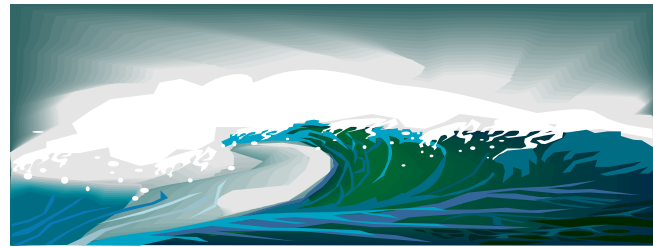




The *October 2018*  
**Anchor**

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...Heb.6:19a



**First Baptist Church , 215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164 ~  
1-304-273-9910 ~ [www.fbcravenswood.org](http://www.fbcravenswood.org)**

As the fall season is upon us, I write this month's article sitting behind the desk in the Pastor's Office, which has been beautifully transformed into a tranquil and professional workspace that would be the envy of any pastor. Helen Johnson has truly outdone herself with her decorating skills in the office that is just marvelous. The office is complete with a couch and two chairs, that are not only comfortable, but gorgeous, surrounded with end tables and lamps. This seating area is a vital part of family ministry. This includes a place for counseling, funeral service and wedding planning, and of course, conversation in general. When I became your pastor, I felt a ministry seating area in the office was vital to meeting the needs of the congregation. When you stop by, you will certainly notice the desk which has been a part of the pastor's office at FBC for many years. It has been completely refinished and looks new. I also want to thank the Stephenson family for providing the large desk chair that is just the right size for a larger pastor like me.

Of course, the office has a couple of my family treasures as decorations that I wanted to share with you. One is a framed and matted Bible leaflet on the wall behind the couch. It is a page out of a 1560 authentic Geneva Bible. The Geneva Bible was the first Bible printed to have chapters and verses. You can read the story of Lazarus the way it read in the 1500s. If you look at the bookcase, you'll see some of my Billy Graham collection from his crusades and with an autographed photograph. Dr. Graham is an example to me about how one can serve the Lord with integrity and be a beacon of hope to people who need Jesus.

During my first month as pastor, I have introduced the ***FBC15*** plan. I will probably mention it over the next several weeks. *This effort showcases 15 areas of ministry in our church where you are needed, as we prepare for church growth.* You can do something easy as committing to pray for me and the church daily, or attend our evening services, or volunteer with the children's program, help in the flower garden, agree to greet new people in the church and introduce yourself, and even sing in the choir. There are 15 areas, where you can get involved. If you haven't found your place yet, please continue to pray where you fit it. From age 8 to 108, there are things you can do at FBC to help our ministry grow, not just in number but in understanding of the Lord. I have always believed that God will never send us more people than we can handle, and that's a good thing. We are on the right track, and you have responded well so far, but we need to keep on keeping on. God's Word in Galatians 6:9 says, ***"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we don't give up."***

(continued)

With your help and support, we have rejuvenated our Bible Study on Wednesday nights to include prayer, testimonies, music and interactive-upbeat studying of God's Word in a semi-formal setting. We have had over 50 people in the church take part in at least one study. Over 20 persons have had perfect attendance heading into week four. Those who have missed for the most part, have only missed one or two nights. Studying the Bible is fun. Proverbs 16:20 reminds us to heed God's instructions and to be blessed, we just need to trust God. My plan is to keep these Bible Studies upbeat and engaging. We have to really dig into the Word and see how it applies to our life. If you have not had the chance to get out to the Bible Study, then let me extend this invitation to you. As one person told me after the second night, folks don't know what they are missing. This is a part of our FBC15 outreach.

We are all very excited to see where the Lord is leading the church. Now is the time to invite someone to church. Let them be on the front end of this excitement, and understand that if you are enjoying church right now, so will they. Going to church is something we should want to do. Not out of any obligation, but because of the desire to worship God and to be with God's people. In the meantime, if I can be of help to you, pray with you, spend time with you in personal conversation, or if you just need a friend or a visit, please let me know. That's what I am here to do. This is an important part of pastoral ministry. My prayer is that you are blessed today, even more so than you were yesterday. I believe we are off to a great start at FBC.

We are seeing the same excitement occurring for Sunday night service. **For the first time since I have been at FBC, the number of adults have outnumbered the youth on BOTH Wednesday and Sunday nights.** This is incredible. That is a testament to your willingness to reengage the Lord in your way. It's a personal revival of sorts. Preparing sermons take hours of time and you being here shows me your love and support and more importantly, your willingness to grow deeper in God's Word. We do not repeat a Sunday morning sermon that night, instead, we share a new message coupled with prayer and testimonies. **God's Word is alive and life-changing.** We want to be able to meet people where they are, and for some, Sunday nights work better. For the rest of us, we just need a double-dose of Jesus' Word on Sunday to help get us through the week.

