



Family Reunion

Do you remember family reunions? Perhaps your extended family still has such gatherings. It's been quite some time since I last attended a family reunion of my relatives, in fact not since my adolescence. But I still remember them. We often gathered in the city park. There was a picnic potluck style meal, with everyone contributing. There were games for the kids and adults, free play on the park playground and swimming in the city pool. And there was a lot of talking, visiting and catching up with one another.

As a kid that meant getting my cheeks pinched, talk of how tall I was getting, and introductions to distant relatives I would be hard pressed to call by name. My parents got more out of the reunion than my siblings and I, but the food was pretty good. In fact, one lasting memory I have from these experiences involved the food.

There was this fellow who was in some way a cousin, or cousin by marriage, who went on and on about the food his wife brought for the meal. He would stand by the food table and demand you try some of her cooking, whether you wanted to or not. Then he would hold forth about it after you tried a bite. I couldn't believe we were related to that guy! That's the thing with family, though, isn't it? You don't choose your family.

The Bible is filled with family stories, and in preparation for our August church retreat, which we are calling "Family Reunion," I will be preaching from some of the stories in July. Many of them are found in the Old Testament. We will dip into the story of Moses and his father-in-law, Joseph and his brothers, the Law's teachings on "family matters", Moses passing the torch to Joshua, and Jesus' understanding of family.

Some of these families seem dysfunctional. They all have their unique issues and challenges. In short, they are a lot like families of today. We find ourselves in their story.

We frequently call the church a "family" - a family of faith. This is a family that we choose to be part of. It's made up of our brothers and sisters in Christ who form the unique faith community we call our spiritual home. Sometimes our relationships with fellow Christ family members are closer than those of our own families. Because we have shared life together, and been involved in mission together, there is a bond that forms. The past couple of years have been hard on faith families like ours. We had to be distanced and apart for safety, and we found ourselves missing each other. So, it's time to celebrate this family and gather in retreat to do so.

I hope you will join us at Hilltop Camp and FBC the weekend of August 5-7 to be part of our FBC Family Reunion. Come for the day, stay overnight, join us for the Sunday celebration at FBC; or do all of the above. Let's reconnect and share a special time around this theme. We need you to register by July 3 so we can plan accordingly. You will find that information elsewhere in this newsletter.

Pastor Dan



SEASON OF THE CHURCH: PENTECOST

JUNE 4TH - NOVEMBER 26TH

Presence

I'm writing this having just finished my third quarter of classes at Fuller. Yay Summer! But the end of this quarter left me with more questions than answers. As I finished up a research paper, I was reminded of a book called "Worship and the Reality of God" which might be the most formative book I've read regarding worship as the author gets at something we can easily take for granted on Sunday mornings: God exists.

As I returned to this book, I remembered back to when was I interviewing here and how we had a Q&A session via Livestream (Remember that? What a start to a job!). During that session I mentioned how my first step in worship design was the fact that God exists and is the one to call *us* into *His* presence. That's still my first step, but sometimes we need a reminder for it to hit in a new way. Davis did that for me.

How about you? We're in the dog days of summer, and it's technically not even summer yet! But as I write this, we're under a severe heat advisory. What if I told you this heat doesn't hold a candle to the presence of God? Just as we stay inside and wear sunscreen, the priests of the Old Testament had to take certain measures to make sure they could simply be in the presence of God! Now, thanks to Jesus, we don't have to worry about that. But it doesn't change the fact that our gathering on Sunday morning is still a holy and miraculous event because God *wants* to spend time with us. So I'd love to know: When do you feel the heat of God's presence? Stop by my office, call me, or grab me after service to tell me.

Peace,
Pastor Daniel

Around The Church

Family Reunion – Church Retreat August 5-7 at Hilltop Camp

We will gather August 5 and 6 at Hilltop Camp (6014 Hamilton Creek Rd, Columbus, IN 47201). Friday's session will begin with informal gathering beginning at 5pm until 6pm Dinner. We will have worship and some special activities and presentations before 11pm lights out. You may opt to stay the night at camp for \$25/person, or you may go home and return for Saturday's sessions beginning with 8am breakfast and continuing through the day until an 8:30pm dismissal. Sunday morning we will wrap things up at FBC with a Celebration Worship Service! Full schedule to come.

Cost: \$8/meal for adults, \$4/meal for children. Overnight stay \$25/person - option to stay Friday night or Friday and Saturday night.

Sharing FBC Photos: Part of the weekend will involve reflection on our past history. You may share photos through the website or bring printed photos to Pastor Reilly, who will scan them and return them to you .

You can register on the website or pick up a paper registration form in the Gathering Place. Registration Deadline is July 3.

