



February Calendar

Sundays	@	9:00 AM	Adult Sunday school class
	@	10:15 AM	Worship Service
Wednesdays	@	5:30 PM	Family supper
		6:00 PM	KidZone/YouthZone

Monday, Feb. 5	5:30 PM	Deacon & Worship Board meetings
Tuesday, Feb. 6	5:30 PM	Trustee Board meeting
	6:30 PM	CE Board meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 13	6:30 PM	Council meeting
Thursday, Feb. 15	Noon	“SALT” soup luncheon
	6:30 PM	Sac and Fox Lapidary Club
Friday, Feb. 16	5:30-8:30 PM	Date Night
Tuesday, Feb. 20	1:00 PM	Maxine Bates Circle meeting

****Please Note: There will be **No Men's Breakfast** for February****.

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December Finances	
Giving:	\$31,377.52
Expenses:	\$26,773.04
\$	



Baptist Tidings



Fairfield First Baptist Church
 “A Faith Building Community”

Vol. XLIX No. 1

January 25, 2024



*“Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom
 and knowledge of God!
 How unsearchable his judgments,
 and his paths beyond tracing out!
 (Romans 11:33)”*

Our emphasis at Fairfield First Baptist is always on getting to know Jesus better, through God’s Word. This year we’re going to double down on digging into the depths of the Bible.

The Bible is unique in its affect on the human heart, mind and soul. It’s a series of documents that have been passed down through the ages because people of all cultures and all times have found that its words impact them like nothing else does. We find that it helps us to understand ourselves and the world and our relationship with our Creator in such a way that makes sense of life.

Those of us who have been reading, studying and meditating on the Bible for years have found that it’s the gift that keeps on giving. We begin gaining important truths from the time we begin reading it, and as we go on we find that it has layer after layer of richness that informs our lives. We can read a section 100 times and the 101st time an insight will reveal itself like a 2X4 knocking us in the head and

suddenly we have an answer to something that has dogged us for weeks, months or even years!

The Bible's effect on the human psyche is well established, (our English word "psyche" comes from the Greek word "psuche", defined as "the seat of the feelings, desires, affections and aversions.") You've probably experienced this inward effect yourself.

In his classic hymn, "Your Word is Like a Garden, Lord", Edwin Hodder uses several different metaphors to try to capture the beauty and meaning of God's Word. He writes,

"Your Word is like a deep, deep mine;
And jewels rich and rare
Are hidden in its mighty depths
For every searcher there."

There's just such a wealth of meaningfulness, guidance, joy, and strength that God wants to provide to us through this amazing letter and it's as relevant to our 21st Century lives as it was to those who lived hundreds of years ago. (Maybe the passage of time allows it to gain even more relevance to each passing generation.)

So it's our goal, this year, to focus our attention, even more directly, on what God is saying to us in His Word. I'll be providing Group studies that will help us to learn strategies to dig into it and to mine its depths in order to pull out of it the wealth that is offered in it.

Get ready, though. While God's words often comfort the afflicted, they also tend to afflict the comfortable. We may not always like what it makes us see about ourselves. We can be confident, though, that God is giving us what we truly need, and that, whether it makes us comfortable or uncomfortable, He's developing us, through it, to make us the people He's created us to be. We can't come to that person in any other way than his Word, so, let's mine the depths of the Bible, together!

With you, in God's Word,
- Pastor John

PRAYER LIST

Rod Ryan, Nolan Stevenson, Ruth Leazer, Ralph Paulding, Jan Hunerdosse, Dave Dutcher, Terry Letts, Crystal Smith, Sandy Lathrop



thank you

Carry On Bags thanks you for the generous donation made to us through the First United Methodist Church! Our nonprofit depends on community donations to do its work of providing weekend food bags to preschool through 12th grade students in Jefferson County who are food insecure. We could not provide these bags without community support such as yours. Thank you! Sincerely, Mark R. LaVan, Secretary, Carry On Bags

Library Spotlight



There is no greater joy for Christian parents than to hear that their children are walking in the truth. But how do we pray toward that end, day in and day out, through every stage of their lives? Our church Library has a new set of books to help parents pray for their kids, whether they are 5 or 55! The "Prayers of a Parent" series has a book for each age group, each with 30 short devotions and a corresponding prayer, to help guide us through the most important job we have as parents, praying for our children!



