

***Welcome to  
First Baptist Church  
March 1, 2026***

**MISSIONS CONFERENCE  
FLAG CEREMONY**



**10:30 AM SERVICE**

Flag Ceremony

Message - How Will They Hear?

Romans 10:9-15

Pastor Brandon Crawford

International Potluck Luncheon  
(following the Service in the Gym)

***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** • **Young Adult Bible Study**  
(Office Level-Conference Room)
- 6:00pm** • **Sr. High Bible Study**  
(Youth Room)
- 

## This Week's Events

### MONDAY

- 6:30pm • **NO Shuffleboard** (Gym)
- 7:00pm • **Men's Basketball** (Gym)
- **Men's Bible Study**  
(Lane Bargerons Home)

### TUESDAY

- **Busy Hands for Missions--9:30am**  
(Lower Level-Classroom #15)

### WEDNESDAY

- 6:30pm • **AWANA GRAND PRIX**  
(Gym) Come cheer on our Clubbers!
- **24/7 Jr. High**
- **Prayer Meeting**  
(Office Level-Classroom #1)
- **Bible Study Groups**  
(Lower Level-Adult Wing)

### THURSDAY

- 6:00pm • **Pickleball**  
(Gym)
- 6:30pm • **Mentoring Moms**  
(Cheri Kresge's Home)
- **Single Women's Bible Study**  
(Bancroft Barn)

### FRIDAY

- 7:00am • **Elder's Meeting**  
(Office Level-Conference Room)
- 10:00am • **Women's Bible Study**  
(Office Level-Classroom #2)

### SATURDAY

- **Change Clocks AHEAD one hour**

## Coming Events

Sun., Mar. 8

**Daylight Savings Time Begins!!**

### MISSIONS CONFERENCE MONTH

- **Sunday School--9:15am** (Missions Speaker, Hannah Strayer will share her ministry in the auditorium for Jr. High-Adults.)
- **Missions Speaker, Hannah Strayer, Media Specialist, ABWE. Missions Message, Pastor Brandon, AM Service--10:30am**
- **Young Adult Bible Study--5:30pm**  
(Office Level-Conference Room)
- **Sr. High Bible Study--6:00pm**  
(Youth Room)

Mon., Mar. 9

- **Men's Bible Study--7:00pm**  
(Lane Bargerons Home)

Tues., Mar. 10

- **Pickleball--6:00pm**  
(Gym)

Thurs., Mar. 12

- **Pickleball--6:00pm**  
(Gym)

Fri., Mar. 13

- **Women's Bible Study--10:00am**  
(Office Level-Classroom #2)

Sat., Mar. 14

- **Coffee Conversations for Men--8:00am**  
(Gym) Sign up at the Information Area!

Sun., Mar. 15

### MISSIONS CONFERENCE MONTH

- **Sunday School--9:15am** (Missions Speaker, Lars Carlson, will share the ministry of Youth Haven Ranch in the auditorium for Jr. High-Adults.)
- **Missions Speaker, Lars Carlson, President & CEO, Youth Haven Ranch, AM Service--10:30am**
- **Young Adult Bible Study--5:30pm**  
(Office Level-Conference Room)
- **Sr. High Bible Study--6:00pm**  
(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 one of the offering boxes located around the building. You can also use the QR code to fill out a visitor card on our website.*

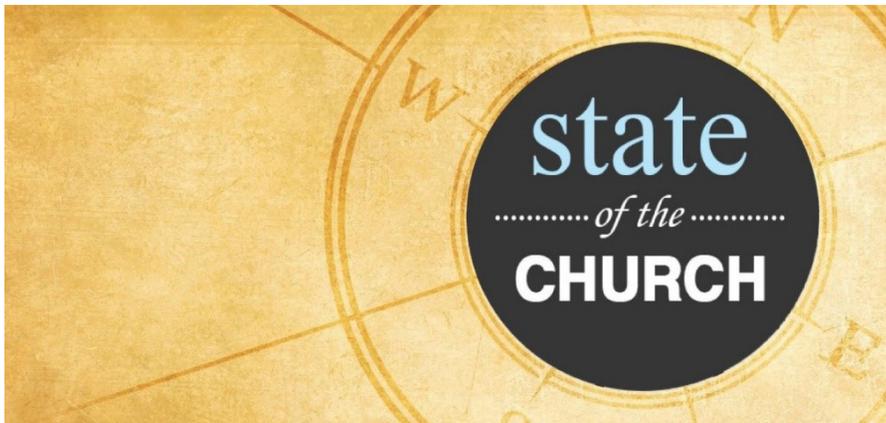
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### International Potluck Luncheon After the AM Service

