

# WANNNA

November 2022



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



# NOTES FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

WILL MCKAY

*"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." (Ps. 9:1, ESV).*

Changing leaves and cooler temperatures are upon us, marking our full entrance into autumn. This is my favorite time of year, and the last two weeks in Murray have provided a perfect setting for one of the prettiest Octobers I can remember. I'm tempted to write a poem here about bright yellows and burning reds, slow drives and long walks, etc. . . . and I'm not even a poet. Fall does that to me—wakes me up to beauty, encourages deep breathing and healthy reflection, reminds me of grace and gratitude.

As our calendars draw closer to Thanksgiving and Christmas, I want to encourage you to take time to reflect often upon the Lord's many graces in your life. David seems to do the same throughout the Psalms, inviting us to start at the beginning and line out God's seen and unseen mercies toward us. "Recount;" tell the stories. Share, even if only with the trees or for the hundredth time. Remembering God's work in and around us reminds us of our own limitations, exalts His Name, strengthens gratitude, and encourages greater trust.

I'm grateful—as I'm certain you are as well—for some really big, obvious things. . . life, family, health, provision, and salvation. That list is long and distinguished. But my goodness. . . I've been bowled over as well by fresh bread from a friend, a surprise visit, rich conversation, hot meals, bad coffee (and good coffee), shared laughter, gift cards (!), and more. Reciting "all" of God's wonderful works eliminates the need to classify blessings according to size or significance. . . we enjoy all as glad recipients of a generous Father.

Please spend some time taking inventory of all God's "wonderful deeds" this season. Reflect, pray, and share them with others. Do it with all of them. . . big and small, clear and unseen, pleasurable and difficult. You never know. . . the Lord might have a purpose beyond your experience of that special mercy—He might want to use your story of His faithfulness to draw others to Himself; to restore hope to someone broken; or to encourage perseverance in a friend.

You are one of the Lord's most recent, vivid, and gracious blessings to me. I love you, even more than pretty leaves.

Yours in the Lord—

Pastor Will

# NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

## JASON ELLERBROOK



Church Family,

Sunday School and discipleship group opportunities are a significant part of being a part of the body of Christ. We look forward to what God has in store for FBC Murray as we continue to grow in this area!

God has given us a Sunday School Director with passion and experience in this area. This month, I wanted to share with you the vision that Jonathan Clark has for our groups and for making disciples.

Jason Ellerbrook  
Executive/Discipleship Pastor

Greetings Church Family! I have been serving in the role of "Sunday School Director" now for about 10.5 months. In that time, I have been able to visit each of our classes on Sunday mornings to visit, observe, and share my heart for what I would LOVE to see take place in our Small Group Ministry both on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings at MidWeek, and beyond. I am honored to share that with YOU and encourage you to consider getting plugged into a small group as I am a firm believer that life-change happens best in the context of relationships.

1. **Content:** I would love to see every one of our classes centered around Scripture and doctrinal truths that line up with who we are and what we believe. I believe that our classes are executing this.
2. **Community:** I would love to see our classes create time and space to cultivate deep and significant relationships as a small group. Life-on-life INSIDE the small group context and OUTSIDE that context.
3. **Accountability:** I would love to see our classes holding one another to presence in class, spiritual disciplines, sin, and holiness. This happens more as community happens more.
4. **Care:** I would love to see our classes exercising shepherding-care to one another as individuals in each class walk through various seasons in life, circumstances, transitions, etc.

I would hope that if you are in a class that you would take it to the next level with these elements. If you are NOT consistently involved in a small group, there is definitely one that would fit you and your season of life well. I would love to chat with you about how to get connected if you would like more information. Feel free to email me at [jonathanclark00@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanclark00@gmail.com).

Jonathan Clark



# SHOEBOX GIFTS DELIVERED TO 170 COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES



Grab an Operation Christmas Child shoebox from the Welcome Center to fill with your friends and family! Shoeboxes are sent all over the world and they carry presents for children, but they also bring the good news of Jesus Christ! Boxes must be dropped off at the church by Sunday, November 13.

Join us on Wednesday, November 16, at 6:00 pm in the FLC as we learn more about OCC, place handwritten letters in the boxes, and pray over them.



