

Non-Profit Org.  
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Permit No. 72  
Murphysboro, IL



LIGHT KIDS CONFERENCE  
7:30 am Saturday, April 1

PRIMETIME TRIP TO ST. GENEVIEVE  
9:30 am Tuesday, April 4

#### MID-WEEK EVENTS

Wednesdays, April 5,12,19,26  
3:30 pm FBC Kids Club  
3:30 pm Crossfire Middle School Youth  
5 pm Family Dinner  
6 pm Bible Study with Pastor  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### CROSSFIRE YOUTH MINISTRIES

6 pm Sundays, Crossfire H.S. Youth  
5 pm Mondays, M.S. Girls Group  
6:30 pm Tuesdays, H.S. Girls Group  
7 pm Tuesdays., H.S. Guys Groups  
3:30 pm Wednesdays, Crossfire M.S. Youth  
H.S. Girls Retreat in Nashville, TN, April 8-12  
H.S. Guys Retreat in Colorado, April 9-13

#### EASTER EVENTS

10 am Palm Sunday Worship, April 9  
12 pm Comm. Good Friday Service, April 14  
EASTER SUNDAY, April 16  
6:30 am Sunrise Service at Smysor Plaza  
9 am Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall  
10 am Celebration Worship  
11:15 am Children's Easter Egg Hunt

#### COOKING CLASS FUNDRAISER

11 am Saturday, April 22

#### 10TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION FOR PASTOR

11:15 am Sunday, April 23



#### GOD'S FAITHFULNESS THRU SCRIPTURES

##### LISTEN TO SOME VERSES THAT DECLARE THAT GOD IS FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES.

1. Numbers 23:19, "God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?"

2. 1 Kings 8:56, "Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses.

3. Joshua 21:45, "Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled."

4. Joshua 23:14, "Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the LORD your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed."

5. 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to

come to repentance."

6. Hebrews 10:23, "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."

##### WHAT ARE GOD'S GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES?

God has said that he will do a number of things, here are just a few:

Jesus said "I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." (Mt. 16:18)

1. Most of us are a part of that church that Jesus built.

2. It has been in existence for 2000 years and it will remain until the end.

Another precious promise of God is "I will be with you."

1. God has made this promise to his people throughout time.

2. To Joshua God said, "No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you." (Josh. 1:5)

3. In the Great Commission Jesus said, "And surely I will be with you always, to the

(continues on the page 15)



FBC MURPHY  
Connect. Grow. Go.  
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SHAKER SAMUEL, PASTOR  
KAY REIMAN, EDITOR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

# Be Our Guest this Easter

## First Baptist Church

### Palm Sunday Worship

April 9 at 10:00 am

**FBC Kids will open the service with their usual fanfare on this Sunday before Easter. We also will be participating in "One for the Cross" to help the Bald Knob Cross of Hope Fund.**

### Community Good Friday Service

April 14 at 12:00 noon

**The Murphysboro Ministerial Alliance is planning the Annual Community Good Friday Service. The First Christian Church will be hosting the service and Rev. Jim Frye will be sharing a Good Friday message. This is a community event, everyone is welcome.**

### Easter Celebration

April 16, Sunday

6:30 am Community Sunrise Service

Smysor Plaza on Walnut St.

**Just as the sun comes up Easter morning, FBC with St. Peter's United Church of Christ, the First United Presbyterian Church and the Church of the Nazarene will bring music and a resurrection message at Smysor Plaza located downtown Murphysboro.**

9:00 am The Easter Breakfast

**Everyone is invited to a great breakfast with all the trimmings. Eggs, ham, fruit, pastries, and a lot more. Bring the whole family as well as your friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome.**

10:00 am Worship Celebration

**This is a celebration with worship of our Lord and Savior's Resurrection. This year's service is in keeping with that celebration theme with music, scripture readings, and a Message of Salvation and Hope. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to come celebrate with us.**

11:15 am Annual Easter Egg Hunt

**Immediately following the worship service, the annual Easter egg hunt will begin on the front lawn. All children are invited to participate as the adults get to watch all the excitement.**

(Pastor's column continued from page 1)

very end of the age." (Mt. 28:20)

4. In 2 Tim. 4:16-17, Paul wrote, "At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength..."

5. That's what God does for his people. He sticks close to them.

God has also promised: "I will strengthen you."

1. I like Isaiah 41:10, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Thess. 3:3, "But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one."

3. That's why Paul declared, "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Phil. 4:13)

4. I know that it's because of God's strength that I am who I am and do what I do. There's no way I could do even half of what I do on my own!

