

First Baptist Communiqué

APRIL/MAY/JUNE 2019

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Gospel Relevance

The Blessing of the Gift of Prayer

by [David Qaoud](#) | Filed under: [Prayer](#)

Lately, I've been thinking about the benefits of being a Christian. There are so many that I hardly know where to start. I can easily write about the gifts of justification, sanctification, or adoption (and many others similar to it). But in this post, I want to keep it simple. I want to focus on a blessing that we may sometimes overlook — the blessing of the gift of prayer.



Isn't it amazing that the God of the Bible allows his people to communicate with him through prayer?

I think sometimes we take for granted this access we have to God. But if you pause and think about the various dimensions of prayer and just how beneficial this access to God is, it will bless your soul.

The Blessing of the Gift of Prayer

When I think about prayer being a blessing, here are some things that come to mind:

We have 24/7 access to God.

There have been times when I couldn't fall asleep because I felt restless. During these times, it's almost impossible to cast your burdens on anyone else since they are likely asleep. And yet, even in the middle of the night when everyone else is unavailable, God is up, ready and willing to hear your prayer.

This is amazing. You might have close family, friends, mentors, and other such relationships where people are helpful to you in many ways. But they cannot *always* be there for you because they are not *always* available. But God is incessantly accessible.

The Lord doesn't need sleep. He's always awake. You can always go to him — at 2:00 am when your screaming baby can't sleep, at 6:30 am when you're anxious and scared about facing the day, at noon when the day isn't going how you planned. This 24/7, 365 access to God we have in prayer is truly astounding.

We don't need to use physical words when we pray.

I once led a small group with someone. I told this person I was praying for our group at work, to which the response I received was something like, "God loves cubicles prayers, too!"

It's true: because God is omniscient (all-knowing), he can understand what you pray in your mind with 100% accuracy, every single time. Yes, using words and praying out loud is essential. Soundless prayers should not summarize the entirety of our prayer lives. But sometimes words aren't possible, and God gets your thoughts.

We don't need to always pray long-winded prayers.

I love this exchange between the King and Nehemiah.

The King asks: "What are you requesting?" ([Nehemiah 2:4a](#)). And this is the little line I love: "So I prayed to the God of heaven" ([Nehemiah 2:4b](#)). And then Nehemiah tells the king what he wants.

The footnote from my [ESV Study Bible](#) says: "Nehemiah had prayed a great deal, of course ([Neh. 1:4](#)), but here he quickly speaks to God (probably silently) before he answers the King."

I'm not knocking long-winded prayers. I love praying extensively, and I find [my prayer times](#) with the Lord to be some of the best parts of my day. But there is a time and place for everything, which means sometimes your prayers should be long-winded and other times they simply will not. Sometimes, you can just say a quick prayer, move forward, and trust God with the results.

I heard a story of a Christian leader who was on a panel discussing a tough cultural topic. He was asked a hard question and didn't know how to respond. He knocked his pen from the table to buy himself time to pray quickly and silently in his mind as he picked up his pen. He said after he prayed and picked up his pen, he felt as if the Lord gave him a response.

Who am I to doubt him? I believe these sorts of little prayers throughout the day are powerful.

Prayer changes things.

John Piper says: "Prayer causes things to happen that would not happen if you did not pray."

As it's been said before, God ordains all *ends* (the end result of everything that happens), but he also ordains the *means* to every end (the things that he uses to make the ends happen), and he sometimes uses your prayers to accomplish the ends.

I bring this up because it's not talked about enough. Too often we treat prayer as something we should do only to sustain us, to give thanks, and to ask for general things. These things are good — very good. But don't forget that God is a Father and you are his child. And as his child, you are free to pray prayers with particular specificity for things that you want to see happen. Pray big, bold, specific, prayers.

Prayer changes you.

Back to the previous one: prayer can change things. But sometimes it doesn't. Why? It could be for [a number of reasons](#). But it's usually because your prayer does not align with God's will. But that's a good thing because God knows better.

And yet, we must recognize that while prayer does not always change your *circumstances*, prayer often changes *you*. The Lord meets with you when you pray. He sanctifies you. He changes your character and provides what you need to get through your situation, even if he does not give you exactly what you want.

We can go to other Christians for prayer.

When we take prayer requests at church or after small groups or after that one-on-one coffee meeting, we are not playing games. We're not just going through motions. We're not just saying Christian stuff just to be saying it. No, we ask for prayer requests because we know our God answers prayer. It is such a privilege to belong to a group of people — namely, the church — where we know we can have other brothers and sisters pray for us.

There are many aspects to prayer which are a blessing. Often, we take it for granted. But when we reflect on the many ways in which prayer is a blessing, it will help us appreciate this great gift from God.



