A Word From Pastor Stephen

This month I wanted to pass on a piece written by current Southern Baptist Convention president Bart Barber. For many years, the SBC president has been the pastor of a church of thousands. But since 1999, Dr. Barber has served as the pastor of First Baptist Church of Farmersville Texas, a congregation not much larger than our own. While I would not say that we *know* one another, we have interacted briefly in person and online over the last 15 years or so. I believe him to be a godly man and faithful pastor who strives to honor the Lord.

Recently he wrote a piece for his church that I came across online, and I thought it would be a helpful and encouraging thing to pass on to you. It is reproduced below- with a few additional comments by me added in italics - pastor stephen (p.s.). My hope in sharing this is that it would encourage and exhort us all to gather for worship each week faithfully, intentionally, and joyfully!

As always, I am working *with* you for your joy, progress, and maturity in the faith.

(2 Cor. 1:24; Phil. 1:25; Col.1:28)

I LOVE YOU, FBC! pastor Stephen

"Good Saturday evening, as you make things ready tonight for your family to come to church tomorrow morning, this is just a reminder of four things you are trying to accomplish tomorrow morning (and every Sunday morning).

- 1. You are **BEARING WITNESS to your family, friends, and neighbors** that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important thing that ever happened. That's why Sunday is the day when we worship, because Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week. Just by seeing you get up, get dressed, and go worship Jesus every Sunday morning—before doing anything further—everyone who sees you do that or notices that you decline to do other things in favor of worshiping Jesus on Sunday gets this important message.
- 2. You are joining with your church family to **SAY THINGS to God.** The point of the singing is for YOU to sing songs that tell God how holy and loving and majestic and good He is. The point of the praying is for YOU to pray and to tell God how much you love him and what you need. Even your giving is a message to God about how valuable He is to you. (*** This is also the purpose of our corporate confession & assurance of pardon- to say to the Lord, "We know we don't deserve anything good from you, or even to speak/ sing your name. But we also believe you when you say that in Christ, we have pardon, forgiveness, and acceptance."- p.s.)
- 3. You are joining with your church family to **LISTEN for God to say something to you.** The Sunday School lesson should consist of teaching from the Bible, which is God speaking to you. The sermon should consist of preaching from the Bible, which is God speaking to you. When the Bible is taught/preached, the Holy Spirit makes application of biblical truth to your life. Come to listen.
- 4. You are **FITTING TOGETHER with the people of your church family.** Some weeks you need help and encouragement. Some weeks others need it more. Be there for them. Let them be there for you. (Additionally, every member should strive to serve in some way. "What's in it for me?" is a consumer mindset. "How can I help serve my church family?" is a Christian mindset. Thankfully, we have members who faithfully serve regularly. I pray we would have even more to begin to serve to help spread out the responsibilities!- p.s.)

So, to benefit from the gathering of the church the way God wants you to benefit from it...

- 1. Determine to come.
- 2. Determine to come and sing/pray/speak/give.
- 3. Determine to come and listen.
- 4. Determine to come serve and be there for others."

- by Bart Barber (https://twitter.com/bartbarber/status/1769171873512779830; accessed 3/21/2024)

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, FULTON KY NEWSLETTER

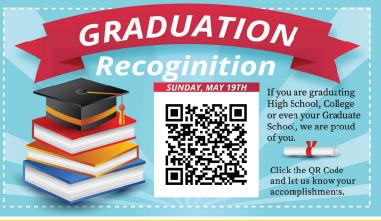


Students (grades 6-12) are invited to join us for a hang out at Alex & Jeni's house as we take in the first game of the Final Four, enjoy good food, and fellowship together 4 - 8PM. Students can come and go as time allows or can stay the whole time! Feel free to bring board/card games or food/snacks to share with the group. Even if you don't enjoy basketball, we promise you'll have fun!











DON'T WAIT UNTIL
THE LAST MINUTE
OPERATION (HRISTMAS (HILD

April-ivory soap and boys socks.

May-hair brushes and girls socks.

June - small toy for a boy/girl



APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	Church Council 6:30 PM CR	Second Millers 11 AM Southern States	Finance Mtg after AM Activities CR	4	5	6 •Final Four Hangout @ The Robinson - 4-8 PM (Grade 6-12)
		a Destinee Walker	# Wyatt Walker			th Christiana Payne
The Lord's Supper	8	9	10	11 • Senior Seasoned Ladies	12	13
• Deacon Mtg CR 4:00 PM				Bible Study Parlor 10:30 AM		
•Men's Study FH 5PM	Melissa Fulcher Michael Milner	*** Kim Curtis		th Kylie Graves	th Tony Mathias	Piper Cavness
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
●Women's Study FH 5PM .						Cerissa Chapel Daniel le Dillon
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
●Men's Study FH 5PM				•Senior Seasoned Ladies Bible Study Parlor 10:30 AM		
	# Eric Lipford		errick Jackson			
28	29	30				
• Women's Study FH 5PM		Red Cross Blood Drive Gym 11 - 3 pm				
Audrey Redden Lennox Jones						

