

Sweet summer time



July 2024



And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left. ~ Isaiah 30:21

We are always moving into the unknown. We can know the past, and be aware of the present, but the future is always a mystery. In the prophecy of Isaiah, the Lord had revealed that His people would be given the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, but that God would still be with them. As they moved into an unknown future, they would hear a voice from behind guiding them, keeping them from straying off the path. We often feel the same way. We would prefer to know exactly what lies ahead and plan for it accordingly, but that's not how it works. Instead we do two things, we seek wisdom and faithfulness, and we trust that God will be with us and guide us into His will. Last week we revealed the results of the capital campaign on Celebration Sunday. 1.1 Million dollars was committed by our church body for the building of the facility and the building of the kingdom. While that's a wonderful amount of money, the results were not quite as good as we had hoped. We have a vision for a new building with a larger sanctuary, secure kids' ministry area, and a spacious lobby. Our capital

campaign was the first step in moving towards that future. While the capital campaign has concluded, the process of fundraising has only just begun. We will need to discuss and prayerfully discern the vision that has been laid out. In the spirit of Isaiah, are we still on the path? Is the Lord correcting our course? Is there something we are missing? What's the next step?

In the meantime, we ask for prayer and patience. This may be a slower process than we imagined. There is a business meeting in July, and I expect that we will be discussing many of the items that have come up over the past few months through the course of the capital campaign. I don't know if a decision will be made at that point, or if it's even possible to make a decision. From the beginning of this process I believed we had been given a direction not a decision. As we continue to seek the Lord for wisdom and guidance, we need to listen closely to His voice to know if we're still going in the right direction. It's important that we move forward in unity, but it's even more important that we go where God leads us. That can only happen if we are seeking Him first and foremost. That's my prayer for all of us in the months ahead.

In Christ, Pastor Luke



Giving Needed To Meet 2024 Budget YTD
\$329,380.25

Current Expense Giving YTD
\$315,576.86

Building Fund Designations YTD
\$50,944.32

Deacon Fund Designations YTD
\$825.00

KIDS CLUB MINISTRY



Follow Us!
"First Baptist Family
Ministry: Aledo, IL"

**FREE
EVENT**

MESSY Art IN THE PARK

Wed., July 17th 10am-Noon
Fenton Park, Aledo, IL

**FREE SNOW CONES, POPCORN, &
OBSTACLE COURSE**

10-11AM: MESSY ART STATIONS
11-11:15AM: PRIZE GIVE-AWAY & FAMILY MAX TIME
11:15AM-NOON: MESSY ART STATIONS
ROE #33, ALEDO YMCA, MERCO MOMCO & FBC, ALEDO

**SUMMER
to the MAX**
First Baptist Family Ministry, Aledo, IL

Families are invited to join us at Fenton Playground across from Fenton ballfield in Aledo, IL on Wednesday, July 17th from 10am-Noon to play, bounce, create, and eat yummy snacks. *Please stop by the pavilion when you arrive to enter the BIG prize family drawing and to grab a plastic apron.

Little artists will definitely want to wear clothes they can get messy!

We'll have several messy art stations throughout the park hosted by FBC, MomCo, ROE#33, & the YMCA. Families will also enjoy snow cones & an inflatable obstacle course, brought to you by Fields of Fun, and FBC will provide popcorn & waters.

This is a free, family event (all ages can participate) and we ask that a teen/adult be present to supervise kiddos.

At 11am, we'll briefly pause the festivities and gather under the pavilion to draw a winner for the BIG prize and to have a short Family Max Devo. The fun will resume afterward.