About David Qaoud

David Qaoud ([@DavidQaoud](#)) is a full-time Master of Divinity student at Covenant Theological Seminary and a part-time staff member at Jubilee Church in St. Louis, Missouri. He is the founder and writer behind this blog, a site that was ranked as one of Tim Challies' top ten individual bloggers of 2018. His work has appeared on websites such as The Gospel Coalition, For the Church, and Banner of Truth. He is married to Denise and they have one child. [Learn more>](#)

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“BY THE WAY, WHAT IS OUR POLICY ON.....”

Couples Who Desire to Have Their Wedding at First Baptist Church

It is very important that couples contemplating marriage be familiar with these guidelines:

A couple needs to meet the following five requirements before we will agree to conduct the wedding and/or let them use our church building for the wedding:

1. Both the bride and groom must know Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.
2. Either the bride or groom must be a regular attendee of First Baptist Church. (If the bride and groom are both Christians, but do not attend our church, we will consider conducting the wedding if they agree to faithfully attend our church for at least a six month period of time.)
3. If a wedding is held at First Baptist there can be no dancing or alcohol at the reception, even if the reception is held off-site.
4. Both the bride and groom must agree to meet with one of our Pastors before approval for use of the church is given.
5. The pastors of First Baptist do not perform remarriage ceremonies following a divorce.*

*The pastors do believe there are some biblical grounds for remarriage following divorce. They simply have chosen not to participate in the often complex process of remarriage when either the bride or groom (or both) have previously been divorced.



Summer Missions Trip to Chicago



We will once again be serving in Chicago with Sunshine Gospel Ministries (this is where Pete and Nikki Blodgett used to serve) for our summer ministry trip this year. The trip will take place the week of June 30th to July 6th

We will be serving with Bridgebuilders a program within Sunshine's Ministries, this is how they describe their program:

Our Bridgebuilders program is a service-learning program dedicated to hosting teams of high school, college or adult participants for a week or weekend in the Woodlawn neighborhood of Chicago, IL. While the more common moniker of "short-term missions trip" can be accurately applied to our program, it does not capture the depth of our program when used in the traditional sense. Our program is based on a "Listen-Learn-Serve" model and has been influenced by the Chalmers center and the recent book "When Helping Hurts" by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert. It is our goal to provide a healthy, sustainable and reciprocal program where participants and locals are mutually empowered. Bridgebuilders places a heavy emphasis on listening to and learning from our community and neighbors as we serve alongside one another. We believe that God has revealed himself in unique ways in low-income, minority-populated, urban contexts like ours and we are very excited to share this with our brothers and sisters in Christ who often come from primarily suburban/rural, middle-class, mostly white areas of our country.

As such, each day we seek to provide participants with an opportunity to listen, learn and serve. Our daily service projects have included (but are not limited to) serving in local churches and ministries, working with youth outreach programs, various construction/demolition projects, community beautification, and serving in local schools. Our daily listening opportunities vary each day but are aimed at exposing participants to different ways in which God is at work in different urban contexts. Examples include visiting Pacific Garden Mission, Lawndale Community Church, and Emmaus Ministries. We also often use a variety of customized experiences such as riding the EL train and having a meal with a homeless person downtown, depending on the week. While we hope that every opportunity given to our participants will also be a learning opportunity, the most formal learning opportunity is in our daily bible lessons whose focus revolves around the biblical discussion of God's justice and mercy, God's heart for the poor, a biblical response to race and class and other similar topics.

We are extremely excited to see how God will use us on this trip and to see how He will use this trip in the lives of our group as well! The cost of the trip will be approximately \$400 for each participant. We would love to have our church family partner with us in prayer and by helping provide funds for those who need assistance. If anyone wants to provide opportunities to help a teen pay for their trip by providing work projects like spring clean-up, lawn mowing, etc, please let Pastor Chad know.

Coming June 30, 2019



The King's Brass will be joining us this summer, providing us with a concert on June 30th as part of our morning worship service.

This is a concert you won't want to miss. These are first rate musicians with tremendous skill but also with testimonies for Christ and a passion for serving him.

This music event will captivate people of all ages while directing our thoughts toward God with personal testimonies and how they relate their songs to stories directly from scripture. This concert also is the Sunday before the 2019 national celebration of Independence Day, so they will be sharing some songs of a patriotic nature as well.



Beacon of Hope Update

April Showers for Beacon of Hope

Please “shower” Beacon of Hope with supplies for the Learn & Earn store during the month of April. Supplies needed: dish soap, shampoo, conditioner, laundry soap, Kleenex, women’s deodorant, and any kind of household cleaner. Donations can be left in the bin outside of the offices. Contact Karen Leif to make delivery arrangements.

