

THE BRIDGE

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Dear Church,

A lot goes on in our Student Ministry in a month's time.



This past month we had a few things of note. The guys had a "night out" on the town with Hannah and me. We let them decide the venue and time frame, so we ended up having a nice dinner at Buddy's Pizza and then a few friendly games of bowling. It wasn't competitive, we were just there having fun together (I totally won though). It was a great night of bonding and fellowship for our young men. We had guys in sixth grade and seniors interacting. The girls will get their own night out in April, as soon as they can agree on what they want to do.

In other news, we have started to nail down our summer plans. Camp, of course, is fast approaching. The deadline to register and pay for camp will be April 30th. If you haven't done that yet please do so as soon as possible.

Personally, I would like to offer my gratitude to the church as well. I enjoyed having the opportunity to preach and lead communion in March. This congregation

has been quick to offer support and encouragement in whatever I have needed. That is a rare and beautiful thing. I am honored to be a part of this church and staff. I could not have asked for a better place to serve at this time in my life. I pray that April will be a blessed month for all of you.

In Christ, Clint Walker

SENIOR ADULT LUNCH TRIP – All senior adults are invited to go to lunch at Science Hill in Shelbyville on Tuesday, April 11. We will leave Elder Beerman parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and will return approximately at 2:00 p.m. You must sign up on the bulletin board on the landing or call the church office by April 9 for reservations.



Reel Faith and Spirituality will meet Sunday, April 30, at 3:00 p.m. to view and discuss Babette's Feast. All adults are welcome!

The BRIDGE

April 2017

a publication of First Baptist Church at the Singing Bridge

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PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee formed in our October Business Meeting will be recommending changes to our By-Laws at our April 19 Quarterly Business Meeting. Copies of the current By-Laws and the Proposed new By-Laws will be available at the front and back entrances of the church for you to study. Though a motion will be made to change our By-Laws in April, a vote cannot be made until our July Quarterly Business Meeting per current By-Law requirements. Please see a committee member; Ralph Divine, Lena Columbia, Doug Crowe, Greg Gaby or Laura Hendrix if you have questions.

New Members

- Caroline Johnson
- Anne Lee
- David Lee

HOLY WEEK

April 9: Palm Sunday - Worship - 10:50 a.m.

April 13: Tenebrae Service - 7:00 p.m.

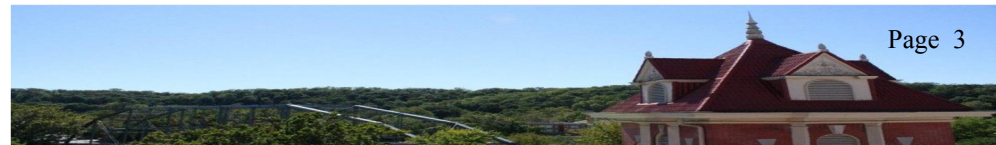
April 14: Good Friday

April 16: Easter Sunday – Worship - 10:50 a.m.
Children's Choirs Singing

First Baptist Church, YOU are making a difference!

We are currently helping two individuals through our new Payday Loan ministry! I was given permission to share with you a little about our initial clients on the basis of anonymity... both are single moms – one is a server whose grandmother died and she had to be off work a week to take care of the final arrangements. She got behind on her bills and the payday loan seemed like a good idea. It didn't take her long to realize that she was not paying anything on the principal for the predatory loan. Client #2 ran into problems with her vehicle. Since going without a vehicle was not an option because of work and children needing to be places, she took out a payday loan for the costly repairs. Our committee met with these individuals and I'm happy to say the payday loans have been taken care of and they are now in fair loans with Commonwealth Credit Union and FBC. If you or someone you know is caught in the debt trap of a payday loan, please contact me to see if we can help.

