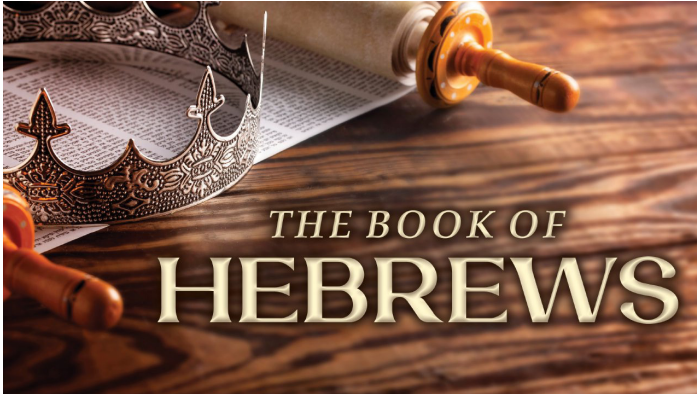


**Welcome to
First Baptist Church
Sunday, January 5, 2025**



10:30 AM SERVICE

Message - Let Us Draw Near and Hold Fast
Hebrews 10:19-25
Pastor Tim Knaus
Communion

5:00 PM SERVICE

Teaching Session: Introduction to the
Book of James
James 1:1
Pastor Dan Dubois
Churchwide Fellowship After the Service
in the Gym (See Article for what to bring)

Church Information

*512 S. US 27 (Whittemore Street)
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989) 224-3110
office@stjohnsfbc.com
www.stjohnsfbc.com*

Today's Events

- 5:30pm • College Bible Study**
(Office Level-Classroom #2)
- 6:00pm • Sr. High Bible Study** (Youth Room)
-

This Week's Events

MONDAY

10:00am
6:30pm

- **Shuffleboard** (Gym)
- **Men's Basketball** (Gym)

TUESDAY

9:30am

- **Busy Hands for Missions**
(Lower Level-Classroom #15)

WEDNESDAY

6:30pm

- **Awana--6:30pm**
- **24/7 Jr. High--6:30pm**
- **Prayer Meeting--6:30pm**
(Office Level-Classroom #1)
- **Women's Bible Study--6:30pm**
(Ruth Hills' Home)

THURSDAY

6:00pm
6:30pm

- **Pickleball** (Gym)
- **Missions Committee Meeting**
(Office Level-Conference Room)

SATURDAY

7:00am

- **Coffee Conversations for Men**
(Gym) Sign up at: <https://stjohnsfbc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/875110>
or at the Information Area.

Coming Events

- Sun., Jan. 12**
- **Sunday School--9:15am**
 - **The Gideons International Presentation, Emphasizing the Importance of the Bible, AM Service--10:30am**
 - **College Bible Study--5:30pm**
(Office Level-Classroom #2)
 - **Sr. High Bible Study--6-8:00pm**
(Youth Room)
- Mon., Jan. 13**
- **Men's Bible Study--7:00pm**
(Lane Barger's Home)
- Wed., Jan. 15**
- **ANNUAL BUINESS MEETING--6:30pm (No Evening Activities)**
- Thurs., Jan. 16**
- **Deacons Meeting--6:00pm**
(Lower Level-Classroom #8)
 - **Pickleball--6-8:00pm** (Gym)
 - **Single Women's Bible Study--6:30pm**
(Bancroft Barn)
- Fri., Jan. 17**
- **Women's Bible Study--10:00am**
(Office Level-Classroom #1)
- Sun., Jan. 19**
- **Sunday School--9:15am**
 - **AM Service--10:30am**
 - **College Bible Study--5:30pm**
(Office Level-Classroom #2)
 - **Sr. High Bible Study--6-8:00pm**
(Youth Room)



THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY

We invite all our visitors, to fill out the visitor slip located in the pocket on our chairs. You may place it in the offering. You can also use the QR code to fill out a visitor card on our website.



January Sunday Evening Fellowship **Sunday, January 5, 2025**

Our January Sunday Evening Fellowship menu: Your family's favorite hearty soup or stew, fruit tray, dessert. (Crockpots welcome).