Legal Assistance

On the first Tuesday evening and first Thursday afternoon of each month a staff attorney from Legal Services of South Central Michigan meets with people at Beacon. This attorney can help prepare wills. If you are under 60 you must meet LSSCM income guidelines but if you are over 60 then the service is free. Call the Beacon number (224-0328) to set up an appointment.

Beacon of Hope needs YOU one day a month!!

The Learn & Earn store needs a volunteer on the first Tuesday of the month from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Store volunteers help participants keep track of the credits they are spending then check them out when they are done shopping. **The Beacon playroom** needs a volunteer on the second Tuesday of the month from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Playroom volunteers keep kids safe and busy so moms and dads can meet with Advisors and do their shopping.

Grow a Row for Beacon

Beacon participants greatly appreciate the fresh produce they receive in the food pantry. If you are a gardener, please consider growing extra for Beacon or bring in your overflow at harvest time.

Birthday Bin

The Learn & Earn store has Birthday Bins, where parents can use their credits to get a birthday gift for their child. The bins need refilling with **NEW** toys/gifts for children ages birth to 12. This would be a great opportunity on your own child’s birthday to show him/her the joy of giving by providing a gift for the bin.



College and Career Ministry **April - June Schedule**

If you're post high school, 20's- 30's, and desire to grow with a community of believers, College & Career Ministry is for you! Enjoy supper, be challenged and encouraged as we worship and study the book of Colossians together. Followed by games & snacks! Come bring a friend... or come be a friend.

Supper/Bible Study Nights (Mark your calendars ✓)

Time: 7:00 pm Come Hungry!!

Where: 2141 W. Centerline Rd, St. Johns (Davis home)

April: Thurs., Apr. 4

May: Thurs., May 2

Pizza/Volleyball/Games (Mark your calendars ✓)

Time: 7:00 pm Come Hungry!!

Where: First Baptist Church Gym

April: Thurs., Apr. 18

Bonfire Supper/Volleyball/Games (Mark your calendars ✓)

Time: 7:00 pm Come Hungry!!

Where: 2141 W. Centerline Rd, St. Johns (Davis home)

May: Thurs., May 30

June: Thurs., June 27

???'s: call/txt: Jim: 517.515.7042; Debi: 517.974.7648; Elizabeth: 517.974.7649



Library News Check it Out!

Finally, fresh DVDs are available in this important non-fiction video collection. Fifty new videos cover topics including church history, the Apostles, background on people, places and history of Bible books, Christian worship, church history, biographies, war and Christianity, and more. Not only are these videos on DVD, but they are newer publications. You can see the list for yourself. Click on to the link below:

<https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FBCSaintJohns/search/text/collectionid%3A+417404?sort=acquisition>

A Volunteer is needed!

A man or woman is needed to check books out after the morning service on the first and second Sundays of the month. A focus on customer service is essential. Please, contact Kendel Darragh at 517.651.9633, or library@stjohnsfbc.com. Training is provided.

TinyCat, your church library catalog is available 24/7 at: <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FBCSaintJohns>.



Mighty O.A.K.S.

The Mighty O.A.K.S. would love to have you come Tuesday, April 9th, at noon for a carry-in luncheon in the gym. Please bring a dish to pass.

Pat Lutz, Pastor Rick & Carol Williams (Pat's brother and sister-in-law) will be singing for us. Rick has been a Baptist Pastor for 46 years and is currently serving in Mooresville, IN at Five Point Baptist Church. Pastor Rick will be providing a devotional.

Sign up at the Information Area.

May & June Events

Our May 14th, meeting will be a carry-in luncheon at noon in the gym. Bring a dish to pass. Randy Tahvonen will be our guest speaker. He will be speaking on senior legal issues. Bring your questions.

On June 11th, will be a carry-in luncheon at noon in the gym. Bring a dish to pass. Dean Feldpausch will talk about the book he has written. He will share how a book idea gets to actually being published. He will also be singing and giving the devotion.

Our get-togethers are open to all, so come and invite others. Be watching the bulletin for more details.

MISSIONS NEWS:

BUSY HANDS FOR MISSIONS

We met 4 times in the past month to tie quilts for Radius International and were able to present eleven twin quilts, eight baby quilts/blankets and our fleece throws to Brooks Buser on March 24th. Special thanks to all who helped us... we averaged nine ladies.

We also filled ditty bags for Youth Haven Ranch . We can ALWAYS use soft toothbrushes and inexpensive washcloths which can be placed in the lost and found closet.