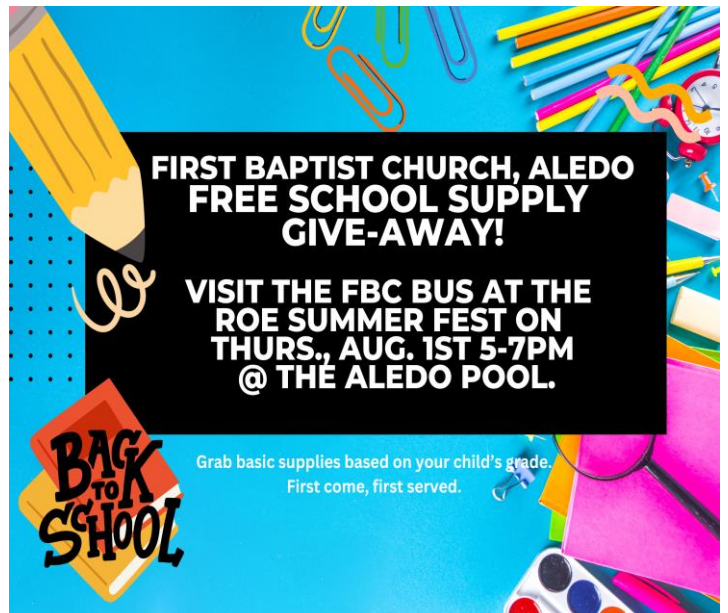
DONATIONS FOR APOLLO ELEMENTARY

FBC is Collecting the following gently used items
for the 2024-25 School year for Apollo
Elementary:

- Size 6 & 8 pants for boy or girl
- Tennis shoes Kids size 5-14
- Coats & Snow Boots –
All kids sizes accepted
- Backpacks



Leave in Mollie's office
no later than July 31st.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ALEDO
FREE SCHOOL SUPPLY
GIVE-AWAY!**

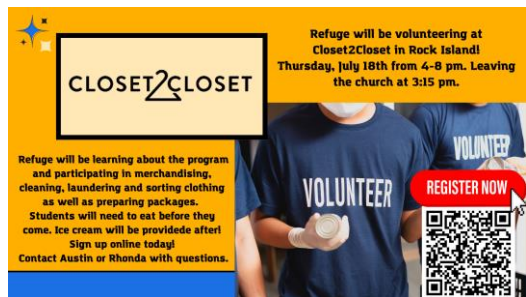
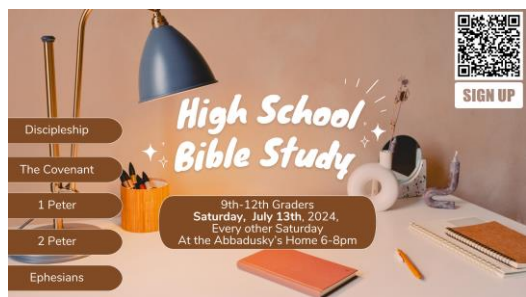
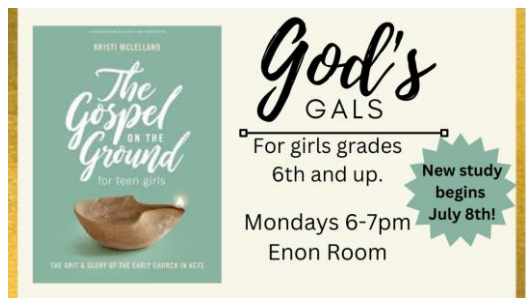
**VISIT THE FBC BUS AT THE
ROE SUMMER FEST ON
THURS., AUG. 1ST 5-7PM
@ THE ALEDO POOL.**

Grab basic supplies based on your child's grade.
First come, first served.

**BACK
TO
SCHOOL**

Refuge Student Ministry

Refuge Student Ministry News



Refuge Student Ministry-Refuge is for students grades 6th-12th, Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm! We make sure students have a safe place to come, have fun, laugh and be the person God has made them to be. No Refuge, July 3rd.

God's Gals-Girls in 6th-12th grades are invited to join us Mondays from 6-7pm in the Enon Room. On Monday, July 8th, we will begin "The Gospel on the Ground Study- The Grit & Glory of the Early Church in Acts." This study is open to all girls Middle School through High School. If you're new to this study, please sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com. Questions see Rhonda McKinley or Vickie Korn. Due to CIY we will not be meeting on July 29th.