The Missions Committee would like to invite you to its International/Ethnic Potluck Luncheon following the AM Service on March 1st in the Gym.

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## State of the Church Address Sunday, March 29



Join us for a special presentation during a combined Sunday School time (5th grade and up) on Sunday, March 29th.

Pastor Brandon will be laying out our church's Theological Vision for Ministry and discussing our upcoming ministry initiatives.

## Why A Flag Ceremony?

We have been producing this event each year as the beginning of our Missions conference for over thirty years. Karen Leif tells me that she took on this event in 1997 in its second or third year with only a handful of costumes/flags. It has grown tremendously over the years.

The basic elements of this event don't change a great deal from year to year. Some folks might even ask why we do this each year. Here are some things you should consider.

This event is a reminder to each of us that Jesus himself said "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few". There is a great need for "harvesters" to carry out the great commission we have been given in Matthew 28.

This should also remind us that the communication of the Gospel is a need that is far bigger than St Johns.

We have had over the years a shift in what we were focusing on. A few years ago we focused on Israel. Last year we looked at the persecuted church around the world. This year's presentation is focusing our attention on the missionaries that we support here at FBC St Johns with commitment to pray for and in most cases support financially as well.

This year we also want you to listen carefully to the music as the missionaries and flags are presented today. We have chosen songs that have not only a missions focus, but are also songs that have been "missions month" songs we have learned over the years. See if you can recognize each one and perhaps sing along.- Pastor Mike

# Rise With The Sun (CityAlight)

RICH THOMPSON, JONNY ROBINSON  
& TIM CHALLIES

Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-3. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef.

4 Verse 1/2

Musical notation for the second system, measures 4-7. Measure 4 is marked as the start of Verse 1/2.

There's a song that's sung through the nations, of joy-ful thanks to the  
an-then sung in the islands, where sun first touch-es the

8

Musical notation for the third system, measures 8-11.

king, where the count-ess saints who are rescued, praise Je - sus who set them all  
earth. O - ver land and sea it ad-vanc-es, now joined by the saints of this

12

Musical notation for the fourth system, measures 12-15. Measure 12 is marked as the start of the Chorus. There are two first endings (1. and 2.) indicated above the staff.

free. Hear the Rise with the sun, lift up his  
church.

16

Musical notation for the fifth system, measures 16-19.

name. All through the earth we sing out his praise. East to the west, night to the

20

Musical notation for the sixth system, measures 20-24. Measure 20 is marked as the start of an Interlude. Chords F, Am, and G are indicated above the staff.

day, join in the song and sing out his praise.

25

Musical notation for the seventh system, measures 25-27.

I will add my voice to the cho - rus of

2

28

Musical notation for the eighth system, measures 28-30.

man - y peo - ple and tongues, for we share the gift of sal -  
D.S. al Coda

31

Musical notation for the ninth system, measures 31-33.

va - tion and share in the life yet to come. Rise with the

34

Musical notation for the tenth system, measures 34-36. Measures 34 and 35 are marked as CODA. Measure 36 is marked as Instrumental.

song and sing out his praise.

37

Musical notation for the eleventh system, measures 37-39.

40

Musical notation for the twelfth system, measures 40-43.

44

Musical notation for the thirteenth system, measures 44-46. Measure 44 is marked as the start of the Bridge. The system includes a bass line.

And the church will sing Ho - ly ho - ly  
Ta - bu, Hei - lig,  
Shèng - jié San - to,

47

Musical notation for the fourteenth system, measures 47-50. The system includes a bass line.

ho - ly are you Lord.  
O - li are you Lord.  
Ka - dosh are you Lord.