"SALT" POTLUCK

The February Gathering of "SALT" will be Thursday, February 15 @ Noon in the Fellowship Hall. This will be another soup luncheon. Soup is provided, please bring a dish to pass. All senior adults age 55+ are invited.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 Sonny Harris | 14 John Rathbun | 22 Gwen Kermott |
| 7 Roger McHone | 16 Kaylee Wright | 25 Betsie Wotherspoon |
| 7 Ellie Anderson | 22 Milton Baerg | 25 Adeline Diers |



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY

- | |
|------------------------|
| 20 Shawn & Joni Worley |
| 26 Ted & Kandi Diers |

Note: If your birthday or anniversary is this month, but is not listed, please call the church office with that information.

HEAD USHERS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4 Bob Keller | 4 Diane Van Winkle/Mary Godwin |
| 11 Darrel Bisgard | 11 Betsie Wotherspoon/Rhonda Goehring |
| 18 Roger Wright | 18 Erica Voreis/Kandi Diers |
| 25 Virgil Symmonds | 25 Sarah Stiemsma/Carey Nyein |

KIDZONE

COMMUNION SERVERS FEB. 4, Lee Muntz, Margaret Wilson, Greg Hanshaw, Jason Crandall, Ray Woody
 CHILDREN’S SERMON February 18, Amy Kermott

First Baptist Church Council Meeting – January 23



Members present: Pastor John Kermott, Greg Hanshaw, Dick Hunt, Jason Crandall, Joyce Roemen, and Margaret Stephens.

For Devotion, Greg Hanshaw asked for sharing of people. Then he gave opening prayer. Motion to approve minutes from last meeting made by Lee Muntz and seconded by Dick Hunt. Motion passed. Annual All-Church Retreat will possibly be held April 14 on a Sunday after worship. We should be thinking about what a church needs to do to come together, and also planning out small groups and fellowship. Display for Food Drive for Lord’s Cupboard will be set up by January 26 and run through the whole month of February. List was discussed concerning church policies. Pastor John discussed the need for a color copier in his office. It was decided not to open a bank account for SALT group donations. Money will go through the normal channels. Meeting closed with a prayer by Dick Hunt.

Respectfully submitted,
 Margaret Stephens



HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Need help shoveling snow this



winter? Can’t get out to purchase your groceries or medication? Need your garbage carried to the curb? Well, our Helping Hands Program, through the Deacon Board Ministry, is available to help you with many small jobs that you are unable to tackle by yourself.

Sometimes even the smallest task is too big to do on a given week. Our church members and attendees are blessed to have such a program. Just call the church office (472-5205) any weekday morning or contact one of your deacons and we will try to fulfill that need.

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|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| John Rathbun | 919-5828 | Darrel Bisgard | 819-2401 |
| Margaret Wilson | 472-5594 | Jan Baird | 472-5293 |
| Harold Munson | 472-8895 | Lee Muntz | 919-3337 |
| Lisa Greenig | 919-4343 | Sharie Leazer | 919-8471 |

KID ZONE Valentine's Party!

Our kids will be celebrating Valentine's Day with some special activities during KidZone on February 14. All are welcome to stay after the meal and help!

Friday, February 16, We

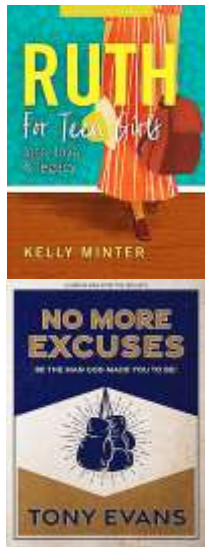
will have a date night from 5:30-8:30. Kid-friendly meal at 5:30, Activities until 8:30. Please call the church office to reserve a spot for your child(ren). 641-472-5205.

This event is sponsored by the FBC Youth Group.

Free-will donations will be accepted, but not required.



Adult Helpers Needed! To keep our Date Night safe and successful we need many volunteers to help. Please contact Lisa Greenig, 641-919-4343, if you have questions or are willing to help. Thank you!!



New for Youth on Sunday Mornings!!!

Beginning **February 11**, Pastor John and Amy will be leading an eight week Bible Study Session for our Youth. Amy and the girls will be working through the book of Ruth using Kelly Minter's book, "**Ruth for Teen Girls, Loss, Love and Legacy**". This is a teen version of the study the women did in the fall. John and the guys will be looking at Tony Evans' "**No More Excuses, Be the Man God Made You to Be.**" Books are provided. Please call the church office or talk to Pastor John or Amy if you will be attending, so we can be sure to have enough books.

Exciting News! Save the Date Thursday, June 6



**Michael Cochren of Cochren & Co.
Is coming to Fairfield First Baptist Church
This summer!**

Michael writes songs that point to Jesus and encourage His church, and we can't wait to offer his concert as a gift to the Fairfield Community!!

More information to come, but for now,

Keep June 6th open on your calendar!!