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

I can't begin to tell you how good it is to be back with you. The six week leave of absence did far more good than I ever thought it could do. I knew my tank was empty, but I didn't realize how empty it was. God my Father nourished me to health physically, mentally, and spiritually. I haven't felt this way in years, and I have no doubt that I can fulfill my commitment here at First Baptist Church. I want to thank every one of you who prayed for me during those six weeks. God heard your prayers.

I am so excited to have Pastor Will with us. We have exciting days ahead. I know the Student Pastor Search Committee is committed to finding who the Lord has in store for our next Student Pastor. Prayerfully, we will have a full staff again in 2023.

As we move toward Thanksgiving Day, I want you to know that I am thankful for my salvation in Christ, my family, and YOU! *"I thank my God in remembrance of you."* Philippians 1:3

Don't forget to sign up for our M.A.G.I.C. luncheon which will be on Monday, November 28. Please call the office by Wednesday, November 23, if you are planning to join us.

Gratefully,  
Boyd

## NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY MIKE ROSE



Hello First Baptist!

We have begun rehearsals on our Christmas music for 2022. If you feel you'd like to join us for these rehearsals and sing in this program with us, we will be happy to have you join us on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm. We usually begin our rehearsals with Christmas music so that those singing only in this program can be dismissed at about 6:45 pm. Come and sing with us! I hope to see you downstairs in the rehearsal room at 6:00 pm on Sunday evenings. We will be doing a similar program to the one we did last December, as we host a congregation sing-along of all your favorite Christmas carols. The date and time of the program will be announced soon!

Michael and I recently attended the Sing! Conference in Nashville, hosted by Keith and Kristyn Getty. We are incorporating several of these songs into Sunday worship services at First Baptist. I look forward to learning and teaching you many of these new and modern hymns, along with our traditional hymns and other songs. You will enjoy learning these songs which all have beautiful melodies and are rich in theology.

If you are interested in helping us lead worship, please feel free to contact either Michael or me. We still need instrumentalists and always have room for more singers. It is such a joy to be in this group and I am sure you would enjoy our fellowship!

Thank you again for the opportunity to worship with you each Sunday. It is a pleasure to serve you at First Baptist.

Blessings,  
Mike

# NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY

RACHEL RIQUELME



Our November TAWG (Time Alone With God) sheet is here! Grab one on Sunday. It begins on November 1st and takes us through the rest of the book of John!



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO  
VOLUNTEERED FOR THE  
FALL FESTIVAL.  
IT WAS A GREAT NIGHT AND  
WONDERFUL OUTREACH!



## NOVEMBER

Sundays: Sunday School, Preschool, & Kids1st Worship

### UNIT 15 INTO CAPTIVITY

NOVEMBER 6: Jonah Warned of God's Judgement (Jonah)

NOVEMBER 13: Nahum Warned of God's Judgement (Nahum)

NOVEMBER 20: God's People Were Taken Captive (2 Chronicles 36)

NOVEMBER 27: Every Person Matters (Psalm 139)

### Wednesdays: MidWeek

Preschool & Mother's Day Out

NOVEMBER 2: God's Plans for Me (Jeremiah 29:11)

NOVEMBER 9: Every Good and Perfect Gift (James 1:17; Genesis 1)

NOVEMBER 16: Operation Christmas Child Fellowship Night

NOVEMBER 23: Thanksgiving Break; NO MIDWEEK

NOVEMBER 30: No MidWeek

### Elementary

NOVEMBER 2: Israel Goes Through the Red Sea (Exodus 13:17-14:31)

NOVEMBER 9: Joshua and Caleb (Numbers 13-14)

NOVEMBER 16: Operation Christmas Child Fellowship Night

NOVEMBER 23: Thanksgiving Break

NOVEMBER 30: No Midweek



## 25 Days

TO THE BEST GIFT EVER!

DISCOVER THE MANY AMAZING GIFTS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU.

1) PICK UP A CALENDAR AT CHURCH BEGINNING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH.

2) HANG THE CALENDAR SOMEWHERE IN YOUR HOME WHERE YOU NOTICE IT DAILY.

3) STARTING DECEMBER 1ST, GATHER YOUR FAMILY AROUND THE CALENDAR AND SCRATCH OFF THE CIRCLE FOR THAT DAY.