One final precious promise: "I will come again."

1. John 14:1-3, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

2. How wonderful to know that we are saved and that we have eternal life.

3. 1 John 2:25, "And this is what he promised us – even eternal life."

4. 1 John 5:13, "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of

God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

5. Jesus is coming back, and he will take us to live with him...forever. That's a promise!

### HOW DO WE RECEIVE GOD'S PROMISES?

First we need to Prayerfully Study our Bibles.

Second, to receive God's promises we must patiently wait.

A third aspect of receiving God's promises is living in obedience to God's will.

A final way that we receive God's promises is by FAITH.

God has been faithful to our church, to our community most of all to me and my family. We need to praise God for His constant watch over us.

God bless.

In Christ's steps,  
Shaker



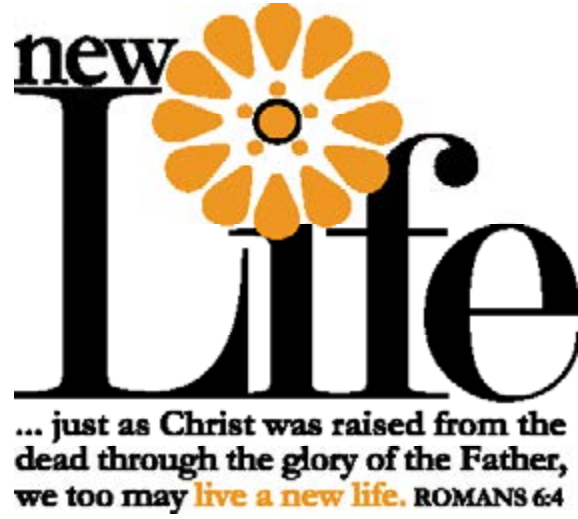
"Hope the choir does some hip-hop for Easter!"

time had a scholarship program. There may be someone who would be willing to fund a scholarship. Bethany College Preview Weekend is March 30th - April 2nd Jesse will be taking some high school youth to this event. **Strategic Action Team:** An update on the meeting with architect. Conceptual options are: if we go west it could be in the range of 2.3 million and if we go south, it could be in the range of 1.8 million; approximately 10,000 square feet. An appraisal of Betty King's house will be set up by Helen. Approved by consensus.

**Nominating Team:** Deacons are still needed.

**Pastor's Report:** Israel trip is March 20th-April 1st. Upcoming baptism and new members join the church family. Will start a new prayer initiative in April. Asked Council members to turn in their commitment forms if they have not already done so. Stated we need to pray concerning our commitment to a building program. What does God want us to do? What is His plan for us? What is our commitment?

**Director's Report:** Polled the Council as to each person's consensus for a new all-purpose building. Jesse and Barb reviewed the Chief of Police's program and made a \$50 donation from the Youth Fund and Children's Fund.



### EASTER SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL & LIFE GROUPS

Easter Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall starting at 9:00 am. April 16th. There will be no Sunday School or Life Groups on Easter morning. Please come and enjoy breakfast, the great fellowship and the awesomeness of Resurrection Day! Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to celebrate Easter with your FBC Family of Faith.

### OUR CHURCH FINANCES FOR FEBRUARY 2017:

	<u>This Month</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Needed	\$ 34,978.59	\$ 69,915.93
Given	\$ 28,375.34	\$ 62,306.72
Over (Under)	\$ (6,603.25)	\$ (7,609.21)



# 10th Anniversary Reception

Pastor Shaker Samuel

Sunday, April 23rd, 11:15 am

Come Celebrate with Us!

FBC has been blessed by the ministry of Shaker and Nicolette!

Please join us as we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Pastor Shaker, Nicolette and Hannah joining our family of faith. During worship, they will share their trip to Israel.

Following the morning service there will be a light luncheon for everyone.

Please plan to attend this little "Thank You" open house reception.



### Fundraiser Cooking Class

### COOKING CLASS FILLED WITH LOTS OF JUICY FUN

This cool fund-raiser is bound to be filled with lots of fun and some really great food. The theme for the evening instructional culinary delights is "When Life Gives You Lemons." It will be a demonstration and hands on cooking class on **Saturday, April 22 at 11:00 am** in the church kitchen and fellowship hall. The cost is \$25 per person and space is limited. The menu will include raspberry lemonade, homemade yeast rolls with lemon butter, fresh greens salad with lemon vinaigrette, chicken picata with angel hair pasta, phyllo nests with

lemon marscapone cream and fresh fruit. There will be door prizes and lots of fun! Proceeds will benefit 2017 mission trip to Jamaica. For registration, contact Kristy Dunning at 534-3054 or go to the church website [fbcmurphy.org](http://fbcmurphy.org).