Meet at the Fair! - All students 6th-12th grade are invited to join us at the fair bleachers, July 10th at 6:30pm! We will be reserving spots on the bleachers so be on the lookout on where we will be! We are not providing tickets or childcare so students' parents must be aware where their kids are, this is purely just a meet up!

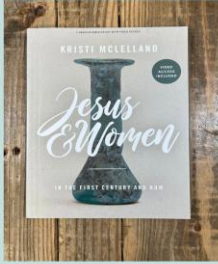
High School Bible Study-Our next meeting will be July 13th @ 6pm. We will be studying and discussing the New Covenant (Covenant of Grace) and how it applies to us. Please be in prayer of anyone that you think would be interested in learning about this covenant and feel free to invite them. Dinner is provided and free to attend. This study meets at Nick & Justina Abbadusky's home-408 NE 12th St. Aledo.

Closet2Closet - Refuge will be volunteering at Closet2Closet in Rock Island! Thursday, July 18th from 4-8 pm. Leaving the church at 3:15 pm. Refuge will be learning about the program and participating in merchandising, cleaning, laundering and sorting clothing as well as preparing packages. Students will need to eat before they come. Ice cream will be provided after! Sign up online today! Contact Austin or Rhonda with questions.

Refuge Summer Bible Reading Challenge - All students are challenged from June 1st - August 3rd to read through the book of Romans! ESV Illuminated Scripture Journal will be provided so you can highlight and take notes! There will be prizes for those who complete the challenge! Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com. Questions? Contact Britni Ewing 309-224-4184.

CIY MIX-MIX is a 4-day summer event built for middle school brains, hearts, and bodies. That's why the Gospel is taught in a way they understand. It's why small group discussions aren't an afterthought. And it's why we play a lot. Moments at MIX change lives and could be the most important four days of your youth ministry calendar. This year we will be going to Hope College on July 28th-August 1st. Cost will be \$190 per student, the deadline to sign up is July 6th!

Flourish Women's Ministry



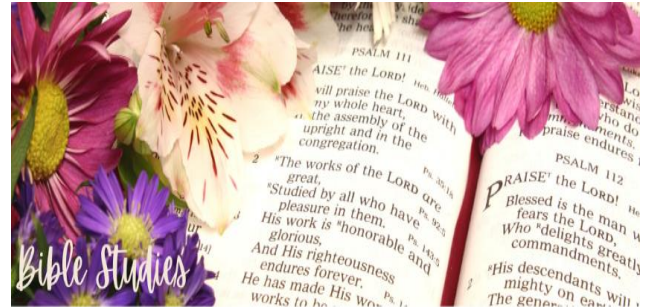
*Women's Tuesdays
with Jesus Study*

**JESUS &
WOMEN**

**This NEW Study Begins July 23rd
Tuesdays at 2pm
Led by Rhonda McKinley
Enon Room
Sign up online at
firstbaptistaledo.com

Tuesdays With Jesus Women's Study

New study begins July 23rd. We'll be going through Kristi McLelland's "Jesus and Women" study. Imagine walking the dusty roads of Galilee with Jesus of Nazareth-braving jostling crowds just to touch the edge of His cloak and hear Him say, "Take heart, daughter, your faith has healed you." Those words, once meant to comfort a hurting woman's soul thousands of years ago, were also meant for you. This class is led by Rhonda McKinley and meets on Tuesdays at 2pm in the Enon Room. Jump in any time!



Britni Ewing hosts a verse-by-verse study of 1 Peter at her home. The class takes place on Wednesdays at 1pm. Handouts provided, bring your Bible and a notebook! Contact Britni 309-224-4184 for more details or directions to her home.

Sheri Olson hosts a study of the book of Matthew. The class takes place on Tuesdays from 10-11:30am at her home (720 SW 2nd Ave Aledo). This is an ongoing study, so jump in at any time.

Sheri Olson also hosts study on the book of Daniel. The class takes place on Tuesdays from 12-1:30pm at her home (720 SW 2nd Ave Aledo). This is an ongoing study so jump in at any time.