4) HAVE EVERYONE READ ALOUD THE GIFT YOU JUST "UNWRAPPED" AND THE SCRIPTURE THAT GOES WITH IT.

### EXPLORE EACH GIFT BY ASKING:

- WHAT IS THE GIFT ALL ABOUT?
- WHAT WOULD YOUR LIFE LOOK LIKE IF YOU FULLY EMBRACED THIS GIFT?
- HOW COULD YOU ENJOY THIS GIFT TODAY?
- OFFER A SHORT PRAYER THANKING JESUS FOR THIS AMAZING GIFT.
- FINISH BY YELLING OUT, "THANK YOU GOD FOR YOUR GIFT THAT WORDS CAN'T DESCRIBE!" (2 CORINTHIANS 9:15)



## Operation Christmas Child Night

Wednesday, November 16

6:00-7:30 pm

Family Life Center

Kids in grades 1st-5th will write letters for our shoeboxes, learn about OCC and how the boxes share the gospel, and pray over our shoeboxes.

## KIDSIST CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Our children are joining in with the adult choir and singing the song *Sing Noel* in the choir program in December. We will be practicing some in Kids1st Worship with a few additional practices.

Stay tuned for practice dates and a performance date.



# NOTES FROM THE STUDENT PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

JOHN RUDOLPH (CHAIR), ERIN CLARK, JAKE HILDEBRANT, CHRISTY MATTINGLY, AND COURTNEY VANOVER

When Pastor Will met with parents of students during one of his visits to Murray, he shared Ephesians 3:20-21, *"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever."* This is our prayer for student ministry and the work God is doing at FBC. He IS at work and able to do far more than we can ask or imagine. Join us as we pray for the future of student ministry and the work that God is doing here at FBC.

The FBC student ministry is blessed with a great group of college students who are currently serving as student ministry interns. During this time of transition waiting for a new student pastor, these interns are walking alongside our students to create a place of growth, worship, discipleship, and fellowship. Our FBC student interns have already invested in the lives of many of our students and continue to do so each week. We are excited to see how God is working in students at FBC and what He will do in the days to come. We would like to introduce our student ministry interns to those that have not had the opportunity to meet them. Below each has included a short introduction to help you get to know each one better. To know them is pure joy!

If at any time you have questions, thoughts, or ideas please reach out. Christy Mattingly is the Interim Student Ministry Director. You can contact her at 270-293-3406 or [christymattingly@bellsouth.net](mailto:christymattingly@bellsouth.net).

Prayerfully yours,  
The Student Pastor Search Committee  
John Rudolph, Erin Clark, Jake Hildebrant, Christy Mattingly, and Courtney Vanover

## FBC Murray Student Interns



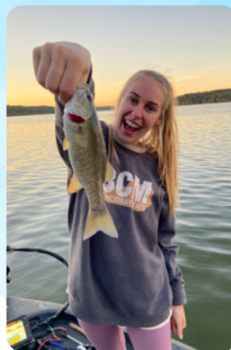
My name is Chaney Warren and I'm from Mayfield, KY. I am a junior at Murray State studying Communication Disorders. I started as a student intern in January 2022. This past summer, I was part of the Summer Impact team here at FBC and I had one of the best summers of my life. I've never felt as welcomed as I did when I walked into the doors of FBC Murray!



My name is Collin Sissom and I'm a senior Organizational Communication major at Murray State with a minor in Military Science. I'm originally from Murfreesboro, TN. I have served on the Summer Impact team at FBC and began as a student intern in August 2021. I am an ROTC Cadet at Murray State with plans to commission into the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant in May. I aspire to become a Chaplain in the Army and have been accepted to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for the Fall of 2023. I am an endorsed Chaplain Candidate by the North American Mission Board as a step towards pursuing that calling.



My name is Jacob Hudgin and I am from Murray KY. I'm an Exercise Science major at Murray State! I have been an intern since August 2020. One of the highlights of my time doing ministry at FBC was this summer at Crossings seeing God change the lives of students with whom I had built very strong relationships. Being able to have a part in God's plan for their lives was so huge to me and it has given me the heart and passion to pursue ministry as a full-time career!