### PRIMETIME IS ON THE ROAD TO STE. GENEVIEVE

Spring is in the air and the PrimeTime seniors will be on the road to Ste. Genevieve, MO on **Tuesday, April 4th**. The bus will leave the church at 9:30 am. Lunch will be dutch treat. If you would like to go, the sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

All active senior adults are welcome.

## 30 DAYS OF PRAYER

"Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you."

-Jeremiah 29:12

What a wonderful blessing we have in the Word of God. Did you know that there are over 146 specific Scripture verses related to praying? This does not even take into account the number of prayers that are recorded for us to reference.

Why is this important to us as Christians? As believers in Jesus Christ as Lord, we have a direct connection to God!

Very soon we will have an opportunity to come together as God's church to pray for our members, church and community. I encourage you all to be a spirit of openness as God leads us into the fulfilling of His Great Commission. In your daily prayers, please keep the 30 Days of Prayer in your requests.

As we continue to seek out God's will for our church, it is very important for us to be in tune to God's leading. Pastor Mark Batterson stated in his book, The Grave Robber, "When we take matters into our own hands, we take God out of the equation. When we try to manipulate a situation, we miss out on the miracle." We don't want to miss out on God's miracles by not seeking His will *first*.

30 Days of Prayer will be a focused stepping stone for us to continue in our Christian growth, and seek out the will of God for us as individuals and for the Church. It will be a time for us to seek and receive the miracles God has in mind for us and our community.

Prayerfully,  
Steve Wilkerson



## "CULTIVATING LEADERS, EQUIPPING, DISCIPLES, HEALING COMMUNITIES"

The America for Christ Offering 2017 theme reminds us that as Baptists, we exemplify a vital legacy of missions and ministry. Through your generous donations is a commitment to cultivating Christian leaders who are spiritually competent, in touch with their churches and communities, and passionate about ministry and helping people. The big question is always, What do leaders need to continue growing and developing? Your AFC Offering reminds us that service is a way of life for Christ's church. Your generous giving this year to the AFC Offering is helping to reach goals that support missions across the United States and Puerto Rico.

For your convenience, an AFC Offering envelope is included with this newsletter.

## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSES

The church office will be closed **Friday, April 14th**, so the staff can spend Good Friday with their families. Don't forget this year, the Community Good Friday Service is being held at the First Christian Church at noon.

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL JANUARY 2017 MINUTES

**Additions to the Agenda:** Date for March Council meeting is March 14th. Date for business meeting is March 19th.

**Last Meeting's Minutes:** The January 22, 2017 minutes were approved by consensus.

**Financial Report:** The January, 2017 Financial Report was approved by consensus. Jesse presented a more concise financial statement format that he and Jeff put together.

**Outreach & Evangelism:** 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament is March 3, more volunteers needed; Easter outreach--congregational invitations; Dinner for 8 program will be discussed after Easter; Ministerial Alliance Spring Festival will be May 19th at the old MCA school from 5-7 pm and will benefit the school social workers.

**Missions:** 2017 Jamaica Mission Trip has 18 people planning on going, budget has been worked out and are meeting monthly. Ron McLaughlin is working on the Community Garden. 2016 missions percentage was 12.5% of total budget. They are working on the percentage for 2017.

**Children Discipleship:** Nursery teachers needed. Kids Conference is April 1st. Kids camp is July 19-22 and leaders/adult volunteers are needed.

**Youth Discipleship:** Holding a flower sale with the annual yard sale. Discussed potential fund raiser ideas.

**Staff Relations/Policies:** Next staff quarterly meeting will be in April. Will be applying for the Internship Grant through Great Rivers Region.

**Finance & Stewardship:** Israel trip donation update-\$8420 collected. There is an ABC Conference in Portland and Shaker has

been asked to go by GRR.

**Building & Grounds:** There will be a Spring Cleaning event before Easter--Sunday School classes are to clean their rooms. Forming a Building and Grounds Ministry Team/possible maintenance plans. Create a chart or log for maintenance. Look into potential maintenance agreements. \$350 for new decals on the bus and van. They will be put on the van but the bus will be at a later date after the rust is fixed. Looking at exterior lighting as well as repairing existing lights and possibly adding more lights. New parking lot estimates and seal coating--have received bids for gravel, removing the tree and paving for overflow parking area.