~ Keith



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Youth Activities	3	4 7:30 pm Lenten Breakfast Group	5 5:00 pm Meal 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir NO CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES	6 11:30 pm Lenten Lunch Group 6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting	7	8
9 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Palm Sunday 12:00 pm Finance Team M. 5:00 pm Youth Activities	10	11 7:30 pm Lenten Breakfast Group	12 5:00 pm Meal 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	13 11:30 pm Lenten Lunch Group 7:00 pm Tenebrae Service	14 	15
16 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Morning Worship	17	18	19 5:00 pm Meal 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Business Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	20	21	22
23 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Morning Worship 3:00 pm Celebrate EQMC 5:00 pm Youth Activities	24 9:30 am Soup Kitchen	25	26 5:00 pm Meal 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	27	28	29
30 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Morning Worship 3:00 pm Real Faith 5:00 pm Youth Activities						

DEACON OF THE WEEK

- Apr. 02 Greg Gaby
- Apr. 09 Laura Hendrix
- Apr. 16 Dan Hughes
- Apr. 23 Ken Mitchell
- Apr. 30 Janie Forman

GREETERS - DOWNSTAIRS

- Apr. 02 Mark & Mason Little
- Apr. 09 Dan Shouse
- Apr. 16 Bob Tipton
- Apr. 23 Laura B. Branham
- Apr. 30 Jennifer Lewis-Bass

GREETERS - FRONT DOOR

- Apr. 02 Gary Forman
- Apr. 09 Tammy Shouse
- Apr. 16 Helen Tipton
- Apr. 23 Mary Hines
- Apr. 30 Larry Hadley

GREETERS - WORSHIP HOUR

- Apr. 02 Susan Hopkins
- Apr. 09 Connie Crowe
- Apr. 16 Don Hines
- Apr. 23 Christina Keyes
- Apr. 30 Stephen Bass

NURSERY GREETERS CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

- April 2** (Erica out/Caroline sub)
Sunday School Nursery Greeter:
- Martha Wade
Nursery-2's - Holly Harrel
3's-K - Jenny Luscher & Elaine Allen
1st-3rd - Grade Cynthia Insko & Sarah Whitworth
- April 9** (Erica out/Caroline sub)
Sunday School Nursery Greeter: TBA
Nursery-2's - Sarah Glenn Insko
3's-K - Jenny Luscher & Sarah Glenn Insko
1st-3rd Grade - Cynthia Insko & Amy Thomas

April 16 (Easter) (Caroline extra for nursery)
**All Children's Choirs Singing in morning worship
Sunday School Nursery Greeter: TBA
Nursery-2's - Susan and Russ Hopkins
3's-K - Jenny Luscher & Cynthia Insko
1st-3rd - Grade remain in worship with parents

April 23
Sunday School Nursery Greeter: Kara Johnson
Nursery-2's - Brandy & Larry Mayes
3's-K - Jenny Luscher & Sarah Glenn Insko
1st-3rd Grade - Cynthia Insko & Joretta Crowe

April 30
Sunday School Nursery Greeter: Susan Hopkins
Nursery-2's - Laura Hendrix
3's-K - Jenny Luscher & Laura Stevens
1st-3rd Grade - Cynthia Insko & Julie Roberts



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

I'd like to offer special thanks to new volunteers who have stepped up to help with infants and toddlers during the Sunday School hours. If you are interested in volunteering for this important task of greeting families in our nursery from 9:40-10:50 once every 2 months, please contact Cynthia Insko.

Parents, be looking for an email from me with all our exciting, upcoming dates! If you are not receiving emails from me, please let me know! All parents of our preschoolers—5th graders should be receiving emails.

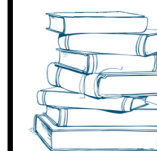
- Cynthia



Thanks to those who participated in our 7 week discussion of Richard Foster's Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home and to Dwight Lovan for facilitating.

Thank you to the thirteen folks who have participated faithfully in our Lenten breakfast groups on Less is More. We will conclude our time together on April 11 and April 13.

Friendships were deepened and our hearts and minds were stretched as we journeyed together in these small groups.



Ladies' Book Club will meet Thursday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Sue Monk Kidd's The Invention of Wings. Place to be determined. Contact Cynthia for more info.