It's important that we all sign up for items needed for the meal. Use Church Center: <https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/TMAE5631>, OR on the signup sheet in the Information Area.

We look forward to gathering together as a church family!

A Day of Emphasizing the **Importance of the Bible**

On Sunday, January 12th, we will place a special emphasis on the importance of the Bible. The Gideons International will share for 10 minutes during the service, and Pastor Tim will preach about the authority and complete trustworthiness of the Bible. We will be taking a special offering for The Gideons International.

Beacon of Hope **Friends of Beacon**

Beacon has had a very busy year, and we would like to share some of our service numbers with our FBC family.

In 2024, Beacon of Hope served 296 households, up from 234 in 2023. Many of these are served on a weekly or biweekly basis which translates to over 6,545 tummies fed! Out of those numbers were 178 households seeking emergent food. This was also an increase from 158 households in 2023.

As Beacon's ministry to the homeless continued to grow, we served 58 homeless households in 2024 with hotel-friendly foods and supplies. In 2023, we had served 42. This number represents both 28 literal homeless households and 30 households referred to as "doubled up", meaning they are temporarily housed with friends or relatives. It's notable that our doubled up households increased by 37% from 2023.

Our Friends of Beacon program brought us an impressive 2,076 pounds of product!

This ministry exists because of our FBC family's faithfulness to Beacon. It is truly hard to find words **to** express our gratitude.

Thank you.

Missionary of the Month **Steve & Sue Mayo-Australia** **(ABWE)**

1. Calvary Baptist Church to find a pastor.
2. Declare International to appoint its first long-term missionaries.
3. Sue to be healed of cancer and three chronic infections.

Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 15, 2025
6:30 p.m.

- I. Scripture and Prayer – Pastor Tim
- II. Treasurer’s Report – Church Treasurer Cody Fleischer
 - A. Final figures for 2024
 - B. Proposed budget for 2025
- III. Missions Budget – Missions Committee Chairman Chris Bouck
 - A. Proposed missions budget for 2025
- IV. Election of officers – Pastor Tim
(See officers up for election below)
- V. Update on the Lead Pastor Search Process – John Kresge
- VI. Church Leadership Trip to Papua, Indonesia to visit Craig and Shelly Schafer – Pastor Tim

Elders (Three-Year Term)

Jim Davis*
John Leif*
Roger Schafer*

Deacons (Seven Openings – Three-Year Term)

Lane Barger
Dennis Eilert
Bill Garlick*
Nathan Hoard
Mark Lutz
Leon Mills*
Jim Thelen*

Missions Committee - (Five Openings – Three-Year Term)

Chris Bouck**
Aaron Davis**
Dawn Gudbrandson*
Doug Merignac*
Celena Mills

*Currently serving in this position and eligible for re-election

(Continued on Next Page)

Annual Meeting (Cont.)

**Chris Bouck and Aaron Davis were mistakenly left off the ballot last year and have already served the first year of their second term. The vote for them will be for the remaining two years.

The church officers will be voted on in the same manner in which we vote for a pastor. Church members will cast a “yes” or “no” vote for each candidate.

If you know of a Biblical reason why any of the above candidates is not qualified for church office, you may schedule an appointment with one of the pastors prior to the annual meeting to discuss your concerns.

- The deacons appointed Aubrey Fleischer to serve another year as Church Clerk
- The deacons appointed Cody Fleischer to serve another year as Church Treasurer

Special Note:

We are once again going to provide three options this year for the Annual Meeting vote.

First, we will provide an online Annual Meeting ballot one week in advance of the Annual Meeting. You will be able to vote at our website from noon on Wednesday, January 8th, until noon on Wednesday, January 15th.

If anyone would like to view the 2025 proposed church budget prior to voting, you can email the church office and have one sent to you electronically. You can also access the Annual Meeting agenda by looking at the online bulletins. The link to the bulletins is on our website homepage.

Second, paper absentee ballots will be available in the church office from noon on Wednesday, January 8th, until noon on Wednesday, January 15th.

Third, you can vote at the Annual Meeting.