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April 2	Second Milers 10:30 AM FH
April 3	Finance Mtg After Evening Activities
April 6	Final Four Hangout @ The Robinson 4-8 PM
April 7	Deacon Mtg4:00 PM CR
	Men's Sunday Night Study5:00 PM FH
April 11	Seasoned Ladies Bible Study.10:30 AM Parlor
April 14	Women's Sunday Night Study5:00 PM FH
April 21	Men's Sunday Night Study5:00 PM FH
April 25	Seasoned Ladies Bible Study 10:30 AM Parlor
April 28	Women's Sunday Night Study5:00 PM FH
April 30	Red Cross Blood Drive 11:00-3:00 PM Gym



MEDIA

April /	Logan Cromika, Zeke Goodman, Kevin Cromika
April 14	Marianne Redden, Griffin Redden, Mikki McLeary
April 21	Destinee and Wyatt Walker, Elijah Dickenson
April 28	Charlie Cavness, Corbin Fulcher, David Gallimore

NURSERY

April 7	Nancy Owen, Destinee Walker
April 14	Jeni Robinson, Shawna Williams
April 21	Erin Hancock, GraceAnna Dickenson
April 28	Elizabeth Jackson, Jill Jackson, Lizette Hancock

WORSHIP TEAM

April 14 Christi Cavness, Piper Cavness April 28 Erin Hancock, Emily Jones

WELCOME TEAM

April 7	Piper Cavness, Jason Elliott, Jeni Robinson, Linda Brann, Amy Cromika
April 14	Kataya Chapel, Emily Jones, Carey Capps, Kay Hutchins, Alex Britt
April 21	Jill Jackson, Jan McCluskey, Debbie Hastings, Gigi Milner, Christi Cavness

April 28 GraceAnna Dickenson, Amber Elliott, Melissa Goodman, Vicki McLeary, Linda Brann

A Note From Associate Pastor Alex Robinson Lessons Learned from my Sabbatical

Church family, I want to say "thank you" for gifting me with a one-month sabbatical over the month of February and March. This was a kindness of the Lord to me and to my family. We missed all of you and we are so glad to be back! I thought I would take this space to share 4 lessons I learned or was reminded of while out. I could share more but 4 will suffice for now.

- 1. I am a sinner. Of course, I know this full well, but I was struck by the subtle nature of sin that I had not noticed. Sometimes, pulling back from what is keeping us distracted is what we need for the Lord to do His work of revealing sin issues that are present deep within. He was kind to lead me to see and acknowledge, confess, and repent of my sin.
- 2. My happiness is bound up in the Lord. One author put a twist on the Westminster Catechism's first question by stating: Man's chief end is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever. Joy in the Christian life is not optional. It is not an add on. It is essential. I would challenge you to start noticing as you read your bible how often words like joy, gladness, delight, satisfy, desire, content, thirsts, beauty, sweet, good, etc occur. It is at His right hand that there are pleasures forevermore. The pleasures of this world are a shadow of real pleasure. We were made to be happy in God and Him alone. Oh, how I needed to be stirred up and reminded of this beautiful truth.
- *3. I am a sheep.* Pastors are not the exception to the rule. Our capacities are limited and this is good for us to be reminded of. We may be shepherds, but we are first Christians. We are sheep who also need to be shepherded and we need the fellowship of God's people.
- 4. I love my family. The Lord deepened my love for my wife and my children. The Lord has taken thought of me, a poor and needy man and given me an excellent wife. She is to me far more precious than jewels (Prov. 31:10). He has blessed me with 3 wonderful children, and they are a heritage from Him (Psalm 127:3).

SE(0ND MILERS April 2nd | 11:00 AM | Southern State Restaurant









Congratulations to our office manager
Jennifer Akers on her 1 yr. at FBC.
Thank you for all you do for us and
our church family!
- Pastors Stephen & Alex"

Monthly Financial Report			February 2024			
	Actual		Budget Impact on		act on Cash	
Budget Receipts	\$	42,891.00	\$	38,796.00	\$	4095.00
Expenditures	\$	44,376.00	\$	38,797.00	\$	(5,579.00)
Interest Income					\$	26.00
					\$	(1,458.00)

 YTD

 Budget Receipts
 \$ 92,660.00
 \$ 77,593.00
 \$ 15,067.00

 Expenditures
 \$ 78,998.00
 \$ 77,596.00
 \$ (1,402.00)

 Interest Income
 \$ 43.00

 \$ 14,716.00

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SERVICE TIMES SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Youth/Children 5:45 p.m. Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Stephen Cavness, Pastor (502) 216-8155 | scavness@fbcfulton.org

Alex Robinson, Associate Pastor (731) 431-2409 | arobinson@fbcfulton.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Jennifer Akers, Office Manager (270) 472-1663 | jakers@fbcfulton.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH | 115 SECOND ST. | PO BOX 1140 | FULTON, KY 42041 | (270) 472.1663 Church Office Hours: 8am-4:30pm...Mon-Thurs. | 8am-2pm... Friday