JOY

J.O.Y. CIRCLE
4th Tuesday at 7pm
in the Enon Room

Joy Circle

All ladies are invited to J.O.Y. Circle on Tuesday, July 23rd at 7pm in the Enon Room. Come join us for fun, fellowship and a devotion.



Ladies Night Out!

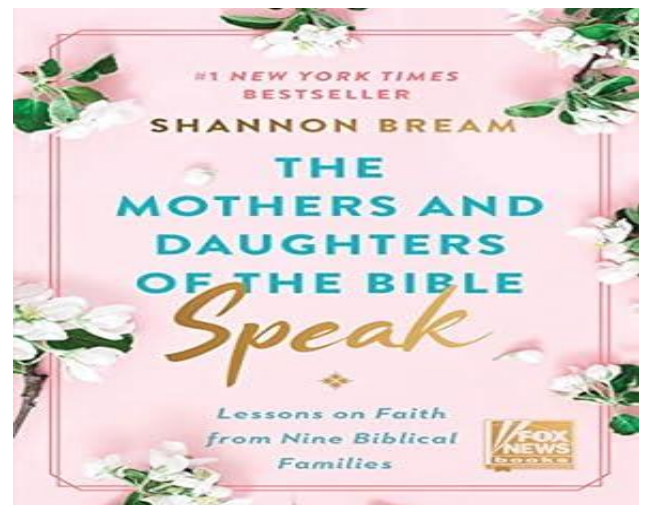
Sign Up Today!
Friday, July 26th - 6pm @ FBC
Cost - \$13
RSVP @ [Firstbaptistaledo.com!](http://Firstbaptistaledo.com)

All ladies high school age and older are invited to a casual evening of fun, food, fellowship and testimonies!

Sign up now open for Ladies Night Out!

All women of the church High School age and up are invited to Ladies Night Out held at FBC Friday, July 26 at 6pm. Join us for a casual evening of fun, food and fellowship. We'll have a nice dinner together that you don't have to cook and hear some inspiring testimonies. Cost is \$13 per person, and you can sign up on the church website.

****Deadline to register is July 11th.**



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE FALL WOMEN'S CLASS

Thinking ahead to the Fall and Wednesday Night Live Classes, we are happy to announce the Women's Study for WNL. Please join Kady Hofer as she leads the study "The Mothers And Daughters of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream. More details about this study and online sign up will be coming soon! WNL runs from Sept. 4th-Nov. 13th on Wednesday's from 6:30-8pm.

Faith At The Fairgrounds/ Bowkers Say Thanks!



Same fun event with a new name and location! - Due to construction in the Aledo Central Park parking lot, we're moving our annual Praise in the Park event to the Mercer County Fairgrounds and so we have a new name for this fun event! **Faith at the Fairgrounds** will be Sunday, August. 25th from 10am-2pm. Mark your calendar, grab an invite postcard at the Welcome Desk and invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us at Faith at the Fairgrounds. We'll kickoff the day with worship, then enjoy lunch, live music and family fun! We'll have a Kids Fun Zone-Water & Bounce Inflatables, games for teens, snow cones by Snazzy's Lemonade and live music. It's all FREE to attend! No Sunday School or 8am service this day.



Thank You!

To our dear church family,

There is no way to adequately express our gratitude for the tremendous blessing that you have given us. You are all very good secret-keepers, because we were totally shocked when we came home from vacation to find our home had been transformed. We are completely overwhelmed by the physical effort, time, and financial generosity it took to make these changes happen. To everyone who worked on the inside and outside of our house, everyone who stayed home with kiddos so your spouse could come work, everyone who fed the workers, everyone who gave financially, to the prayers surrounding it all; we humbly say, thank you so very much!

We love you all!

Seth. Denise. Natalie. Jadon. and Waffles

FBC Men's Ministry

What's Coming Up?

