022
\$ 279,126.16	Budget Receipts as of 03/31/2022
\$ 333,597.25	Budget Expenditures as of 03/31/2022
\$ 161,702.00	WMO 2022 Goal
\$ 23,119.67	WMO Receipts as of 03/31/2022
\$3,810,079.06	Family Life Center Receipts as of 03/31/2022
\$ 0.00	Family Life Center Borrowed as of 03/31/2022

MEMORIALS

Library

The book, *Praying the Bible*, by Donald S. Whitney has been given to the FBC Library in memory of Eugene Waggoner.

Financial

Contributions to the Building Fund have been received in honor of Keith & Carole Inman and in memory of Glen Grogan, Vicki Woods, Joe Rowland, and Eugene Waggoner. Contributions to the Brazil Mission Trip Fund have been received in memory of Joe Tipton “Tip” Miller. Contributions to the 2022 Budget in support of the International Student Ministry have been received in memory of Bess Kerlick.

VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of May is David Barrett. 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 David at 731-363-5737. Beginning Sunday, May 15, Sunday School will begin at 8:45 am and worship will begin at 10:00 am.

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@fbcmurray.org) or Steve Alcott (salcott@twc.com) for more information.

ATTENDANCE

	8:30 am Service	11:00 am Service
March 27	132	305
April 3	129	169
April 10	180	242
April 17	218	483
April 24	146	234