Please note... we will be meeting now on the first Tuesday every month... April 2nd, May 7th and June 4th at 9:30 AM. Bring you sack lunch and join our fellowship after the work is done. Dee Chapman

PRAYING FOR OUR ADOPTED PEOPLE GROUP AND MISSIONARIES

The missions committee will be posting information and prayer requests specifically for our Adopted People Group - The Buryats. Watch the information board in the foyer for these updates. There will be a pocket for prayer requests and also one labeled "Get to Know Missionaries Serving Amongst the BURYATS OF RUSSIA - Our Adopted People Group".

Please check it out!

BOXES MAILED

Morses, Kerrs, and to Radius

Books sent to the Zimmers. Books picked up by Lori Kresge.

Care Package-Katrina Wiebe

Two Birthday Boxes of "goodies"

VISITS TO THE MISSIONS CLOSET

Jim and Rachel Bennett and daughters

Becky & Glenn Kerr, Brandon & Rachel Buser made choices from the Missions Closet.

Boxes of quilts, dish towels and twin bed sheets were sent off to Brooks Buser for ministry at Radius.

To replenish the closet: twin bed sheets, mattress pads (all sizes), dish towels and bath towels (gray, beige, blue), and candles

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the church family for the donations to the Tools & Missions Closet and generous selection of Gifts cards during our Missions Conference.

MEDICINE BOTTLES/DIABETIC TEST STRIP CONTAINERS

When dropping off your empty bottles/containers please note the following: labels removed; medicine bottle lids cannot be child protective. The hospital we donate them to gave us these instructions. You may place them in the Missions Box located in the Lost & Found Closet.

LANSING CITY RESCUE MISSION

For the next three months let's highlight the women and children who seek shelter at the Mission. The women and children's shelter house 130. Below is a list of items they could use at this time. If you would like to donate any of these items, please place them in the yellow barrel located in Room #13 in the lower level.

New underwear for women and children

New pajamas for women and children

Flip flops for women and children

Shampoo & Conditioner (full size bottles)

Combs and brushes

Lotion



Missionaries of the Month

April

David & Beverly Levy

Field & Home Address: PO Box 116,
Lightfoot, VA

Phone: 757.564.1571

E-mail: DLevy70070@aol.com

Home Church: Westchester Bible Church, Westchester, IL

Birthday: David: 1/6 • **Beverly:** 6/28

Anniversary: 8/11/61

Mission Agency: The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc.

Beverly accepted Christ as her Savior at age 19. Her mother was a believer and her father was Roman Catholic. She went to an Evangelical United Brethren church and found the Lord by reading her Bible. She then attended a Baptist church and attended some classes at Moody.

David was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio. He received Jesus as his Messiah at age 23 through the witness of another Hebrew Christian in November of 1960. He is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, the University of Illinois, and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. David spent ten years pastoring in Illinois.

Since 1974, David, along with his faithful wife Beverly, has worked with the highly respected, New Jersey based, Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc. He serves as Director of Education and Ministry Relations. In addition to his administrative and personal responsibilities, he is in demand throughout the world as a conference speaker. David speaks in Prophecy, Missionary, and Bible Conferences. Beverly carries out all sorts of secretarial duties as well as providing some counseling.

David has been Associate Editor of the highly acclaimed Friends of Israel bimonthly publication, *Israel My Glory*, since 1977. His expositional styled articles appear monthly in *Israel My Glory* and other international magazines. He has authored a number of books including *Joel: The day of the Lord*; *Malachi: Messenger of Rebuke and Renewal*; *The Tabernacle: Shadow of the Messiah*; *Guarding the Gospel of Grace*; *When Prophets Speak of Judgment*; *Revelation: Hearing The Last Word*; *What Every Jewish Person Should Ask*; *Zechariah: Israel's Prophetic Future and the Coming Apocalypse*, and *Hebrews: A Commentary*.



Missionaries of the Month

May

Steve & Sue Mayo

Field Address: 40 Eltham Street
Blacktown NSW 2148 • Australia

Phone: 011.61.2.9621.7634

E-mail: ssmayo@gmail.com

Mission Agency: ABWE

Home Church: Good News Baptist Church, GR

Birthday: Steve: 8/20/61 • Sue: 8/30/62

Anniversary: 12/18/82

Children: Seth (Ellen) 7/12/86

Shannon (Steve) 9/7/88

Sean (Vanessa) 1/14/90

Shelby 3/27/92

When Steve and Sue were married in 1982 at First Baptist of St Johns, they could never have imagined that God would one day take them to Australia and Asia to multiply church plants and mobilize missionaries. Back then, Sue was feeling fulfilled in her job as an administrative assistant, and Steve was happy to be accepted into the Master of Music program at Michigan State University. Ministry roles in preaching, teaching and administrating could not have been further from their minds.