*Let me close by thanking the Deacons and Trustees for your help with us moving into the parsonage.* We are still living out of boxes, but we are getting closer, at least with the downstairs. Putting away 12 years of things from our last home, and going through numerous items that we have collected over the last 20 years, takes time. But it has been fun sifting through some memories and dusting off some old photographs, and so forth. Soon, we will be finished, and our home will be open to you. Just this past week, Jennifer and I have begun to visit some of our shut-ins. We look forward to being a part of your extended family, too. ***If we can be a part of your special gathering, an event, or something special in your lives, please let us know.***

Blessings,

*Pastor Toby*



It's great working with the youth! We have a great group..smart and energetic. This month we've been cooking things ranging from chocolate chip brownies to spaghetti with garlic bread.

As a service project, we sent out 12 cards to those we miss at church. The group ate out twice and we maintained the importance of Bible study emphasizing Luke 6:30 **"Do unto others as you would have others do to you."**

We have also had our second and third End Zone parties averaging around 150. Thanks to all the adults who have helped in anyway. The kids really appreciate it. Our next End Zone will be October 5. Donations of snacks and drinks will be needed for it. Chaperones are very important so we can maintain the safety of all the kids attending. Set up and clean up people are always needed.

On October 31 from 6:00 to 7:30, we will be giving out treats at the **Youth Sidewalk Treat Night**. We will have tables for treats set up outside the church on the sidewalk. The kids can come in costume and be prepared to have a great time. Anyone willing to donate bags of candy, please drop them off in the Captivate room or the office.

Thanks to everyone for your support as I enter this role as youth director. The position is one that I take seriously. It's important to reach our youth for the Lord. We have had been enjoying a large crowd. I'm praying it gets even larger!

Blessings,

Ann

### Monthly Meetings & Activities

- Oct 1 Trustee Meeting
- Oct 5 End Zone
- Oct 8 BOCE @ 7 pm  
Deacon's Meeting @ 8 pm
- Oct 9 Men's Fellowship @ 6:30
- Oct 10 Third Quarter Reports Due
- Oct 12 Science Night @ 6:00
- Oct 14 Soup to Go after morning worship
- Oct 17 Third Quarterly Business Meeting
- Oct 18 CIRCLE @ 7:00
- Oct 19-20 WVBC Annual Meeting  
19 Annual Women's Day
- Oct 24 Anchor Articles Due
- Oct 28 Social Committee Meeting  
Children's Fall Festival
- Oct 31 Youth Sidewalk Treat Night 6-7:30

### Nursery Workers

- Oct 7 Jane Moore
- Oct 14 Bev Stephenson
- Oct 21 Jessica Morgan
- Oct 28 Leigh Ann Staats

### Children's Church

- Oct 7 Bill Stewart
- Oct 14 Deb Lyons
- Oct 21 Eugene Morgan
- Oct 28 Richard Massey

### CommUnity Kitchen

- Oct 6 Burt Lyons
- Oct 13 FUMC
- Oct 20 Susan West Crew
- Oct 27 Episcopal Church

### Deaconess for Communion

Rose Stephenson



### Focus on Sunday School:



Attending Sunday School is not just for the young - it's also for the young at heart.

No one is ever too old to learn about the goodness of God's love and salvation. The Bible is an excellent history book too!

Our ***Omega Class*** meets in the Fellowship Hall and is in the book of **Genesis** now. ***In the beginning...*** God's plan was for all of us to have a relationship with Him. We can become more Christ-like by studying His Word.

If Jesus quoted the Old Testament, He must feel it has something worth learning about.

Come and join ***Marie DeLong*** in the Omega Class - Be a part of FBC 15 today!

You're never too old to love Jesus!

*Attend Sunday School!*





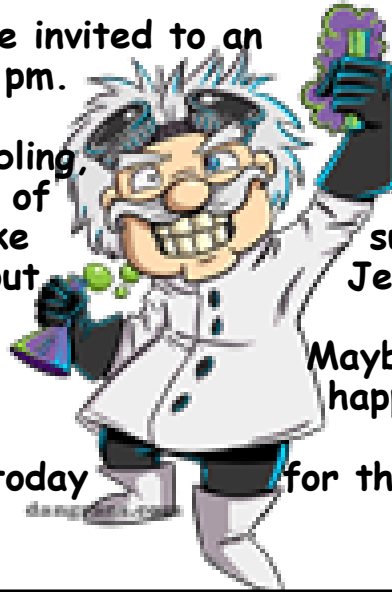
# Family Fun Science Night!