Family Reunion Sermon Series (July into August)

July 3 – “Called to Freedom”
Galatians 5:13-15

July 10 – “Moses & His Father-in-Law”
Exodus 18

July 17 – “Joseph & his Brothers”
Genesis 45:1-28

July 24 – “Family Matters”
Deuteronomy 5:22 – 6:9

July 31 – “Moses Passes the Torch”
Deuteronomy 34:1-8
Joshua 1:1-8

Aug. 7 – “A New Understanding of Family”
Matthew 12:46-50

Reminder:

Quarterly Congregational Meeting
Wednesday, July 20 at 6:30 p.m.
FBC Chapel



MISSION

Faith Partners in Compassion Update

Your Afghan Family Support Team hosted an Afghani family the weekend of June 9-13 in Columbus at our apartment. This is a family of five, including a father, mother and three daughters (ages 8 months, 7 & 8 years). They have been living and working in Columbus, Ohio since January of 2022, but were formerly at Camp Atterbury where they made friends, some of whom ended up in our Columbus. The weekend visit was in part to discern if it would be beneficial for this family to relocate here. We believe that it will be, as they will become part of a community of other Afghan families sponsored by our Faith Partners, thus not as isolated as they have felt for the past months.

Details of their relocation are now being worked out between the family, our team and their sponsoring agency in Ohio. We anticipate they will be moved sometime in July so that the older children can begin the school year here. Our FBC family support team will be involved in helping them with things like employment, enrollment in ESL classes, and adjustment to our city and community. We will share more information as is appropriate, but for now please be in prayer for the Malik Zada family and our team.



Dear Church Family,

I greatly appreciate the Foundation Scholarship and all of the support you have given me. It will help me as I continue to pursue my education. Thanks so much!

Eric Olson

I am so thankful for my medical team and the First Baptist family...their prayers, cards, calls, and transportation. It's so wonderful to be a part of the family of God.

Lois Griffith

Corie Wheeler will be moving to Florida in July. Below is her new address:

Corie Wheeler
6302 Oak Knoll Rd.
Panama City, FL 32404

This Month's Leadership

Pastoral Care Team

July 3 - Susan Carter & Charlotte Oestreicher
July 10 - Ron & Peggy Lane
July 17 - Daryl & Dot McMath
July 24 - Tim & Paula Pickup
July 31 - Dortha Anderson & Mandy Reed

Serving in the Nursery:

First Sunday: Susan Hoffman
Second Sunday: Adams
Third Sunday: Fee
Fourth Sunday: *Open*
Fifth Sunday: *Open*

Children's Sunday School

2-4 Year Olds -

Teachers:

First Sunday: Ben Slaton
Second Sunday: Susan Carter
Third Sunday: Carol Poe/Beth Slaton
Fourth Sunday: Heidi Jones
Fifth Sunday: Carolyn Pool

Helpers:

First Sunday: Slatons
Second Sunday: *Open*
Third Sunday: Jennifer Kelley
Fourth Sunday: *Open*
Fifth Sunday: Carolyn Pool

Kids Connection:

First Sunday: Marcia Cheek
Second Sunday: Linda Reid
Third Sunday: Terri Ketterling
Fourth Sunday: Deanna Glick

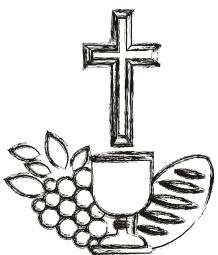
No Kids Connection on fifth Sundays.



July Coffee Fellowship (following worship) - July 31

Last names A-H are invited to bring treats to share.

Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, July 3

For those of you who join us for worship via live stream, we invite you to have something available to use for communion as we come to the Lord's Table together.

July Birthdays



1. ~ Deanna Glick
6. ~ Gavin Frady
7. ~ Lucy Cash
9. ~ Karri Scgalski
10. ~ Kari Lovelace
11. ~ Scott Babb
12. ~ Mary Greene, Diane Ginn
14. ~ Grace Marshall, Dave Stehouwer
18. ~ Homer Ford

21. ~ Ruby Cunningham
23. ~ Katie Emmert
24. ~ John Stafford
26. ~ Beth Slaton
28. ~ Liz Lipson, Alice Richmond
29. ~ Jane Seal
30. ~ Allen Rea
31. ~ Steven Pool

The Body of Christ Prays For...



Ramona Harlow, Beth & Dick Miller, Joan Kline, Jeanette McKim, Rick McClintock, & all others who are homebound, in nursing care centers, and recovering from illness.

Looking Ahead

July 12 - Church Council (7:00 pm)

July 15 - Newsletter Deadline

July 20 - Quarterly Business Meeting (6:30 pm)

July 31 - Coffee Fellowship (Last Names A-H are invited to bring treats to share)

Prayer Shawl Group continues on Tuesdays at 11:15 am

Service: Sunday Morning - Worship 9:30 am
(in-person worship & Live Stream)

2nd Hour Learning - following worship at 10:45 am

Live streaming available for Sunday Services

In addition to watching our streaming service on our website, the service is also streamed to Facebook, Roku and AppleTV. It is also sent internationally.



Just Press Play

Live Video Every Sunday at 9:30
firstbaptistcolumbus.org