49

You're the glo - ri - ous one, we lift up your name.  
 You're the lamb who was slain, we lift up your name.  
 You're the king who was raised, we lift up your name.

52

1.2. | 3. Bridge

And the church will sing.  
 And the church will sing: And the Church will sing: Ho - ly,

55

ho - ly, ho - ly are you Lord. Now you reign ev - er -

59

more, we lift up your name. O-ver all of the world, we lift up your

64

CHORUS

name. Rise with the sun, lift up his

67

name. All through the earth we sing out his praise. East to the

70

west, night to the day, join in the song and sing out his

73

1. | 2. Tag

praise. Rise with the praise. join in the song and sing out his

76

Outro

praise. and sing out his

80

praise.

# Missions Conference 2026

## Here I Am! Send Me

Isaiah 6:8

<sup>8</sup> And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

March 1 – Flag Ceremony & International Potluck

March 8 – Hannah Strayer, Media Specialist to Africa, ABWE

March 15 – Lars Carlson, President & CEO, Youth Haven

March 22 – Brad Buser, Founder, Radius International

### Adult Sunday School

The Missions Conference Speakers will share their ministry in the auditorium for Jr. High-Adults during the Sunday School hour on March 8, 15, & 22.

### Missions Conference Offering

We will be taking a special offering for our Missions Conference Speakers. The offering will be split evenly to help them with their ministry.

Please mark your giving envelope "Missions Conference Offering." You may also give online. Please click on the box for "Missions Conference Offering". Deadline to give is Sunday, March 29, 2026.

### Church Website

Part of our church budget this year included funds to update/revamp our church website. The process to build a new site has begun and, we hope, in the next few weeks will be ready to launch. Part of the reason we feel this update is important is to keep up to date with current technologies.

This will also help, as people search for information about churches in St Johns, make sure that our church will show up in those browser searches.

We are also making some changes in the overall purpose of our church website. We want to make sure that our site is really for people who don't know who we are but want to find out who we are.

"Why does that matter?," you may ask. What you may be used to finding on our website will still be there in many ways, but the information that is truly intended for just our church family will be made available in a different way. This "internal family information" will not be findable by navigating links on our site.

What will this change for our church families? The one thing that we'd most encourage is downloading and using our Church Center app. This will become the central hub for us to communicate digital information.

One other important thing that will shift with the inception of this process. As of today, we have implemented a simulcast of our livestreamed services not only to our YouTube channel, but to our church Facebook page and our church website.

We'll keep you posted as these changes take place.

## Beacon of Hope

Beacon is in need of truck drivers for our Monday morning run to the Greater Lansing Food Bank in Bath. If you are interested, please see Mark Lutz.

We are celebrating our Beacon volunteers this month. Did you know that we have about 60 devoted volunteers who give of their time and talents to Beacon? This ministry is dependent on them, and we are so grateful! If you would like to be part of our team, come visit!

## Friends of Beacon

**Wish List this week: Drinking Water.** Any size bottles or gallons and any brand. Thank you so much!!

## Lembena People Group

Jason & Tami Hughes have been laboring faithfully to bring God's Word to the Lembena people in Papua New Guinea and are on the cusp of a significant new season of gospel outreach.

They have asked us, as a prayer support church, to stand with them in prayer. They have provided prayer cards with names and images of individual tribal members to assist us. You can find these cards in a pocket at the Information Area.

Would you consider taking one—or several—and committing to pray faithfully for them in the weeks ahead? The Lord delights to use the prayers of His people to advance the gospel among the nations. Let's ask that many among the Lembena would hear, believe, and rejoice in Christ.



## Church Ministries Conference

### 'Be Courageous'

March 13-14, 2026

Calvary Baptist Church

Grand Rapids

There is a sign up sheet and Brochures explaining the Conference at the Information Area. (Please don't take a brochure unless you plan to attend—there is a limited supply). You can view a full list of workshops on their website: <https://grchurchministriesconference.com/schedule/> If you are a ministry leader or volunteer, the church will pay your registration fee. Sign up ends TODAY!



