



FIRST BAPTIST  
COLUMBUS  
JOIN OUR *Family* OF FAITH

**Rev. Evan Guse, Senior Pastor**  
**Tyler Griffin, Associate Pastor**

## *From the Pastor's Pen*

I don't know about you, but I think I blinked sometime in early June and just like that, we're staring down the month of July. Summer always seems to bring its own rhythm. The calendar may slow down a little, but life stays full in different ways: backyard gatherings, camps, late sunsets, family vacations, and hopefully, a bit of rest along the way.

We just wrapped up *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship*, and I hope it was meaningful teaching series for you as we considered how emotional and spiritual health are deeply connected in the life of a disciple. We were reminded that God desires transformation not just in what we do, but in who we are, people being shaped more and more into the image of Jesus. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit has challenged, encouraged, and met you as you've reflected on your own emotional health, your body, your spiritual practices, and your relationships.

It was a joy to preach through that series, and I'm excited for what's ahead in our worship as we continue to open the Word together throughout the second half of the year. I hope you'll make a point to join us on Sundays. Your presence in worship matters more than you realize.

Of course, summer at First Baptist brings its own rhythms. I've loved spending time with many of you at Sips & Scripture at Lucabe on Thursday mornings. It was a little hot (okay, a lot hot), but it was still a great time to serve with some of you at the Love Chapel food booth at the county fair. We've also got Summer Suppers underway, kids heading to camp, and plenty of other ways we're staying connected even as schedules change.

As we move into this next month, I've found myself reflecting more and more on what it means for spiritual formation to lead to missional living. In other words: what good is it to grow in maturity, if that growth doesn't overflow into how we love and serve the world around us? Jesus never separated spiritual depth from active compassion and neither should we.

My heart keeps turning toward our neighbors:

- Those just a few blocks from the church who don't yet know the love of Jesus.
- The children who live near us who may never have stepped foot in a church building.
- Those in our city who are carrying more than we know, physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

I'm praying about how God might stir us to meet those needs, not just with good intentions, but with real presence, real generosity, and real love. How can we be present to those around us not just as a church building, but as the people of God?

Thank you for being such a faithful and encouraging church family. I love you and I look forward to seeing how God will continue to lead us in the days ahead, deeper in Christ, and outward in love.

*Pastor Evan*



## FBC News

Hello FBC Family!

Summer is here—and it is HOT! As I am writing this, there is a heat advisory out with heat a heat index between 100-107! But even in the heat, I'm reminded of how blessed I am to serve as your Associate Pastor. This season has already been full of joy, growth, and great ministry opportunities.

One of the highlights for me this summer has been serving as the Camp Pastor at Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp. So far, we've seen two campers give their lives to Christ and many others express a desire to grow deeper in their faith. Praise God! I still have two more weeks of camp in July, and I'm looking forward to seeing how God continues to move in the lives of these students. I would ask that you keep all of the campers and staff in your prayers during the summer, praying that God will work in and through each and every person!

A big thank you to everyone who took part in getting photos taken—or submitted one—for the new pictorial directory. It's going to be a wonderful tool for helping us connect and grow as a church family. I hope to have everything submitted within the next month which will give us about a 2 month turnaround period to have the new directories printed and in the hands of the congregation.

I also want to say how much I appreciated walking through the Emotionally Healthy Discipleship series with Pastor Evan and all of you. It was a time of real challenge and spiritual growth for me personally, and I hope it was for you as well. If you haven't been able to read the accompanying book, I encourage you to do so.

Another highlight this summer has been my time spent at Sips and Scriptures at Eastbrook Lucabe. Good coffee, deep conversation, and community—what's not to love? If you haven't come yet, I hope to see you there soon! It was also a blessing to get to serve at the Love Chapel food booth at the county fair. It was hot, but a great opportunity to serve an amazing ministry in our community!

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

—2 Peter 3:18

This verse is a gentle yet powerful reminder that spiritual growth is not a one-time event—it's a lifelong journey. Just like summer brings heat that pushes things to grow, God uses the seasons of our lives to stretch and mature us in His grace. Whether you're at camp, in a Bible study, or having good conversation with a friend, every moment is an invitation to know Jesus more deeply and reflect His love more clearly. Keep growing!

Grateful to serve,

Pastor Tyler

## Around The Church ...



### *Sunday Suppers*

*Sign up in the Gathering Place for  
Sunday Suppers.*

*Dates are: June 29th, July 27th, and  
August 24th.*



#### ***Looking Ahead***

I'm sitting with 100 Samaritan Purse Christmas Boxes in our living room, so it's time to begin thinking about items for your box or boxes for October or November.

With school supplies and tee shirts, etc. on sale as kids return to school, I have a suggestion. Designate a drawer and every shopping trip, pick up an item for your child's box. This will spread out the expense and when the time comes to fill your box or boxes, you will have your items already purchased. (Bars of soap cannot be included this year as well as candy, medical supplies, war like toys, etc.) Happy shopping to bless and share Christ with a special child!