**Security:** The Security Group will be going to a Sheepdog seminar on March 14th. Cameras are working well. Currently using iPad tablets to monitor. A small TV will be hard wired to split screen to see all cameras at once and will be located at the Welcome Center.

**Special Events:** A 10th Anniversary Reception for Shaker will be April 23rd. He will be sharing his Israel trip during worship and reception will follow worship.

**Worship Ministry:** A Baptism service on February 25th; Guest Speaker, Paul Gibson from ABC-GRR will be here on February 25th. SI "Church Music" event would have area church groups sign up to sing is still in the works.

**College Group Discipleship:** College scholarships are available through ABC, FBC, and Ministerial Alliance. Ministerial Alliance has a \$1000 scholarship for graduating high school students; ABC-GRR also have scholarships available. FBC at one



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR REPAIRS & PAINTING

There are several little odd jobs that need to be taken care of around our church building:

Conference room ceiling needs to be repaired.

Painting: Outside yellow curbs

South Entrance area

Kitchen

Fellowship Hall

Scrape/Painting of Webmaster/Director offices.

Youth House kitchen and bathroom floor stripped and waxed.

If you would like to help get these items off the needed repairs list, please contact Pastor Shaker, Judy Rawls, or Chuck Grammer.

Please, please consider taking on one of these projects.



### ORDER YOUR EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies make a beautiful addition to our sanctuary on Easter morning. As in years past, we have pre-ordered the lilies from McNitt Growers. If you would like to donate one in memory or in honor of a loved one just make an \$11 donation. Make sure you designate your donation and be sure to contact the church office with the information on your loved one.

Following Easter worship, please feel free to take your plant home so you can continue to enjoy its beauty.

### WORDS OF APPRECIATION TO THE CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you to my church family for the beautiful flowers in memorial of my son Charles, who is now in heaven with his father and his Heavenly Father. I appreciate your prayers and concern.

Sister in Christ,  
Joan Mifflin

\*\*\*

I would like to thank the Deacons for their thoughtful and kind message commemorating my retirement from the nursery. I have loved every minute I spent in the nursery caring for our little ones.

Shirley Forbes

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, all the prayers, and support you gave our family and the great dinner you provided. Thank you.

Wilda Eldridge  
\*\*\*

Thank you all for the prayers, calls, and visits recently in the passing of Doug's mom. Thank you for the beautiful rose and all the prayers, and for helping take care of us during Doug's parents illnesses. Your presents at Christmas were such a surprise and so sweet. We love you all.

Doug & Debbie Murrie

# Crossfire

STUDENT MINISTRIES

High School Girls Retreat  
**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**  
Saturday-Wednesday  
April 8th-12th  
The young women will have five days of worship, Bible study, food, fellowship, sight-seeing & of course shopping.

High School Guys Retreat  
**COLORADO ROCKIES**  
Sunday - Thursday  
April 9-13  
The young men will have five days filled with worship, Bible study, food, fellowship & of course skiing & snowboarding.



## YARD SALE & Spring Plant Sale

Friday, May 5, 5-8 pm  
Saturday, May 6, 7 am-noon



The Crossfire Youth are sponsoring a yard sale & plant sale to be held in the back parking lot.

There will be hanging baskets & spring potted plants fundraiser tickets from McNitt Growers.

So....Clean out your closets, garages, basements, attics & from under your beds.

Let items that you no longer need become someone's new treasure

& help the FBC Youth go to summer camp

Bring your donated items to the Youth House or church.

or

For pickup, call Jesse Boudet at 713-7505



CROSSINGS SUMMER CAMP IS AN AMAZING CHRISTIAN CAMP WITH AWESOME FUN ACTIVITIES AND CONCERTS, LIFE TRANSFORMING MESSAGES, AND A GREAT PLACE FOR KIDS AND YOUTH GROUPS TO GROW CLOSER TOGETHER IN THEIR PURSUIT OF JESUS.

## KIDS

**3RD GRADE THROUGH CURRENT 6TH GRADERS  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19TH RETURN ON SATURDAY, JULY 22TH**

THE REGULAR COST OF CAMP IS \$300

**FBC KIDS CAN GO FOR \$150!!!**

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN:  
CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT OR CONTACT BARB TROUTMAN  
CHURCH OFFICE

TURN IN THE REGISTRATION FORM BY SUNDAY, APRIL 23RD  
WITH YOUR \$50 DEPOSIT  
- \$50 IS DUE SUNDAY, MAY 21ST  
- \$50 IS DUE SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH

**SPACE IS LIMITED! SIGN UP ASAP!**



## IT'S TIME TO SWEEP OUT THE WINTER DIRT

We Are asking for volunteers to help with the annual spring "Deep Cleaning" of the church building on Saturday morning, **April 8th**, beginning at **9:00 am** until everything is done.