## Daylight Savings Time Begins

Next Sunday, March 8th

Don't Forget to Turn Your Clocks  
AHEAD One Hour Saturday  
Night March 7th!!

## March Birthdays

The March Birthday list is available at the Information Area.

## Missionary of the Month Brian & Sherri Jenks Prayer Requests

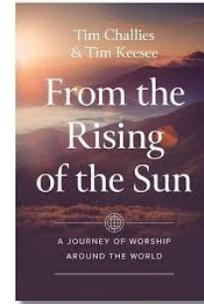
- Pray that they would be an encouragement to their churches. Pray for safety as they travel.
  - Pray for boys and girls to hear about Jesus at our Awana Clubs.
  - Pray as we meet with non-Awana churches that pastors would be open to having a conversation about the importance of child discipleship and possibly what Awana has to offer their church to reach and disciple boys and girls.
  - Pray as we become Interim Missionaries to the churches in the state of Wisconsin. This begins March 1st. Pray also for God to call a “new” missionary for this state.
  - Pray as we plan and host our first RCDT (Resilient Child Discipleship Training) on May 30th in Portage. Pray for good attendance from both Awana and non-Awana churches.
- 

## Digital Ministry Team

In an effort to expand the digital presence of FBC St. Johns, we would like to Assemble a Digital Ministry Team. This will need of a number of different people to handle different aspects of the tasks to accomplish this. If you would like to be considered for one of these roles, contact Pastor Mike.

- Digital Director / Admin: Oversees the plan, social scheduling, analytics
- Social Media Hosts: Comment responders, DM follow-up, weekly rhythm
- Livestream/AV Crew: Manages sermon recordings & livestream (an expansion on our existing multimedia team)
- Podcast organizer & host
- Public awareness team member (ads, emails)

## Monthly Book Recommendation From Pastor Brandon



*From the Rising of the Sun: A Journey of Worship Around the World, by Tim Challies & Tim Keese. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2025. 166 pages.*

This book is a global travelogue that invites readers to witness how Christians worship across different cultures and time zones.

The journey begins near the International Date Line in Fiji and follows the sun as it rises and sets, taking readers through eleven locations—from the Pacific Islands and Asia to Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Each chapter combines vivid travel diary entries with descriptions of local worship gatherings, showing the beauty and diversity of how believers praise God in ways that are faithful to Scripture yet expressed through cultural distinctives.

Alongside these narratives, the authors include Bible studies, reflections on the meaning of worship, and questions for deeper thought or group discussion. Woven throughout are inspiring stories of local churches and individual believers, highlighting how the global church embodies the call of Psalm 113:3 to praise God “from the rising of the sun to where it sets.”

The book also includes access to a companion 12-episode video series that visually captures these moments of worship.

***This book is now available in the church library***

**First Baptist  
Mighty O.A.K.S.  
March Potluck**

**Tuesday, March 10  
11:45am (Gym)**



We will meet in the gymnasium to enjoy fellowship and a potluck luncheon.

Following the meal, we will move to the Ambassador Classroom for a presentation by Pastor Chad reporting on his trip to Mozambique where he visited and encouraged our own missionaries, Kent & Jenny Schafer.

Please join us for an update and time of fellowship with our own pastor, as he shares about his travel, meeting with Ethnos 360 staff, local church leaders and the people in Micaune. Come prepared to learn how we can pray as Kent and Jenny transition their family back to the United States and finish their ministry well with the Maindo people of Mozambique!

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**

**How Will They Hear?**

**Text: Romans 10:9-15**

**Pastor Brandon Crawford**

**Proposition:** The gospel offer is for everyone, but it will reach no one unless the Church delivers the message.

**I. How is a person saved? (v.9-10)**

**II. Who can be saved? (v.11-13)**

**III. How will the message of salvation reach them? (v.14-15)**

**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)



**Online Giving**

Scan the QR Code to give online.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**YEAR TO DATE FIGURES**

BUDGET: \$216,815.52

**ACTUAL YTD**

TOTAL INCOME: \$190,202.08

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$138,454.73

Income Minus Expenses: \$51,747.35

- **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**

**Brandon Crawford**, Lead Pastor

Email: brandon@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