Sue was born in St. Johns, and born again during evangelistic meetings at Pilgrim United Methodist Church. Just before her freshman year in high school, Sue's parents decided to move the family to First Baptist Church. Through the influence of Jerry Wiedenbenner, the youth pastor at that time, she learned how to study Scripture, pray, evangelize, serve and live biblically. Sue attended Grand Rapids Baptist College, where she received her Associates Degree in Applied Sciences. While singing with the gospel team "Proclamation", Sue met Steve. Sue's heart was softened towards missions during a short-term trip with "Proclamation" to Jamaica. She saw the people's hunger for the Gospel and that opened her eyes to the great need for missionaries.

Grand Rapids was Steve's boyhood home. It was at Trinity Baptist Church that he accepted the Lord, was baptized and discipled. He attended Grand Rapids Baptist College and earned a BMUS degree in vocal performance. Upon accepting employment as a music minister, he continued his education at Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary.

Interest in Australia as a mission field was sparked by a classmate who traveled with "Proclamation" as the team preacher. He was from Melbourne. There were many conversations about Australia while traveling between concerts, and these stuck with Steve and Sue through fourteen years of youth and music ministry in Wisconsin and Michigan. Once they realized God was calling them to be church planters, Australia was the first place they considered. Arriving with their four children in Sydney in 1997, the Mayos set about creating a network of churches that would plant churches. Cornerstone Baptist Church, which opened in February 2000, demonstrated the strength of the Mother-Daughter model. By 2012, the church was self-supporting and called its own pastor. Along the way, 11 other churches were started in Sydney using the same model.

When their church plant graduated, Steve and Sue accepted an expanded role wherein they serve missionaries and national partners in seven countries: Australia, Cambodia, Japan, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Thailand. It is their privilege to facilitate the multiplication of churches in some of the most gospel-starved locations on earth. By God's grace, many Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims across Asia are converting to Christ.

When Steve and Sue are not traveling and ministering in Asia, they are in leadership at two Australian church plants – Calvary meets on Sunday mornings an hour north of Sydney and Logos, a one-year-old plant targeting Muslims near the Mayo's home, has grown quickly to have three Sunday services – the Mayos lead the afternoon one. They also find time for their 13 grandchildren, all of whom are Vegemite-eating, dinky di Aussies.



Missionaries of the Month

June

Phil & Kitty McMillen

Field Address: 6635 Leisure Way,
Caledonia, MI 49316

Cell Numbers: Phil-616.591.7213;
Kitty-616.591.7212

E-mail: ssmayo@gmail.com

Ministry: Serving in leadership development for West Africa and heading up the new Benin church planting initiative

Home Church: Calvary Baptist, Grand Rapids

Birthday: Phil: 11/22 • Kitty: 12/20

Anniversary: 7/19/74

Children: Karee (Brandon) Mouw, Kristina (Josh) Anglemyer, Kylee (Ben) Anglemyer

Mission Agency: ABWE

Kitty was born in Detroit, MI into a Godly family. At the age of seven, during Vacation Bible School, she realized that she was not a Christian just because her parents were. She went forward to become a Christian. At age sixteen she dedicated her life to the Lord. She met Phil at Cedarville College where she received a BA in Elementary Education. Phil and Kitty were married in 1974. Kitty committed herself, in obedience, to serve the Lord in Africa.

Phil was born in Indiana, Pennsylvania. His original home church and parents' commissioning church is Fundamental Baptist in Indiana. He made a profession of faith and was baptized at the age of five. However, he was not at that time truly born again. It was while his family lived and served in the remote town of Bakouma, Central African Republic, that God brought Phil to himself. Almost simultaneously with his salvation, Phil "heard" God's call to serve as a career missionary on the Continent of Africa. His preparation after that was entirely toward that goal. Between 1970 and 1981, Phil received a BA in Pre-seminary Bible from Cedarville College, MRE in Missiology from Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, and attended the one-year School of Church Ministries at Calvary Baptist Church in Grand Rapids.

They served in Togo, West Africa for three terms, (1985-1996). God used them to plant two churches and assist with a third. Phil has been the chairman of the missionary field council in Africa which encompassed about forty adult missionaries, a center for the blind and a 24-hour hospital. Kitty's ministry included home schooling their daughters, a significant hospitality ministry in the capitol city of Lomé, and teaching Togolese women. During their furlough in '96 they made a transition to church planting in North American, specifically Chicagoland. They launched the public ministry of Southwest Community Baptist Church in 2000 and have served in nurturing this church plant.