All family members are invited to an evening of adventure on October 12 from 6-8 pm.

We will be mixing, bubbling, ship Hall with a bunch of are guaranteed to make time while hearing about

Make snow! Slime! the mix and see what

Sign up in the office today for the great, science adventure!



evening of adventure on

going up the Fellow- fun experiments that sure you have a great Jesus!

Maybe add a little fire in happens.

for the great, science ad-

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## FBC Active at the Harvest in the Woods

Members of FBC were on site during the Harvest in the Woods activities just around the corner from the church.

Anna Vanderlaan, Dale Vanderlaan, Taylor Woods and Brian Crow finished first in their class in the 5 K run.

Some others who participated in the run or walk were Josh Mize, Jonathan Standridge, Ben and Christy Mize and Ann Johnson.

Brett Ritchie was control for this crazy



needed on crowd bunch!

Congratulations to the winners! And a special 'Way To Go' to Ann for coming in last! She finished the race!

Love you Guys!!!

# Pastor Appreciation Month



In order to prepare this article, I decided to see what the internet said about a pastor's job. Here is what I found:

## Job Description

Pastors ..... have a range of responsibilities that vary, based on the ever-changing needs of their congregations. Typically, they work with church boards, elders or advisory councils to determine the direction of their organization. This can include shaping the church's mission and its messaging, making determinations about programs, events, community support initiatives, missions and trips, expansion efforts and overall church operations. Pastors may be involved in hiring staff, negotiating church business deals and managing investments. Ministerial responsibilities often include conducting premarital and personal counseling sessions, and also conducting small group sessions. Pastors also write and deliver weekly sermons, and also host special guests and events. In short, pastors serve as the face and voice of the churches they represent.

[Work.chron.com/pastor](http://Work.chron.com/pastor)

This is a big list! But looking over it, *I realized it's not complete*. It doesn't say a pastor needs compassion and love for his flock. It doesn't mention the time spent in prayer for his people and the lost. It doesn't mention a lot of what is needed to be a great pastor.

Pastors sacrifice to be available to those in need.....at a moment's notice. They need to have a presence of peace, love, joy, excitement for the Lord Jesus, and so much more.

We have been blessed through the years with our pastors at First Baptist. We are now wonderfully blessed with Pastor Toby. God chose him to lead the flock of FBC. The people reached out to Pastor Toby. And very importantly, Pastor Toby said "here am I, send me."

The last sentence in the Job Description is so true... Pastors serve as the face and voice of the churches they represent.

*Pastor Toby represents First Baptist Church Ravenswood with a smile on his face, excitement and joy in his voice. But he also represents the Lord with love in his heart.*

**October is Pastor Appreciation Month.** Take time to tell Pastor Toby and Jennifer how loved they are and how much we appreciate Toby for leading us in this next mission of FBC.

# End Zones on the move!

We had 2 more End Zones in September ..... 138 kids at the first one and over 150 people at the second one!

End Zones - Safe place for kids

Food for the hungry ones

Games and laughter

Christian music

Caring chaperones

Fun, fun fun!!!





## *In Church and Out - FBC People Activities*



### **WELCOME**

**Ann Johnson** to the Captive crew! Ann is now the youth director for the kids.

Here she is showing how we cannot see the big and clear picture like the Lord does.

Ann is now working with both middle and senior high students on Wednesday and Sunday evenings at 6:30.

All youth are welcome to come be a part of FBC 15!



Ms. Jennie Wise shared her gift as she sang a touching solo during the morning worship service.



Pastor Toby and Jennifer, along with 2 other couples attended *Date Night with Kirk Cameron* on September 15.



**Nikki Nicholson** hung out with the confederates during this year's reenactment in Ripley.



## FBC reaches out to our First Responders and Veterans



Veterans of Foreign War Post 6669

FBC was busy the first weeks of September showing respect and appreciation to those who have served our country and are now serving our community.

The **Men's Fellowship** served the VFW post 6669 an appreciation dinner on September 3 in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Board of Christian Education** organized goody baskets to take those men and women who serve our community....EMS, Fire Department and Police Department on September 11. Thanks to **Jennifer Waggoner** for helping deliver the baskets for the BOCE.