Hi, my name is Blaire Gordon and I am from Sikeston, Missouri. I am majoring in Spanish Education with the hopes of being a Spanish teacher in the area after graduation. I have been a student intern at FBC since August 2021. I was a summer staffer at the Union FUGE camp in the summer of 2021 and that is where I met a lot of the FBC students for the first time! It has been such a pleasure getting to know the youth and staff here at FBC, and I can't wait to see what the future holds for this ministry.

## Upcoming Student Ministry Events

October 30- Dodgeball Tournament and Costume Contest  
November 2- Midweek-Glow in the Dark Night  
November 6- Life Groups  
November 9- Midweek- Theme Night 'Decades Night'  
November 13- Life Groups  
November 16- Midweek- Theme Night 'Flannel Night'  
November 18-20 Student Fall Retreat- "The Great Exchange"  
November 27- Life Groups  
November 30- Midweek- Theme Night- 'PJ' Night/Christmas PJ's

**FBC MURRAY  
STUDENT MINISTRY**



## STUDENT FALL RETREAT

Date: November 18-20  
Location: "The Hill" in Hardin, KY  
Cost: \$150, a deposit of \$75 is due by October 30  
Theme: The Great Exchange  
register at [fbcmurray.org/students](http://fbcmurray.org/students)



**Union University  
June 26-July 1  
Cost | \$400**

For more information, visit [fbcmurray.org/students](http://fbcmurray.org/students).



## NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN TINA MYERS

Stop by the library to see books recommended by Pastor Will and Jennie! Books are displayed on the rolling cart just inside the library door.

We have added new books to our e-book collection. Come by the library to get signed up to use the e-book system.

The author of the month for November is Dr. Timothy Keller. His books have sold over 2 million copies and been translated into 25 languages. Dr. Keller's books will be on display through November 30.

## NOTES FROM MOTHER'S DAY OUT LAUREN DUNLAP



Hello FBC Family,

I can't believe we are halfway through our fall semester at MDO! We had a fun-filled September and October! Our children enjoyed "Fall Day" at MDO with fall activities where they made fresh butter, learned about corn and soybeans, and milked a pretend cow. Thanks to Hutson Ag for bringing a tractor for our children to see and take pictures. In October, we celebrated community helpers and had visitors from the police department, fire department, and Murray State Men's basketball team. In November, our preschool classes will have their Thanksgiving Program and Feast. Our focus for November will be giving thanks to God for what He has done! Our service project for November is a center-wide collection for the Blessing Box. This is a great opportunity for our MDO children and families to give to others in our community. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our program, families, and staff.

In Him,  
Lauren

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NEW MEMBERS

Will, Jennie, and Liam McKay joined by Letter on Sunday, October 23.  
Samuel McKay joined by Profession of Faith and Baptism on Sunday, October 23.  
Addi Schumacher joined by Profession of Faith and Baptism on Sunday, October 23.

## FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Fellowship Suppers are on 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.

- **November 2:** Chicken Tetrazzini
- **November 9:** Chili
- **November 16:** Chicken Dressing Casserole

## RADIO/TV

Our 10:30 am worship service is aired at 10:30 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 OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closing at 12:00 pm on Wednesday, November 23, and will be closed on Thursday, November 24. The office will resume normal hours on Monday, November 28.

## BLESSING BOX

This month's items are pop tarts and shelf milk! 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.serve](http://fbcmurray.org.serve).

# CHURCH INFORMATION

## FINANCES (AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2022)

\$ 1,074,957.00	Budgeted as of 09/30/2022
\$ 967,194.76	Budget Receipts as of 09/30/2022
\$ 1,045,633.68	Budget Expenditures as of 09/30/2022
\$ 161,702.00	WMO 2022 Goal
\$ 64,521.39	WMO Receipts as of 09/30/2022

# MEMORIALS

Contributions to the 2022 World Mission Offering have been received in honor of David & Martha Parker, Don & Joyce Herndon, and Debbie Settle.

# VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of November is John Rudolph. If you would like a ride to Sunday School (9:15 am) or the worship service (10:30 am), contact John at 270-752-0179.

# ATTENDANCE

September 25	394
October 2	302
October 9	383
October 16	405
October 23	363