On December 1st, 2010, the Lord opened the way for Phil and Kitty to return to Togo to resume ministry in Africa. This time Phil served as ABWE's regional director for West & Central Africa. With their base country being Togo, they are responsible for the strategic oversight of seven ABWE teams: The Gambia, Cape Verde (islands), Liberia, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Cameroon.

That ministry is atypical in that the McMillens worked as "player-coaches" meaning that they lived in Africa and participated directly in the church planting work as well as giving encouragement and direction via email, phone and personal visits to ABWE's more than 150 missionaries. They've been involved in front-line church planting in Lomé (the capital and largest city of Togo).

In May of 2017, the leadership baton was passed to another colleague who is doing a great job leading the regional teams. Kitty's health has been a growing challenge. As a result, it became clear that they needed to transition away from Africa ministry. As a result, they purchased a condo in Grand Rapids. Phil & Kitty remain assigned to Africa ministry but will base their activities out of the US.

FIRST BAPTIST THIS 'N' THAT

Please make these changes to your FBC Phone Directory:

- David Halfman
Email: halfmandavide@gmail.com
- Leon & Celena Mills
Leon's Cell Phone: 989.640.3082
Celena's Cell Phone: 989.640.3084
- Dan Niznak
Cell Phone: 517.624.8048
- Robert Showers
Email: rshowers49@gmail.com
- Bill Kidd
Cell Phone: 989.307.1898
- Justin Nichols
Cell Phone: 989.292.2952
- Bernadette Richardson
108 Rex Street
St. Johns, MI 48879

SAVE THE DATE



June 17-21



Congratulations to Ryan & Jill Shackelford on the birth of their son, Joel Elliott. Joel was born on Saturday, February 9, 2019. He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces.

Congratulations to Phil & Lydia Burkhart on the birth of their son, Levi Jordan. Levi was born on Saturday, February 23, 2019. He weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces. His grandparents are Steve & Eileen Feldpausch.

Thank You Notes

First Baptist Church Family,

We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the many notes and letters of encouragement, as well as the gifts and food, as we prepared to move to our new home and church. Our hearts are still smiling because of your kindness.

A special thank you to the Castner's, Bailey's, Zehr's, Brun's, Mead family and our precious Knaus kids, who helped us pack up our house, and load and unload the moving van, trucks and trailers! You people are amazing and wonderful and we love you dearly!

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to Pastor Tim and our FBC family for the generous monetary gift we received. We are truly overwhelmed, humbled and grateful.

The memory of your love and thoughtfulness is a gift we will always treasure.

Pastor Ron and Pam

How God has blessed us like never before! We want to thank Dennis Whitlock and his crew of men he organized to help us move. Thanks to Jill Sherman and Janet Mann who helped pack boxes. We want our church to know that God's people have been so good to us!

*Thanks,
Ann Mason*

A belated thank you for the many prayers, cards, visits, food, flowers, etc. in our behalf during the past weeks. How blessed we are for our church family during these difficult times.

*God bless you all,
Bob & Joyce Worthington*



April 13th, 2019 - 1-4:30 pm

Open House at Agro Liquid

M21 West 1-Mile West of Saint Johns Mi

Come and help us celebrate our Birthdays

Dulce Chapman 10th Birthday
April 22nd (Granddaughter)
moving to Hawaii cards welcome

Dee Chapman 80th Birthday
June 10th (Grandma)
going to Hawaii cards welcome



♡ *You're invited, dear church family!* ♡

*Dessert Reception for the Newlyweds
Dr. & Mrs. (Austin & Christine) Davis*

*Saturday, May 18, 2-4 pm
St Johns First Baptist Church gym*

We look forward to sharing our joy with you!