Emergency Medical Service receives a basket of thanks



Jennifer with a couple of our Firemen



Jennifer with the office manager for the Police Department



## Wednesday Night Bible Study is Thriving!

If you haven't been coming to church on Wednesday evening, you have been missing the excitement of having a new look at the book of Jonah.

What happened to Jonah before and during the Big Fish meal?

Hear what's going on after the fish.

Join in the singing, prayers, testimonies and excitement!

***Jonah, Beyond The Whale!***



Our attendance is up on Wednesday night Bible Study.

Make this one of ***YOUR*** FBC 15 choices!

Enjoy the excitement of the Lord!





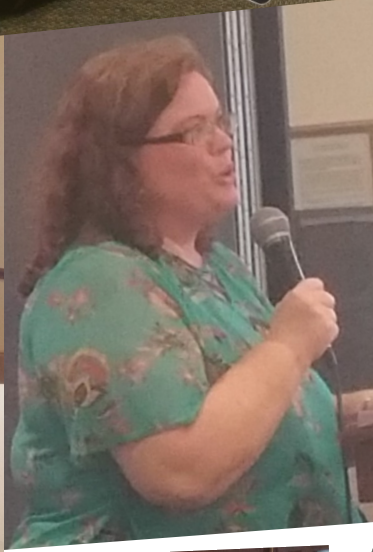
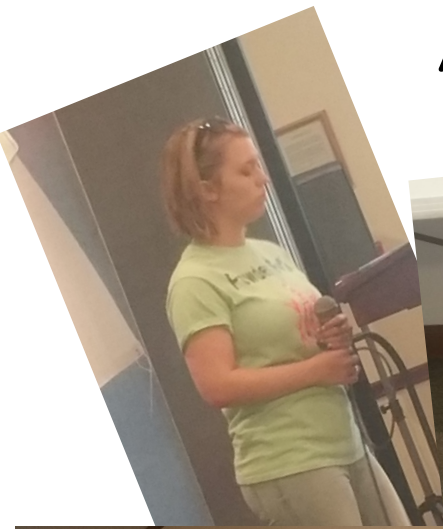
# Annual Picnic '18





# *FBC Annual Picnic*

The rain didn't dampen our spirits. Instead of an outside picnic, we had an indoor 'inpic'. Over 65 kids and adults had a great time with food, games, singing and vespers.



# more Annual Picnic '18



## *How many Baptists does it take to screw on a chair leg?*

With a good woman to help, not many at all.

Many thanks to **Helen Johnson** for the beautiful work on Pastor Toby's office. Scrubbing, polishing, arranging.... The pastor's office is now ready for discussion and work.

Also thanks to **Tom and John Stephenson** and **Bob Johnson** for their work on getting the new furniture in and assembled.



Pastor Toby is available to meet with you during the week or by appointment on weekends and evening. Stop by and say hello or call the office if you would like to make an appointment. (304)273-9910

# THAILAND

## MISSION TRIP 2018



**TO CHIANG MAI, THAILAND**  
**NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 7, 2018**

**\$2,000.00\*** (double occupancy)

Includes airfare, lodging, transportation, breakfasts, lunches and more.  
Excludes evening meals, travel meals and personal spending.

**\$500 deposit due by September 15, 2018, with payments of \$750 due in October and November 2018.**

**We Will Visit:** House of Blessing, House of Love, New Life Center, Chiang Mai Lahu Church and International Church

**Meet Missionaries\*\*:** Kim Brown, Kit Ripley, Jeni Pedzinski and Kyle and Debbie Witmer

**Experience:** Jade Factory, Elephant Camp/Ride, Night Bazaar, Umbrella Village and More

*If you are interested in this trip, please contact Joan Hall at [hall@wvbc.org](mailto:hall@wvbc.org) or 304.422.6449 by September 15, 2018.*

*Please scroll down for the registration form.*

\*Based on current airfare, subject to change. \*\*This list is subject to change.

### Seniors Enjoy an Evening at the Play

Eleven FBC members and friend tripped off to Marietta, OH to enjoy the play, *Harmony Romances* on September 29.

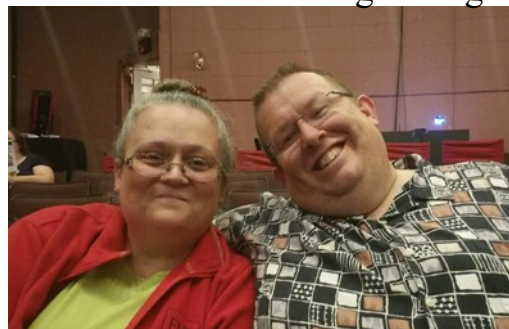


Everyone had a great time laughing and talking (on the ride to and fro).

