

Non-Profit Org.
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CHALLENGER SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

9 am Every Sunday, July 5, 12, 19, 26

WORSHIP SERVICE

10 am Every Sunday, July 5, 12, 19, 26

MENS BIBLE STUDY

6 pm Every Wednesday, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

CROSSFIRE GIRLS

6 pm Wednesday, July 8, 15, 22, 29

BIBLE STUDY W/ PASTOR

1:30 pm Thursdays, July 23 & 30

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

6 pm Thursday, July 9, 16, 23, 30

POP-UP VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Coming Soon!

FBC MURPHY
C o n n e c t . G r o w . G o .
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MURPHYSBORO
401 NORTH FIFTEENTH STREET
MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS 62966
WWW.FBCMURPHY.ORG

SHAKER SAMUEL, PASTOR
KAY REIMAN, EDITOR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

FBC MURPHY

Connect. Grow. Go.
JULY 2020 BAPTIES NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."
-Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

"One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

-Proverbs 18:24

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

-John 15:13

Friends are wonderful and are wonderful to have.

That's one of the blessings of growing up in a small community. You have friends who grew up with you, went to school, played together and some of them became life long friends.

Unfortunately, I have moved away from my home town because of my vocation. But I still have strong

friendships with childhood friends.

Lately due to my age, I am slowly losing some of my friends to cancer, other ailments and even death. So, I was reminiscing about friends.

There are different types of friends:
a) acquaintance - people you know, you say hi to them when you see them at a

store, post office or a bank, etc.

b) Casual friends -- you see them more often, usually at the church, school functions or your children's friends, etc.

c) Close friends -- you visit them at their home, invite them over

to your home, you spend time with them doing things, etc.

d) Intimate friends -- your best friends. Ones you can get close to; share your heart with, share your problems, struggles and goals and joys with.

What does it take to be a friend?

Friends work together, help each other,

(continues on page 5)

What a
Friend
in Jesus
we have

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

10 am
Every Sunday
in the Sanctuary
(please wear a mask)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

6 pm
Every Wednesday
starting July 1

BIBLE STUDY W/ PASTOR

1:30 pm
Thursday starting
July 23 & 30
in the Fellowship Hall

CHALLENGE SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

9 am Every Sunday,
July 5, 12, 19, 26
in the Conference Room
(former youth room)

CROSSFIRE GIRLS GROUP

6 pm
Wednesday
July 8, 15, 22, 29

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

3 pm Thursday,
July 9, 16, 23, 30
at the church



(continues from Pastor on page 1)

encourage, will be there for you-- someone who will stand up for you. Proverbs 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity." A friend loves you at all times. A friend is someone who accepts you with all your faults, quirks, and your failings. Someone once said, "a friend is one who knows all about you and loves you anyway."

If we are looking for friends, we need to be reliable. Proverbs 18:24 tells us, "One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." A friend is a person who can stick with you. We need not be critical, negative or fault finding all the time but be honest and have tough love. You want someone who tells you difficult things with love and confronts you when you make mistakes. A true friend is honest and truthful even if it hurts.

I have to say I am blessed to have friends I can go to, as well as, stand with at all times.

I would love to introduce you to a great friend, JESUS. "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." (John 15:13-15)

Jesus wants you as a friend. What an honor! He accepts you as you are. He took your place at the cross, took your punishment and would love to spend eternity with you.

There is a beautiful song "What a Friend We have in Jesus." Please take the time to read the words. To have this friendship, we need to spend time with Him in prayer, read His word, the Bible, and walk in obedience to Him. We can enjoy His fellowship, comfort, encouragement, love and care.

Hope you find this friend during this time when there is so much uncertainty in so many areas.. If you want, I would love to be your friend.

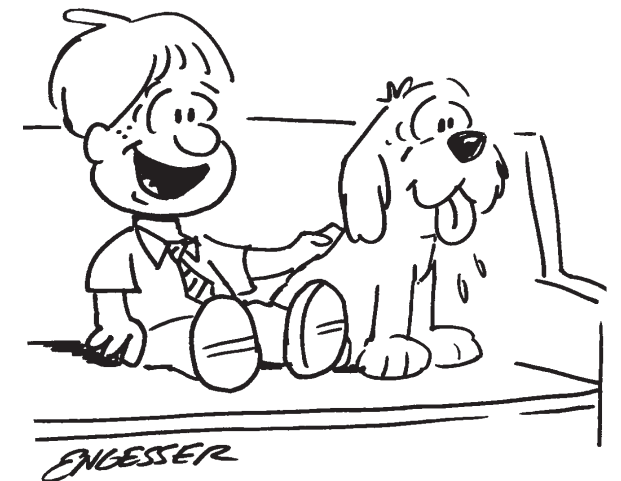
God Bless
In Christ's steps,
Pastor Shaker



POP UP VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IN THE WORKS

Since the COVID crisis/guidelines have made it nearly impossible for us to have a week of VBS, the Leadership Council has plans in the works for an outdoor Pop Up VBS. This Mission Trip Team had a Pop Up VBS for the community children last summer and it went well. So this is a perfectly opportunity to use this type of ministry again. Details will be announce during Sunday worship and a text message will go out when the dates have been set.