April Calendar

- Mon., Apr. 1 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Tues., Apr. 2 Busy Hands for Missions -- 9:30am (Lower Level-Classroom #15)
- Wed., Apr. 3 **AWANA, 24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm**
Bible Institute Classes -- 6:30pm (LL-Adult Wing)
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (OL-Classroom #1)
High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 4 Mentoring Moms -- 6:30pm (Cheri Kresge's Home)
College & Career Bible Study -- 7pm (Davis Home)
- Fri., Apr. 5 Elders Meeting -- 7:00am (Office Level-Conference Room)
- Sun., Apr. 7 **Communion -- AM Service**
- Mon., Apr. 8 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Tues., Apr. 9 Mighty O.A.K.S. Luncheon -- 12 noon (Gym)
- Wed., Apr. 10 **AWANA -- 6:30pm** (LL-Children's Wing) Last night to say sections!
24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing)
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (OL-Classroom #1)
Bible Institute Classes -- 6:30pm (LL-Adult Wing)
High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 11 Missions Committee -- 6:30pm (OL-Conference Room)
- Sun. Apr. 14 Easter Concert -- PM Service
World Missions Prayer Meeting -- 7:15pm (LL-Classroom #13)
- Mon., Apr. 15 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Wed., Apr. 17 **AWANA -- 6:30pm** (LL-Children's Wing)
24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing) Last meeting of the School Year
Quarterly Business/Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (OL-Classroom #1)
High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing)
- Thurs., Apr. 18 Deacons Meeting -- 6:00pm (LL-Classroom #8)
College & Career Pizza/Volleyball/Games -- 7pm (Gym)
- Fri., Apr. 19 Released Time Class -- 12:30pm (Youth Wing-Sr. High Room)
Good Friday Service -- 6:30pm
- Sun., Apr. 21 **Easter Sunday**
Sunday School -- 9:15am
AM Service -- 10:30am
NO PM Service
- Mon., Apr. 22 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Wed., Apr. 24 **AWANA Fun Night -- 6:30pm** (Gym)
24/7 Jr. High -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing) Last meeting of the School Year
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (OL-Classroom #1)
High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Wing)
- Sun., Apr. 28 **Regular Services**
- Mon., Apr. 29 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

01	Amy Briggs Anna Showers	14	Betty Barks Jill Shackelford	25	Dave Mullikin Lisa Motz Pamarie Nichols Jason Woodrow
02	Rebekah Becker April Mullikin	15	Troy Bancroft Tim Moinet Benjamin Rosendale Joshua Wood	26	Steve Bailey
03	Brody Dush	16	Randy Craven Andrew Davis Carol Dush Rosemary Read	27	Lydia Burkhart Scott Darragh
04	Gabe Carpenter David Hufnagel	18	Denelle Merignac	28	Margaret Castner Paisley Fore Grace Peterson
05	Jason Crandall Lexie Sheen	19	Beth Allen Nick Bancroft Roan Schafer	29	Carter Everts Todd Pagels Becky Peterson Chuck Sherman
06	Dave Halfman Trisha Hufnagel Joshua Lounds Dorothy Merignac Emma Nichols Samuel Richardson	22	Keith Matthew Cornell Dianne Glerum	30	Janet Alexander Gerty Lamb Rachel Robbe
07	Stanley Barrett Karen Bedell Sarah Thomas	23	Jim Culp Dustin Everts Julie Konieczny Ellen Kresge		
08	Courtney Lutz	24	Peyton Everts Glenn Hills Holly Merignac		
09	Pat Lutz				
10	Sarah Bouck Sean Dush				
11	Russ Benson Jeff Ely Markus Mills Kim Painter				



CALENDAR

Wed., May 1	Awana Awards Night -- 6:30pm (Auditorium) NO Awana/24/7 Jr. High (Will resume in Sept.) NO Prayer Meeting NO High School Bible Study
Thurs., May 2	Mentoring Moms -- 6:30pm (Cindy Painter's Home) College & Career Supper/Bible Study -- 7pm (Davis Home)
Fri., May 3	Elders Meeting -- 7:00am (Conference Room)
Sun., May 5	Communion -- AM Service
Mon., May 6	Missionary Speaker -- PM Service Shuffleboard -- 10am (Gym) Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Tues., May 7	Busy Hands for Missions -- 9:30am (Lower Level-Classroom #15)
Wed., May 8	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)
Thurs., May 9	Missions Committee Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Conference Room)
Sun., May 12	Mother's Day -- NO PM Service
Mon., May 13	Shuffleboard -- 10am (Gym) Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Tues., May 14	Mighty O.A.K.S. Luncheon -- 12 noon (Gym)
Wed., May 15	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)
Thurs., May 16	Deacons Meeting -- 6:00pm (Lower Level-Classroom #8)
Sat., May 18	Austin & Christine Davis Wedding Reception -- 2-4pm (Gym)
Sun., May 19	Missionary Speaker -- PM Service
Mon., May 20	World Missions Prayer Meeting -- 7:15pm (Lower Level-Classroom #13) Shuffleboard -- 10am (Gym) Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Wed., May 22	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm
Sun., May 26	Memorial Day Weekend Morning Service -- NO Sunday School, NO PM Service
Mon., May 27	Memorial Day NO Shuffleboard Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
Wed., May 29	Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1) High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm (Youth Room)
Thurs., May 30	College & Career Bonfire Supper/Volleyball/Games -- 7pm (Davis Home)



