



Baptist Tidings

Fairfield First Baptist Church
 "A Faith Building Community"

Vol. XLIX No. 3

March 29, 2024

April Calendar

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Sundays | 9:00 AM | Adult Sunday School class Youth Bible Study |
| | 10:15 AM | Worship Service |
| Wednesdays | 5:30 PM | Family Supper |
| | 6:00 PM | KidZone/YouthZone |
| ***April 25 will be the last KidZone for the school year*** | | |
| ----- | | |
| Monday, April 1 | 5:30 PM | Deacon & Worship Boards |
| Tuesday, April 2 | 5:30 PM | Trustee Board |
| | 6:30 PM | CE and M&E Boards |
| Wed, April 3 | 6:00 PM | "Experiencing Your Bible" Study begins |
| Saturday, April 6 | 8:00 AM | Men's Breakfast |
| Tuesday, April 9 | 6:30 PM | Council Meeting |
| Saturday, April 13 | 9:30 AM | ABWM Spring Event @ FFFBC |
| Sunday, April 14 | following worship, | CHURCH RETREAT |
| Tuesday, April 16 | 1:00 PM | Maxine Bates Circle meeting |
| Thursday, April 18 | Noon | "SALT" soup luncheon |
| | 6:30 PM | Sac and Fox Lapidary Club |
| Sunday, April 21 | following worship, | Quarterly Business Mtg |
| | 1-3 PM | Bowling at Flamingo Lanes |

April Opportunities:

Experience Your Bible – Wed. Nights @ 6:00
All Church Retreat – April 14th after Worship!

We have two key opportunities for our church family coming up in May. The first one I want to talk about here is our **All Church Retreat**. This retreat will be used to show us how we can use the Alpha Course to help our family, friends and neighbors to consider Jesus.



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." – Jesus (Acts 1:8)

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| February Finances | |
| Giving: | \$19,490.19 |
| Expenses: | \$21,422.27 |

What is the Alpha Course?

"First developed as a short course in 1977 at Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB) in London, England, Nicky Gumbel began running Alpha in 1990 and repositioned it as a course for those outside of the church after finding that many individuals wanted to explore the Christian faith. The number of people attending Alpha at HTB quickly grew to the hundreds and as a result, caught the attention of other churches seeking to find an effective tool for evangelism.

Alpha USA launched in the 1990s in response to how the Holy Spirit was using the courses as an evangelization tool for American churches. Alpha USA exists to serve and support churches in making disciples of Jesus Christ, as Christians play their part in the reevangelization of the nations and the transformation of society. It runs in more than 8,000 churches and ministries across every major denomination and 600 prisons throughout the country. Alpha mobilizes over 50,000 volunteers and over 500,000 participants annually in the USA and more than 1.3 million globally."

(Alphausa.org)

So I'm looking forward to our church family getting a chance to consider ways we can help our community re-consider Jesus through the Alpha Course.

The other opportunity, coming up in April, is a laid-back discussion group centered around helpful ways we can each get more out of God's Word, on Wednesday nights.

We'll work through the book, **Experience Your Bible**, which will give us fresh ways to dig deeper into God's revelation to us. Sessions will be led by men who are "World Famous in Fairfield!"

Pick up a book in the Narthex! They're free!!

PRAYER LIST

Rod Ryan, Nolan Stevenson, Ruth Leazer, Ralph Paulding, Jan Hunerdosse, Dave Dutcher, Terry Letts, Crystal Smith, Sandy Lathrop, Ray Woody, Dick and June Workman



I would like to thank my amazing church family for all the food they brought me after my recent knee replacement, and for all the cards and especially for the prayers that were lifted up on my behalf. Praise God, I'm making progress on my rehab! Thanks again. Ray Woody.

"SALT" POTLUCK. The April Gathering of "SALT" will be Thursday, April 18th @ Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to pass. All senior adults age 55+ are invited.



ABW Ministries Iowa East Annual Event will be April 13th 9:30-3:00. Our Church is hosting. All ladies are invited to attend. Registration is \$10 payable at the door. Please register by April 8th. We will be collecting these items for Forest Lake Camp: Toilet Paper (No Charmin or 1 ply), Paper Towels, Napkins, Clorox Wipes, Hand Soap, Gallon Freezer/Storage Bags, Air Fresheners, Lysol Disinfectant Spray, Floor Cleaner, Bleach, 45 Gallon/13 Gallon Trash bags, Foil, Paper Plates, Hand Sanitizer, Dawn Dish Soap. There will be a collection box in the Narthex, as well as a flyer with more information.