On July 20th our annual Rooted Conference is scheduled with Tom Harmon as our guest speaker. Tom draws upon his 11 years as a State Patrol Officer and as a college athlete to illustrate God's work in his life. In 1984, he sensed God's call to preach, resigned from the state police, pastored a small church for four years, and then became a full-time itinerant preacher. Tom has led numerous Momentum Weekends at Life Action Camp in Buchanan MI. You may register online at the church website. The Men's Ministry is planning a night at the ballpark in August. It is Faith and Fellowship night on August 9th beginning at 6:30pm with the Quad City River Bandits hosting the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers. Tickets are \$5 when purchased online at FBC website. This includes your ticket and a voucher for a hotdog, chips and drink and to top it off there is a post game fireworks show. Also please remember that we host a Men's Breakfast every Sunday morning beginning at 7am. We have breakfast then follow up with questions on the previous week's sermon. We do dismiss in time for 8am services. It's a great time for fellowship and accountability. Men 13 years and older are welcome.

FBC Presents: Rooted Men's Conference

BE WISE

Saturday
July 20th
8am-2pm

Featuring:
Tom
Harmon



Cost: Free
Breakfast &
Lunch
Provided

Register at firstbaptistaledo.com

Join us for the **Men's Rooted Conference** Saturday, July 20th at FBC. This year's theme is "Be Wise" and Tom Harmon from Life Action Camp will be our featured speaker. **Nearly 100 guys are already signed up!** We'll feed you breakfast & lunch and it's free to attend! Sign up today at firstbaptistaledo.com



QUAD CITIES RIVER BANDITS
FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHT
AUGUST 9TH, 2024

The FBC Men's Ministry is sponsoring the ticket cost so your cost is just \$5 per person and includes a Hot Dogs, Chips And Soda Voucher. Pre-Game Speech by Team Chaplin Doug Rowland at 5:30pm. GAME BEGINS AT 6:30PM. POST GAME FIREWORKS! To reserve your tickets Visit Firstbaptistaledo.com, click on Sign Ups. Tickets will be picked up in the church office.

SPONSORED BY



Take Me Out To The Ball Park!

The FBC Men's Ministry is sponsoring A Night at the Ball Park during the QC River Bandits Faith & Family Event.

Date: Friday, August 9th at 6:30pm

Tickets are \$5 each (this is a discounted price as the Men's Ministry is paying the remainder) and includes a voucher for a hot dog, chips and a drink!

Sign up at firstbaptistaledo.com today!