The senior adults hope to attend more plays and an evening or two out again in the future.

Stay tuned for coming events!

Thanks Dena Williams for organizing the trip.







# 135th ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY "LIVING LOVED"

**October 19, 2018**

**South Parkersburg Baptist Church**

*The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying:*

*"I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." Jeremiah 31:3*



**Ginny Prunty**  
Song Leader  
Special Music



**Mary Ann Wilson, Coordinator**  
Church and Community



**Women's Leadership  
Academy  
Celebration**



**Global Servant Speaker's**  
**Debbie Mulneix and Denise Aragon**



**Concert of Prayer**  
**Rev. Debbie Higginbotham**  
**ABWM President**



**Installation of Officers**  
**Sherry Goldsburg**



Coordinator of Mission and Service  
**Dr. Sandra Lutz**  
5 Antler Drive  
Culloden, WV 25510  
Phone: 304.743.4501  
E-mail: [sandra.lutz150@yahoo.com](mailto:sandra.lutz150@yahoo.com)





**TO-GO**

**(Take hot soup home for lunch!)  
Containers provided!**

**OCTOBER 14!**

**(AFTER MORNING WORSHIP  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL)**

Beans / Corn Pone  
Vegetable Soup  
Broccoli Cheese Soup

(and more !!!!)

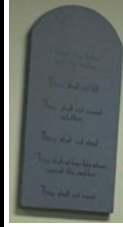
Corn Chowder  
Chili  
Potato Soup

**All donations will support Women's Ministries.**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bible Book of the  
Month  
October 2018  
1 Corinthians**



Do you know where  
this  
is in the church?

### October Birthdays



**Aiden Morgan—10/3**  
**Andrea Crow—10/4**  
**Cari Mize—10/15**  
**Taylor Woods—10/15**  
**Liz Stewart—10/20**  
**Jason Kerns—10/23**  
**Bill Stewart—10/24**  
**Charlie Stewart—10/24**  
**Joan Grimmett—10/29**

### October Meetings 10/1

Trustees—7:00

**10/8**

Finance—6:00

BOCE—7:00

Deacons—8:00

**10/17**

Third Quarter Business  
Meeting—6:30

**10/28**

Social Committee

## END ZONE

October 5



### Family Fun Science Night

Friday October 12  
6:00 to 8:00

*Youth  
Sidewalk  
Treat Night  
10/31  
6:00—7:30*



October 14



**SOUP to GO**

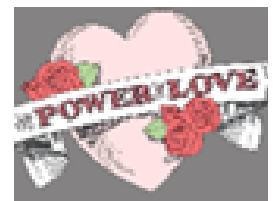


**Men's Fellowship**  
**October 9**  
**@ 6:30**



Women's CIRCLE  
 October 18 @ 7:00  
 In the Fellowship Hall

Women's Day  
 'Living Loved'  
 October 19



Have you checked out the prayer calendar today?

## CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Prayer for our fellow members is an important part of our relationship with the Lord and helps us to grow closer as a church family. Each day during this month there is a different individual or family that you are asked to include in your prayers.



# October 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Jon & Jane Moore	2 Rick & Cathy Murray	3 Leigha Myers	4 John "Nikki" Nicholson	5 John & Jennifer Ortt	6 Allen & Holly Palmer
7 Adam Palmer	8 Tyler & Jennifer Pitts, Owen & Isabella	9 Mick & Susan Price	10 Mary Proctor	11 Amy & Ron Purdue, Destiny Thomas	12 Kay Pursley	13 Roger & Belinda Rader
14 Lee & Connie Reynolds	15 Tyler & Michelle Ritchie, Josh & Mary Beth	16 Rhonda Ritchie	17 Brent & Angel Ritchie, Connor & Lincoln	18 Rankin Roach	19 Tim & Cindy Rupert, Katelyn	20 Darrell & Camille Smith
21 Jim Speer	22 Bill & Liz Stewart, Michael, Riley, Mary Beth, Riley	23 Tim & Connie Staats	24 Cole & Diana Staats	25 Ron & Amy Starkey	26 Warner Stephens	27 John & Rose Stephenson
28 Tom & Bev Stephenson	29 Stephen & Leanne Thompson, Ryley	30 Randy & Carolyn Torris	31 Jared Torris			

*Yet God has made all things beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes 3:11*