Church common areas like the sanctuary, parlor, stairs, hallways, etc. will be divided up and cleaned by a group of volunteers. Cleaning solutions will be furnished but if you can't bring your own bucket and rags, I'm sure someone will find one for you.

It's time for a deep cleaning of all the nooks, crannies, and corners. What does deep cleaning mean? It means everything in each area gets dusted, cleaned and straightened, wood trim/baseboards, pews, chairs and tables get wiped down, windowsills get dusted and cleaned and trash gets emptied.

Lunch will be provided.

Come join the fun and fellowship and help us make our building sparkle and shine!



## NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY?

FBC now has a bus driver rotation system, which means that the drivers will be driving only once a month. But it also means that those who want to ride on Sundays must call the church office so a list can be made when the driver picks up the bus and the list.

If you would like a ride to church on Sunday mornings, be sure to call the church office (687-1769) during office hours Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-4 pm, or Friday, 8:30 am-12 noon to have your name added to the list. If you want to be on the list for every Sunday, contact the office to let Kay know you are a permanent pickup. But if you become ill on Saturday evening or Sunday morning you must contact Brian Schuman (525-5255) as soon as possible to cancel your ride. It is important that we pick up everyone that wants a ride but not make stops that are unnecessary.

It is very important that everyone works together, the church office, drivers and riders, to do their part in making this ministry work efficiently and successfully.

## GRADUATES NAMES NEEDED

A special time during the morning worship service on **Sunday, May 7th** will be dedicated to our church family graduates.

Middle school, high school, college and military graduates who are an active part of our church will be honored for their academic accomplishments. We would hate to forget someone, so if you know of a middle school, high school, college or military graduate that is active in our church family and should be recognized, please contact Angie Robinson at 565-2625. We would like to honor each high school and college student by telling a little bit about the school activities and/or awards they may have received.



**April 2**  
Kathie Grob & Carmella Schuman

**April 9**  
Kathie Grob & Katie Tolbert

**April 16**  
Kathie Grob & Savannah Schuman

**April 23**  
Kathie Grob & Myah Kelley

**April 30**  
Kathie Grob & Carmella Schuman

Unable to help? Please contact  
Kathie Grob at 924-7017.

### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

**April 2**  
Albert & Trish Boudet

**April 9**  
Pat & Jan Etherton

**April 16**  
Easter Breakfast

**April 23**  
Rodney & Carol Brown

**April 30**  
Matt & Elaine Hardwig

If you are unable to help, please  
contact church office at 687-1769.



### MEALS ON WHEELS

**April 24-28**

**Monday**  
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady  
Gayle Gillmore

**Tuesday**  
Christina Smith & Frank Aldridge  
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady

**Wednesday**  
Candy Watt & Alice Berry  
Mark & Darlene Pautler

**Thursday**  
Jane Beese & Alice Berry  
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady

**Friday**  
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady  
Jane Beese & Alice Berry



POST THIS ON YOUR  
REFRIGERATOR!

### GREETERS

**April 2**  
Gene & Carole Ebersohl

**April 9**  
Anna Jenkins & Judy Raines

**April 16**  
Angela Barke & Lauren Martin

**April 23**  
Scott Hunziker & Valerie Lipe

**April 30**  
Rodney & Carol Brown  
If you are unable to help, please  
contact Cindy Stamm at 319-0781.

### WELCOME CENTER

**April 2**  
Vic & Patty Koenig

**April 9**  
Albert & Trish Boudet

**April 16**  
Anna Jenkins

**April 23**  
GLenann Kiel

**April 30**  
Jeff & Linda Wright

### HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

2	Ruth Attig	18	Jim Wright
3	Nicolette Samuel	19	Ty Schwarz
5	Megan Graeff	21	Shirley Hardwig-Winter
6	Mikah Mifflin	21	Dalton Marnati
6	Merryn Elliott	21	Lilli Robinson
8	Kim Halliday	23	Earl Creath
9	Ryan Karg	23	Chase Stamm
10	William Hamby	25	Emily Reiman
10	Debbie Davis-Murrie	26	Willette Yearian
11	John Edgar	27	Brian Baggott
13	Tim Sims	30	Leila Reiman
14	Austin Hardwig		
15	Brittany Jones		
15	Ellee Doerr		
16	Joan Mifflin		
17	Lindsey Blaise		
17	Jimmy Holland		



VOLUNTEERS  
Thanks to our many