MAY BIRTHDAYS

01	Felipa Garcia	10	Hope Fleischer Diana Luckhardt	22	Russell Breining Jonathan Kirby
02	Patrice Clark Joan Culp Nicole Everts Annette Peterson	11	Danielle Eilert Avery Hoard Nell Torpey	23	David Purchase Clayton West
04	Sue Bishop	12	Jacob Ely	24	Ann Hufnagel
05	Emily Bargeron Arlena Craven Elena Hazle Christopher Nichols Darrell Painter	13	Paisley Stine	25	Lindsey Stuart
06	Cortney Craven Megan Craven Brian Mead	14	Rick Davis	26	Eloise Bancroft Craig Schafer
07	Elizabeth Davis Noah Iung Grace Kresge	15	Jeremy Brun Ralph Iocco	27	Kathy Andersen Jill Bancroft Cathy McCune
08	John Glerum Vicki Hinton	17	Jazmine Harps	28	Lydia Darragh Silas Fore Jeremy Thomas
09	Lynlie Brun Josie Mead Pete Nichols	18	Hali Schafer	29	Caroline Garlick Doug Gudbrandson
		19	Ruby Dush Samuel Schafer Marie Showers	30	Linda Kresge Harold Lichte
		20	Marvin Arnst Bethany Konieczny Elijah Nichols	31	Benjamin Feldpausch Kayla Mead Colton Stuart
		21	Kathryn Lowell		

JUNE CALENDAR

- Sun., June 2** **Graduation Sunday -- AM Service**
Missionary Speaker -- PM Service
- Mon., June 3 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Tues., June 4 Busy Hands for Missions -- 9:30am (Lower Level-Classroom #15)
- Wed., June 5** **High School Bible Study -- 6:30pm** (Youth Wing-Youth Room)
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1)
- Thurs., June 6 Mentoring Moms -- 6:30pm (Dawn Gudbrandson's Home)
- Fri., June 7 Elders Meeting -- 7:00am (Office Level-Conference Room)
- Sun., June 9** **Communion -- AM Service**
Baptism/Membership -- PM Service
Dessert Fellowship -- After the PM Service (Bring a dessert of your choice)
World Missions Prayer Meeting -- 7:15pm (Lower Level-Classroom #13)
- Mon., June 10 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Tues., June 11 Mighty O.A.K.S. Luncheon -- 12 noon (Gym)
- Wed., June 12** **High School Bible Study -- 5:30pm** (Pastor Chad's Home)
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1)
- Thurs., June 13 Missions Committee Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Conference Room)
- Sun., June 16** **Father's Day -- NO PM Service**
- Mon., June 17th - Fri., June 21st VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL -- 9:00am to 12:00 Noon**
- Mon., June 17 NO Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm(Gym)
- Wed., June 19** **High School Bible Study -- 5:30pm** (Pastor Chad's Home)
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1)
- Thurs., June 20 Deacons Meeting -- 6:00pm (Lower Level-Classroom #8)
- Sun., June 23** **Missionary Speaker -- PM Service**
- Mon., June 24 Shuffleboard -- 10:00am (Gym)
Men's Basketball -- 6:30pm (Gym)
- Wed., June 26** **High School Bible Study -- 5:30pm** (Pastor Chad's Home)
Prayer Meeting -- 6:30pm (Office Level-Classroom #1)
- Thurs., June 27 College & Career Bonfire Supper/Volleyball/Games -- 7:00pm (Davis Home)
- Sun., June 30** **Independence Day Weekend,**
Tim Zimmerman & the King's Brass-AM Service
NO Sunday School, NO PM Service



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

01 Tom Edsenga
Emily Knaus
Peter Nichols

02 Debbie Goward
Titus Konieczny
Louise Law
Pearl Nichols

03 Isabelle Morse

04 Cara Brun
Ronald Showers
Wyatt Stuart

05 Levi Mead
Dorotio Pena

06 Deb Cressman
Mike Underwood

07 Erika Kingsley Gunnell
Derrick Ostrander
Faith Robbe
Doug Smith
Marie Woodhams

08 Kathy Garrison
Mishelle Pagels

09 Derek Eilert
SuAnn Prince
Landyn Reava

10 Dee Chapman
Simon Nichols

11 Stan Lutz

12 Roxanne Burnham
Maya Kresge

15 Gabriel Richardson

16 Lynn Dutcher
Connie Phelps

18 Nora Kresge

19 Steve Bricker

21 Jill Keilen

22 Linda Brooke
Ethan Painter

23 Davey Fore
Jay Peterson
Faith Wood

26 Lane Bargeron
Jim Gill
RuthAnn Halstead
Justus Holben
Reid Holben

27 Paul Bancroft
Emily Brun

28 Bryan Feldpausch
John Taylor
Jacob Underwood
Joshua Underwood
Nita Wallis

29 Chris Bouck
Doug Merignac

30 Roger Crowell
Ann Mason
Norman Moinet
Laurie Ordway
Jade Schafer