The Pastors' Book of the Month
Recommendation

What Do I Say When . . . ?: A Parent's Guide to Navigating Cultural Chaos for Children and Teens by Andrew Walker & Christian Walker (Crossway)

Navigating the world for the first time can be challenging, especially when popular cultural beliefs contradict the teachings of Scripture. So when inevitable questions arise, parents must be equipped with sound biblical answers to guide their children through the complexities of modern life—because if we fail to catechize our children, the world will surely step in to do it for us.

Written by husband and wife duo Andrew and Christian Walker, this accessible and trusted guide helps busy parents quickly and effectively respond to their children's questions on a wide range of topics, including abortion, sexuality, transgenderism, technology, political engagement, and more. Each chapter contains age-appropriate prompts for parents of children at different stages of development and maturity. Parents can refer to each chapter as specific questions arise, study hot-button topics for future reference, or access a range of conversation starters to proactively cultivate biblical truth within their child's heart.

This book is now available in our church library!

January Birthdays

The January Birthday list is available at the Information Area.



Mighty O.A.K.S.
Chili Luncheon
Tuesday, January 14th
11:45am (Gym)



Please join us for a potluck chili luncheon with your choice of favorite chili recipe and all the fixings! We will meet in the gymnasium to enjoy fellowship and the chili potluck luncheon.

Following our time of food and fellowship, we will move to the Ambassador Classroom for a presentation by Pastor Tim as he brings a devotion to start our New Year together!

Please sign up with the name of each person who will be attending so that we can have name tags and tables and chairs prepared for each person.

AM Sermon Notes

Message: Let Us Draw Near and Hold Fast

Hebrews 10:19-25

Pastor Tim Knaus

Communion

I. Let Us Draw Near

A. We took a month-long break from the book of Hebrews for our Christmas series, so I want to briefly review where we were last time.

B. Since Christ has thoroughly cleansed us and forgiven us of our sins by His one sacrifice, we can now come with complete confidence and assurance into the presence of God.

Hebrews 4:16

II. Let Us Hold Fast

A. Let us hold fast to our hope in Christ without ever wavering!

B. As we face a new year, with all its uncertainties, let us draw near to Jesus and hold fast to Him.

Here is how you can accept Christ into your life:

- Admit your need. (*I am a sinner*)
- Be willing to turn from your sins. (*Repent*)
- Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave. (*Be saved by faith*)
- Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to control your life through the Holy Spirit. (*Receive him as Lord and Savior*)

We suggest a prayer like this one:

“Dear God, I know I’m a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is Your Son. I believe that He died for my sin and that you raised Him to life. I want to trust Him as my Savior and follow Him as Lord, from this day forward. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.”

(From the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

FINANCIAL UPDATE

2024 YEAR END FIGURES

BUDGET: \$1,399,743.00

ACTUAL YTD

TOTAL INCOME: \$1,328,984.96

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,351,754.11

Income Minus Expenses: (\$22,769.15)

- **Childcare for ages 0-3yrs. old and Children’s Church for 4-8 yrs. old is available in the Children’s Wing during the 10:30am service.**
- **Drinks with lids are allowed in the Auditorium**
- **Hearing devices are available at the sound desk**

Pastors and Staff

Tim Knaus, Senior Pastor

Email: timknaus@stjohnsfbc.com

Mike Briggs, Pastor of Music & Technology

Email: mikebriggs@stjohnsfbc.com

Dan Dubois, Pastor of Youth

Email: dandubois@stjohnsfbc.com

Chad Konieczny, Pastor of Discipleship

Email: chadk9@stjohnsfbc.com

Holly Merignac, Church Secretary

Email: holly@stjohnsfbc.com

Darrell Painter, Facilities Manager

Email: darrell@stjohnsfbc.com

Beacon of Hope Staff

Cyndi Thelen, Director of Beacon of Hope

Email: beacondirector@stjohnsfbc.com

Annette Wood, Beacon of Hope Administrative Asst.

Email: beaconoffice@stjohnsfbc.com

Sarah Thomas, Beacon of Hope Office Asst.

Email: beacondesk@stjohnsfbc.com

Beacon of Hope Phone Number: (989) 224-0328

Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 8-12 & 1-4

Guest WIFI

FBC_Guest, password: Godisgood