An invitation to ladies of First Baptist Church and their dear friends:

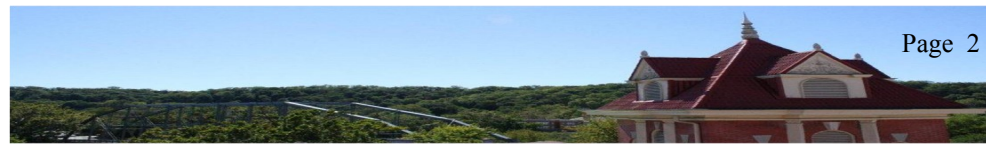
The Global Women of First Baptist Church would be grateful for your presence at an Afternoon of Celebration in honor of the Emma Quire Mission Center. Enjoy a time of fellowship, food, music, and hear Vanessa Garland, EQMC Director, speak of the history of the EQMC in addition to learning how the Center is continuing in the efforts of making hope visible in Owsley County. You will have the opportunity to give a donation if you so choose.

Sunday, April 23
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can look forward to sharing the afternoon with you! If you would like to contribute a "finger food" item for the evening, you may note that on the sign-up sheet. Also, if you require child care, please mark that so we can accommodate everyone.



I lift up my eyes to the mountains - where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. Psalm 121: 1-2



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 201 St. Clair
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 Office: 502.227.4528
 Fax: 502.227.4520
 www.fbcfrankfort.org
 E-mail: info@fbcfrankfort.org

Dr. Robert F. Browning
 Pastor
 bbrowning@fbcfrankfort.org

Rev. Richard Summers
 Minister of Music & Administration
 rsummers@fbcfrankfort.org

Dr. Keith Felton
 Minister of Missions
 kfelton@fbcfrankfort.org

Rev. Cynthia Williams Insko
 Minister of Children
 & Spiritual Formation
 cynthia.insko@gmail.com

Rev. Clint Walker
 Youth Minister
 cwalker@fbcfrankfort.org

Jenny Luscher
 Children's Ministry Associate
 jlusch@gmail.com

Janice Foster-Jackson
 Office Manager
 jjackson@fbcfrankfort.org

Linda McKinley
 Organist

Lois Summers
 Pianist

Timmy Campbell
 Preschool Director

Anthony Hager
 Building Superintendent



On Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. our Sanctuary Choir will lead us in a Maundy/Thursday Tenebrae Service. Maundy Thursday commemorates the night Jesus shared the Passover meal with His disciples and shared the first Lord's Supper. Tenebrae means shadows, and is a service of darkness recalling the desertion of the disciples on the night Jesus was arrested. This service begins in light and as the service progresses candles are extinguished and the lights are dimmed until ultimately the Christ candle is recessed out of the sanctuary and extinguished signifying the death of Jesus and the service ends in darkness. We will be combining these two services into one as we celebrate the Lord's Supper and also commemorate Tenebrae. The choir will lead us through the final hours of Jesus' life as we look at Matthew 26:6-13—27:61.

This is a solemn service which prepares

us for the glorious resurrection Sunday when the Christ candle is triumphantly processed back into our sanctuary signifying Christ's victory over the grave. I hope you will join us on April 13 and again on Easter Sunday, April 16 as we retell the wondrous story of our Lord!

Speaking of Easter, our three Children's Choirs will be singing during worship. I'm so grateful for these precious children and their sharing their voices to help us celebrate our risen Lord.

Our Handbell Ensemble will be ringing on April 2 and our Instrumental Ensemble will be playing for us on April 20. April will be filled with music and I'm most grateful! We are a blessed congregation!

What is your place in the music ministry? I hope you will consider joining one of our music ministry teams! My desire is that every week every member of First Baptist is making music, either through a music ministry team or congregational singing! Whether you feel like you have a talent in music or not, we all have a song!

MISSIONS

• The EMMA QUIRE MISSION CENTER has a newly renovated Multi-Purpose Room thanks to a great group of folks from FBC! New flooring, paint, a/c-heat units and doors has revived the largest room in our facility. We will now have an indoor option for mission teams to be able to eat in and fellowship. The vision for this space is to also have educational experiences to provide further transformational ministries in Owsley County. The team from FBC also constructed a privacy fence.