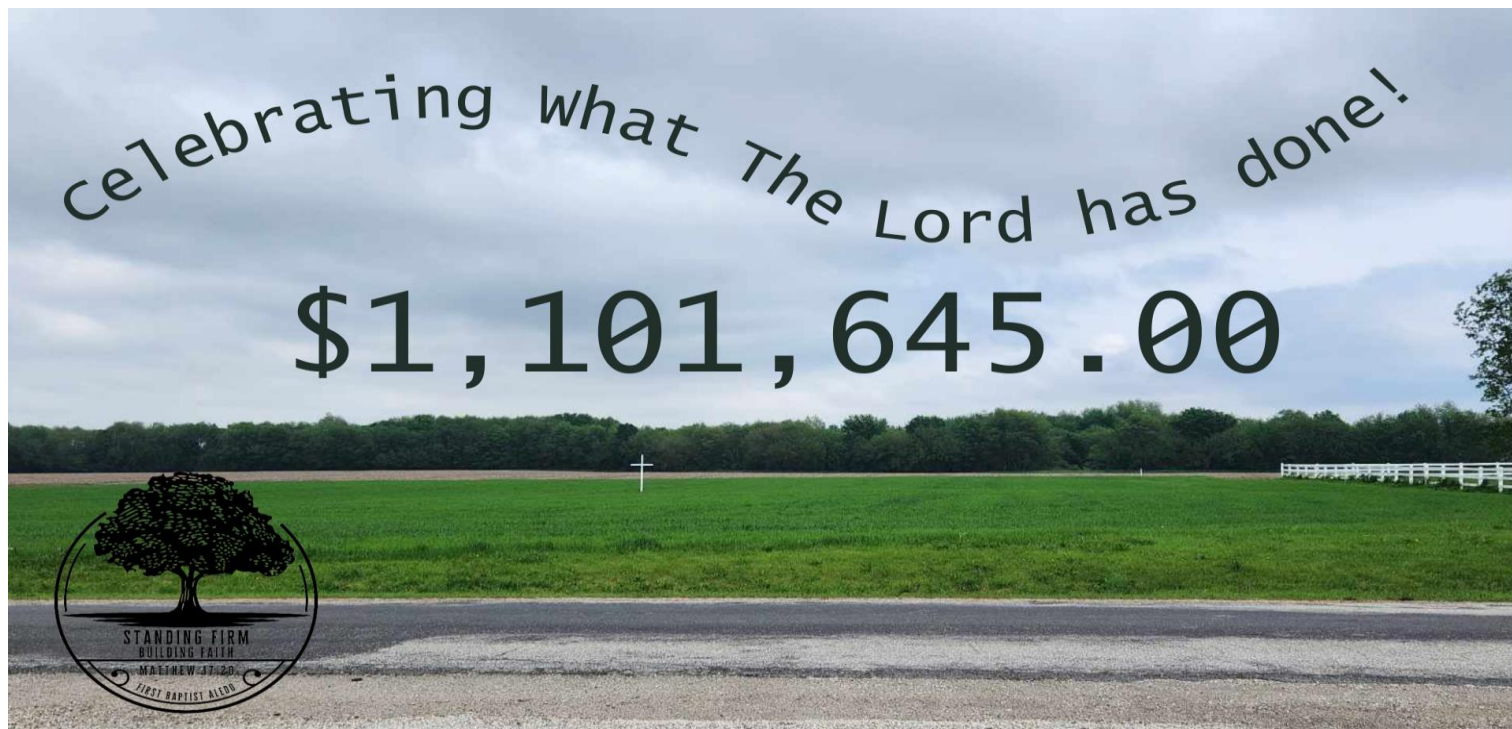
Come & Enjoy!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Food | Fellowship | Faith

7am
EVERY SUNDAY
BEREAN ROOM

Capital Campaign Update!/Church Meetings



On Sunday, June 23rd, 2024 we had Celebration Sunday at First Baptist! This was a time where we announced the total raised during the FBC Standing Firm Building Faith Campaign. FBC Capital Campaign Co-Chair, Chase Burns shared with the church family during the 8am and 10:15ams service that the total raised as of June 23, 2024 was \$1,101,645.00 committed from 76 families! We are thanking the Lord for what he has done in and through the many families who made a commitment to the campaign. It is not too late to turn in your Commitment Card as Pastor Luke stated in his newsletter article “While the capital campaign has concluded, the process of fundraising has only just begun. We will need to discuss and prayerfully discern the vision that has been laid out.” So, thank you all so very much for praying and/or committing to this important project. We look forward to seeing what the Lord has planned for the future growth of First Baptist Church!



Upcoming Church Meetings

Mark your calendar for the Quarterly Church Business Meeting which will be Sunday, July 21st at 11:45am. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

The FBC Church Council will meet on Tuesday, July 16th at 7pm.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
800 NE 6TH AVE.
ALEDO, IL 61231

PHONE: 309.582.7812
E-MAIL: FBCALEDO2@FRONTIERNET.NET
WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALED.COM

PRE-SORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 102
ALEDO, IL 61231

Stay Connected!

- We offer worship at 8am & 10:15am. Sunday School for all ages is at 9am along with a nursery for 0-2 years old. We have Kids Worship at the 10:15am service as well as a nursery for babies 0-2 years.
- For all the details about our upcoming events and live streaming Visit FirstBaptistAledo.com.
- Listen to WRMJ 102.3 at 10:30am each Sunday.
- Download the "Church Center App" from the App Store or Google Play and choose "First Baptist Church, Aledo, IL" to easily sign up for church events, check our church calendar, give online, watch sermons and receive important church notifications.
- Find Us On Facebook.
- Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.



***Love Christ.
Love Others.
Think Biblically.***



Celebrating The 4th Of July!
Church Office will be closed:
Thursday, July 4th & Friday, July 5th