Please Plan to attend the **All Church Retreat, Sunday April 14, after worship.** This year's retreat will be all about finding a way to help the people of Fairfield see why following Jesus is good news for them.



- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Chuck Comfort | 13 JoDee Kyle | 20 Brenda Bisgard |
| 5 Pat Comfort | 13 Sarah Stiemsma | 22 Leona Woodson |
| 7 Jan Hunderdosse | 14 Madi Wallace | 25 Genevieve Rathbun |
| 10 Rylan Anderson | 15 Ted Munson | 28 Sage Crandall |
| 13 Taryn Ryan | 16 Dave Bisgard | |



- 10 Roger and Diane McHone
16 Jan and Randy Baird

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

| HEAD USHERS | | KIDZONE LEADERS | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 7 | Greg Fritz | 7 | Jill & Tom Baerg |
| 14 | John Rathbun | 14 | Tammy & Lilah Hawkins |
| 21 | Paul Greenig | 21 | Diane & Amy Van Winkle |
| 28 | Greg Hanshaw | 28 | Sarah Stiemsma & Rhonda Goehring |

COMMUNION SERVERS APRIL 7: Virgil Symmonds, Margaret Stephens, John Rathbun, Bob Keller, Lisa Greenig

CHILDREN'S SERMON April 21: Ashley Worley

First Baptist Church Council Meeting

- March 12 Members present: Dick Hunt, Jason Crandall, Bob Keller, John Rathbun, Pastor John Kermott and Margaret Stephens
Devotion by Pastor John from Psalm 118: 19.



Opening prayer by Pastor John. Motion to approve previous month's minutes by Bob Keller and seconded by John Rathbun. Motion passed. Church retreat will be April 14. It will be a potluck and snack foods. There will also be music. There will be a talk about Alpha Course. There will be fun fellowship. There was discussion about turning upstairs classroom back into a nursery. A motion was made by John Rathbun to give the M & E Board authority to consider an alternative to the America for Christ Offering. Seconded by Bob Keller. So passed. Holy Week service will be Tuesday, March 26th. Budget for February was a couple thousand short. John Rathbun gave update on Cochren & Co. He mentioned getting them booked to come at a substantial deal. They are coming June 6. Dinner will be at 5:30. A lot of funding is from outside source. There will be an interview then program. More details to come. Bob Keller said bathrooms need baby changing tables. He also discussed more heating in bathrooms. Pastor John discussed the book "Experience You Bible". He also requested we encourage people to come to the study. Books are free and he acquired 40 copies. Pastor read from beginning of book. Dick Hunt closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Stephens



Exciting New Church Family Group Study to give you tools for getting the most out of your Bible! Wednesday Nights at 6:00, April 3rd-May 15th. Feel free to come early for Wednesday Night Supper. Sessions will be led by fairly reputable characters from our own Church Family! Grab a book and sign-up in the narthex!

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Need help? Can't get out to purchase your groceries or medication? Need your garbage carried to the curb? Our Helping Hands Program, through the Deacon Board Ministry, is available to help with many small jobs that you are unable to tackle by yourself. Just call the church office (472-5205) any weekday morning or contact one of your deacons and we will try to fulfill that need.



| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| 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 |

Exciting News!
Save the Date:
Michael Cochren
and Cochren & Co.
Are coming to
Fairfield First Baptist
This summer
Thursday, June 6



All of our church family have an opportunity to attend a 5:30 dinner and "meet and greet" time with Michael & Co. before the 7PM program. The Deacons are offering this as a gift and a prayer ministry to the Fairfield Community. Tickets and more information will be available soon. Be prepared to invite your friends!

There will be a **Barn Quilt Painting Class** on Friday Night, April 19 at the church. See the flyer in the Narthex for more information. All are invited but space is filling up quickly!



All Church Bowling, Sunday, April 21, 1:00-3:00 at Flamingo Lanes. There is no charge for this event. Come out and enjoy family time

Mother's Day is May 12. We would like to honor our mothers with a slide show during the service on Sunday Morning. If you would like your mother to be remembered in this way, please email a photo to the church office, officefbc@lisco.com or text it to Amy at 815-213-1503. You can also bring a photo in during office hours. This is for all mothers, young and old, living or passed on. We will do the same on Father's Day if you'd like to send a picture of your father at the same time. Thank you!