So keep your eyes and ears open for all the details. The kids will love this!!



"You said we could bring a friend!"

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MAY MINUTES

Meeting was called to order with prayer.

Family Pastor Jake, informed the committee that he was resigning his position. He has accepted a Pastoral position with a church in Manchester, Iowa. The staffing team will meet to discuss his final employment date.

April minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report: The operating account for March is correct. Vicki stated that the monthly giving has been stable.

Deacon's Report: The Deacon's met in May. COVID-19: Governor Pritzker has eased some restrictions, committee is looking into Phase 3, re-opening proposal, approved that more than 1 small group (less than 10) can meet at the church. They are to contact the church office to schedule date and location.

Ministry Team Reports:

Outreach and Evangelism: Nothing to report.

Missions: Summer mission trip waiting for travel restrictions to be lifted, May use funds from SBA grant to 'Pay it forward' to assist ABC missionaries.

Youth & Children's Discipleship: Delivered 50 'Miss you' gift bags. Spoke with many of the parents.

Family Discipleship: Zoom is available to small groups.

Staff Relations: Custodial position has been filled by Allison Hickam, starting May 20. Church Secretary position search made public. Will review job

description and contact ABC office for referrals on filling Family Pastor position. Will schedule a staff meeting.

Financial and Stewardship: Received SBA Payroll Grant. Monthly giving has been stable. Accolades were given to Scott Evans for the extra time he's put into balancing the accounts. Thought reminder of Tithes and Offering during online service would be helpful.

Building and Grounds: Voss to complete the Parlor A/C installation. Annual Fire Department inspection was due. Getting bids on the following repairs: Drainage Issues on North side of Education wing. Bell Tower rubber roofing and Rental house shingles.

Roofing/Brick flashing leaks on Education Wing Windows. Exposed bricks in the stairwells. Broken Parlor doors.

Emergency Response Team: Map of Building / Emergency evacuation plan was tabled.

Special Events (Outreach): Delivered Mother's Day gifts, Working on Graduation gifts and class promotions Planning Father's Day service, possibly a Drive In service.

Worship Ministry: Team meets remotely every 1-2 weeks. Sunday Services continue to be aired online on the church's Facebook page.

Kitchen and Dinners: Nothing to report.

Strategic Planning & Action: Nothing to report.

Nominating Team: Nothing to report

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Technology: Will need FM convertor/transmitter to conduct Drive In service. Volunteers are needed to run sound booth.

Senior Pastor: Has been keeping in touch with parishioners, sending cards, letters and making phone calls. He has had many visitors stopping by the office. Would like members to be part of the online services.

Thought that members needed to hear from each other, asked Council and Deacon's to work as a team in contacting members.

Family Pastor: Continuing with his classes and Bible studies. Departure date TBA.

Meeting adjourned 7:35

Reminders and Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 6:00 pm.

WORDS OF APPRECIATION TO THE FBC FAMILY OF FAITH

Church Family,

Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. Thank you for the calls, cards, and prayers for a successful knee surgery and quick recovery.

Jeff Wright

Church Family,

Thank you for all your calls, cards and flowers in the unexpected death of Jeff's brother, Mark. It was truly appreciated.

God Bless
Linda & Jeff Wright

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURES FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY

The church office will be closed **Friday, July 3th**, so the staff can spend the Independence Day holiday with their families.

In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Shaker or a Deacon at home.

Have a safe & wonderful 4th of July!!

This is my last newsletter. I am sitting here typing to meet the deadline and I feel somewhat heavy hearted. The "Bapties" is by far the largest and most time consuming job I do here at FBC. But it is also one of the most important because these events and news items are the ties that connect FBC family.

I feel blessed to have been here at FBC and looking back it seemed to have made it easy for me to serve my Savior Jesus Christ in my daily walk because of all of you.

In the past 26 1/2 years, we have supported each other, cried together, laughed together, prayed together and loved one another. I will truly miss being in the church office and helping all of you.

Your new church secretary is Gayla Jones and she will start in mid July. I know you will love her as much as you have shown love to me.

I pray that Jesus will wrap his hands of love and protection around you. And may His blessings pour down on each and everyone of you. God bless!

With love and in Christ's steps,
Kay

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