• EQMC Director, VANESSA GARLAND, is always looking for new ways in which the EQMC can minister to the residents of Owsley County. The following is a note from Vanessa about the latest ministry: *"I am excited to tell you that the EQMC is partnering with Owsley County High School to assist our senior students in their transition to college life this fall. We will work to find individuals in the area close to the colleges they attend. These individuals will interact with the students in helping them become comfortable in the new culture they will be entering. Currently, we have 12 students going to Eastern Kentucky Univ. in the fall and 4 students going to Univ. of Pikeville. If you know someone in these areas that might be interested in being a host family, please let me know."* Many students from Booneville (Owsley) become so homesick and experience such culture shock that they don't stay in college. Please contact me if you know of someone who lives in Richmond or Pikeville that could participate in this important ministry.

• Please be in prayer regarding our submissions for grant monies for the MISSION FRANKFORT CLINIC. Over the next few months, boards of various groups will be making critical decisions about the funding of this vital ministry. Also, I want to remind you about the COMMUNITY AWARDS program through Kroger. If you have a Kroger card and would like to sign up to help the MFC just go to Kroger.com and click on Community Rewards. With each purchase, the MFC earns rewards points and at the end of each quarter we receive a contribution. This does not affect your discounts and it is not an additional charge to your bill. I'll help you sign up if needed. **Thanks!!**

- Keith



Updates on Classes and Ministries

Last month I shared information concerning a new Sunday school class for our youngest adults. I am pleased to tell you this class is off to a great start. They have nineteen on roll and are already developing a sense of community.

This class is open to singles and adults and meets in the former Kid's Kingdom, now referred to as Nexus. Join them at 9:45 a.m. for a meaningful time of Bible study and warm fellowship.

Due partly to this new class, Cynthia continues to report the number of babies in the nursery and children in Sunday school is strong. What a joy it is to see these little ones and to be a part of their early spiritual development.

I am also happy to report our second candidate has been approved for a loan to cover the cost of their predatory loan. We have now deposited over \$5,000 into the Pay Day Lending Account at the Commonwealth Credit Union. This money will be used to help people caught in a predatory loan where they are paying an exorbitant amount of interest, sometimes as high as 400%.

Approved applicants will be able to take out a loan with Commonwealth Credit at a 3% interest rate. The money we have deposited at Commonwealth Credit will be used as secured collateral.

The loan with the predatory lender will be paid off and the applicant will begin paying Commonwealth Credit. As this loan is paid back, this money will go back into our secured collateral account and be used to help others struggling to pay off a debt with such a high interest rate.

I appreciate Keith Felton and our lay leaders who have worked diligently to get this ministry off the ground and are monitoring it closely. Helping people get out from under an insurmountable debt and teaching them how to manage money and take care of their families is another way FBC is making hope visible.

Lent and Easter

In a recent sermon, our attention was drawn to the promise Simon Peter made to Jesus as they were walking to the Garden of Gethsemane. When Jesus predicted the disciples would abandon him before the night was over, Peter boldly proclaimed, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." (Matthew 26:33)

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, this very night before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." (Matthew 26:34)

Standing around a charcoal fire hours later, Peter denied knowing Jesus, not once but three times. Then he heard a rooster crow.

I concluded this sermon with these words:

This story doesn't flatter Peter at all, does it? It exposes one of his worst decisions and lowest moments.

Maybe this is why it was woven throughout the initial events that occurred after Jesus was arrested. It was included so we would see ourselves through Peter's disappointing behavior.

All of us have made decisions we wish we could recall. We have experienced the level of shame, guilt, humiliation and remorse Peter felt that night around that charcoal fire. We have cried until there were no more tears to shed.

What have you learned from those experiences? Do you think twice now before making bold claims or big promises? Are you a better listener? Do you seek the advice of others and yearn to know what they see that you don't?

Do you pray more than you used to about decisions? Do you look to Jesus for wisdom, guidance, direction and courage?

On a steep mountainside the snow was coming down in sheets and the wind was howling. A wise Alpine guide grabbed a climber and said, "On your knees! On your knees! It is not safe here except on your knees!"

I know many places where this is true. You may be climbing one now.

Until Sunday,

Bob