Liz Lipson

## Many Thanks!

Dear Foundation and Members of  
First Baptist,

Thank you so much for the scholarship and the support throughout the years. I appreciate your kindness and willingness to help with my college expenses.

Sincerely,  
Bryce Olson

Dear First Baptist Family,

Thank you so much for your generous scholarships. This will be very helpful in buying books, housing supplies and just general needs we have in college! We are both very thankful and blessed to have the support of our FBC family as we start a new school year at Ball State.

Thank you!  
Evan and Reagan Babb

Thank you, First Baptist Church, for graciously hosting our BSF Woman's Day class for quite a long while! We are most appreciative of your hospitality and graciousness! May God continue to bless your congregation.  
Pat Franklin



## Around The Church ...

### SBYCamp 2025

DONATION OPEN HOUSE: JUNE 1

STAFF TRAINING: MAY 27-JUNE 7

JUNIOR CAMP: JUNE 8-13

TEEN CAMP: JUNE 15-20

CAMP GOOD NEWS: JUNE 21-24

JUNIOR/SENIOR CAMP: JULY 13-18

K & PRIMARY CAMP: JULY 20-23

FAMILY CAMP: AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 1

BETHLEHEM LIGHTS: DECEMBER 5, 6, 12, & 13



[sbycamp.com](http://sbycamp.com)

### Richard's Elementary Needs Our Help!

Richards Elementary is in need, and we have the chance to bless them in a practical way! Our church is organizing a drive to collect much-needed clothing items. Let's come together and show God's love through giving. There will be a box near the kitchen. Deadline to contribute is July 27<sup>th</sup>.

They are especially looking for:

- Boys' underwear all sizes (sizes 6/7 - 16/18)
- Boys' sweatpants (mainly sizes 8-10)
- Girls' leggings (any size)

## 60th Wedding Celebration Anniversary

For Jon & Jan Carlstrom on  
Saturday, August 16, 2025  
from 2-4 PM in Fellowship Hall

RSVP to the Carlstroms (text: 812-344-8070 or email [joncalstron@gmail.com](mailto:joncalstron@gmail.com)) or sign up at the Gathering Place.

*No gifts please, just the gift of your presence.*



# Leadership

## Pastoral Care Team

July 6th: Dortha Anderson & Mandy Reed  
July 13th: Jim & Linda Reid  
July 20th: Kerry & Alice Richmond  
July 27th: Paul & Carol Poe

## Emergency Responder Schedule

July 6th: Cole Bennett  
July 13th: Jean Williams  
July 20th: Judy Rhude  
July 27th: Lindsay McIntosh

## Sips & Scripture

Thursdays at 9:00am  
Eastbrook Lucabe

Starting May 29th

## Tech Team Volunteers Needed!

Anyone interested in helping with the sound and video on Sunday mornings please contact Jessica or Kenny King.

## Retirement Open House

For  
Barry Ferrill



All are invited to celebrate  
Barry's retirement from Dorel  
after 46 years.

Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm  
in Fellowship Hall.

# Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, July 6th. 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             | 20. ~ Melissa Cross                            |
| 6. ~ Gavin Frady              | 21. ~ Ruby Cunningham                          |
| 9. ~ Kalena King              | 23. ~ Katie Emmert                             |
| 10. ~ Kari Lovelace           | 24. ~ John Stafford                            |
| 11. ~ Scott Babb              | 28. ~ Liz Lipson, Alice Richmond               |
| 12. ~ Diane Ginn, Mary Greene | 29. ~ Jane Seal                                |
| 14. ~ David Stehouwer         | 30. ~ Allen Rea                                |
| 18. ~ Homer Ford              | 31. ~ Steven Pool, Carol Meyer & George Snider |

## The Body of Christ Prays For...

Janet Bailey, Dorothy Abney, Kim Shane, Donna Moore, Susan Carter, Tim Pickup, Priscilla & Roger Day, Bobbie & John Walker, Cathy Stiles, Frank Eldridge, Daryl & Dot McMath, Joyce Sutton, Jenny Wilkerson, John & Liz Lipson, Jon Carlstrom, Marge Betz, Anita Burton, Dick & Beth Miller, Ramona Harlow, Claude Wright, Jr. "Bub", Anita Yancey, Allen Rea, Larry Alexander, and Roger & Ben Glick and all persons who are homebound & in nursing care centers.

## Looking Ahead to July

- 6- Communion (9:30 am)
- 4- Office Closed for 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- 8- Church Council (5:30 pm)
- 15- Newsletter Deadline
- 16- Quarterly Congregational Meeting (6:00 PM)
- 27- Coffee Fellowship A-H (10:45 AM)

## Weekly:

- Prayer Shawl Group: Tuesdays at 11:00 am
- Prayer Group: Weds. at 12:30 pm in Prayer Room
- Sips & Scripture at 9:00 am / Lucabes

**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](http://firstbaptistcolumbus.org)

