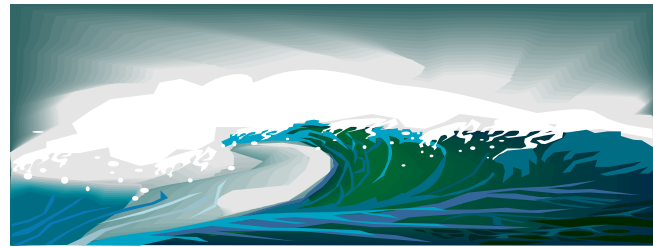




The *June 2020* Anchor

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

As we head into the month of June, we have multiple emotions about the days and weeks ahead. We have seniors who are graduating high school. We have fathers to celebrate and remember on Father's Day. We continue to monitor health department guidance for in-person worship services on Sunday. We have had to determine what is best to do with Bible School and Sunday School. This is a lot to consider. So let me catch you up on all these issues in our newsletter this month.

To begin with, COVID-19 has made life different inside the church building for worship service at this time. For those who are attending, they are seated apart and wearing face coverings. The sanctuary is virtually empty, but filled with the presence of the Lord. Knowing people have gathered to worship God here at church or in their family room watching online is a tremendous blessing to me. But, it's different. I preach to a camera and a very small crowd, when I would much rather preach to a room full of people I love. We know God changes not, and His mercy and grace endures. That's what gets me through.

The church leadership team, which consists of the pastor, the deacons, and chairman of the trustee board, are meeting bimonthly to review status updates regarding our "in-person gathering guidance" that is in place for worship in the sanctuary. This process involves reviewing feedback from the local health department pertaining to our guidelines and learning of their answers to our request to retract parts of guidance. This is done to ensure we are still meeting insurance and liability recommendations from our insurer, as well as following legal guidance. As part of this meeting, we learned the health department has requested that the church eliminate in-person congregational singing at this time, because it has been a significant factor in recent outbreaks. As such, the worship team will still sing, but lyrics will not be projected to the congregation in the sanctuary at this time. No other guidance changed. Our guidance with this addition is in compliance in regards to health and liability protections that safeguard against neglect allegations, while protecting the most vulnerable in our congregation. I appreciate your continued patience with this. I promise as your pastor to remove this guidance as soon as I can. This is why we are meeting bimonthly. The health department understands our feelings on the matter as well as other public health officials at the state level.

We have eleven graduating seniors in our church of whom I am so proud. It was a privilege to have them featured in the Jackson County Newspaper. Look for their pictures from the graduation parade in this issue of the anchor. My plan is to celebrate these graduates later in June where they can wear their cap and gown and receive a special gift the church. I would also like to congratulate Dr. Jesse Mize for completing his studies.

I wanted to provide you with an update on the efforts of the FBC Board of Christian Education. They have made the difficult decision to cancel Bible School this year. This was a very hard decision to make. In lieu of Bible School, there is a tentative plan for a one day, Kids Day Blast at the pool, where swimming, food and a lesson can be incorporated, if it can be done safely. Regarding Sunday School, the Board of Christian Education agreed to reach out to our teachers and let them know that what may be available to them to reach their students. There is an article in this newsletter that addresses those issues.

Additionally, the Board of Christian Education is in the process of planning for Father's Day. It is our hope that we will be mailing Father's Day gifts this year as we did Mother's Day. We know that many of you may not be back to church by the time Father's Day occurs and we do not want to leave any of you out. Men, let me thank you for being role models to your children, your grandchildren, and even your great-grandchildren. Some of you may not even be a father, but are serving as a father figure or step dad to someone right now. For those fathers who have passed, we remember fondly. Second Samuel 7:14-15 tells us "I will be a father to him, and he'll be a son to me. When he does wrong, I'll discipline him in the usual ways, the pitfalls and obstacles of this mortal life. But I'll never remove my gracious love from him." Men, Proverbs 4:11-12 tells us "I will guide you in the way of wisdom and I will lead you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered, and when you run, you will not stumble." Let us all rise to being the men we were called to be. Let's be the examples to those who are younger in our lives. Let us walk in the Spirit, always.

To that end, we are all in this life together. I miss you all horribly. While we see great division occurring in our nation from COVID-19 and the recent riots that have led to the burning of historic buildings and businesses across our nation, we must remember God is still in control. For me, I just want to get back to normal. That's my prayer every day. Believe it or not, I know that the God I serve can bring something positive out of all of this. Perhaps, we are all learning about how to be more patient.

Let us all use this moment to pray for our nation, our public health officials, our communities, the lost, and for our church family. Let us all be mindful of the devil trying to get a foothold in our lives to cause division and strife because of the stress and anxiety we have all experienced over the last 10 weeks. Let us all stay strong in the faith. To end on a REALLY positive note, I do want say a BIG Happy Birthday to Anna Bailes and Geraldine Gregorich! You both are precious to me and to our church.

Love and Prayers, *Pastor Toby Wagoner*



We may be isolated but we sure have been busy! I've been keeping close ties with the kids through texting and phone calls. Some have come to the farm to visit at a distance or go for a hike. It's soooo good to see them!

I've been really busy working on our senior information. We have 11 graduating and although we talked about them last month, with the way school has been and with graduation pushed further in June, I feel it's good to recognize these kids more. I still have a couple seniors with info to be turned in. We will be having a senior swim at the pool and some other activities for the graduates when we are able to meet.

We are keeping up with scriptures and busy planning for when we get back. One of the first things will be an ice cream sundae party for all the kids. Another swim party with the whole group will be done too.

We have 5 youth who will be participating in the Brothers Keeper at Home. Nikki Nicholson, Holly Hord, John Wagoner, Aaron Wagoner and Grace Shirley will be busy around family and church family members who need yard work, painting and other things done. Their gathering with the BK kids around the state will be online.

Camp in a Box is scheduled for Camp Cowen since on-site camps have been cancelled. If any youth want to participate in this, call me or the office to get set up. The cost is \$50 each and the church will pay for our kids. A flyer with all the information is posted in this Anchor.

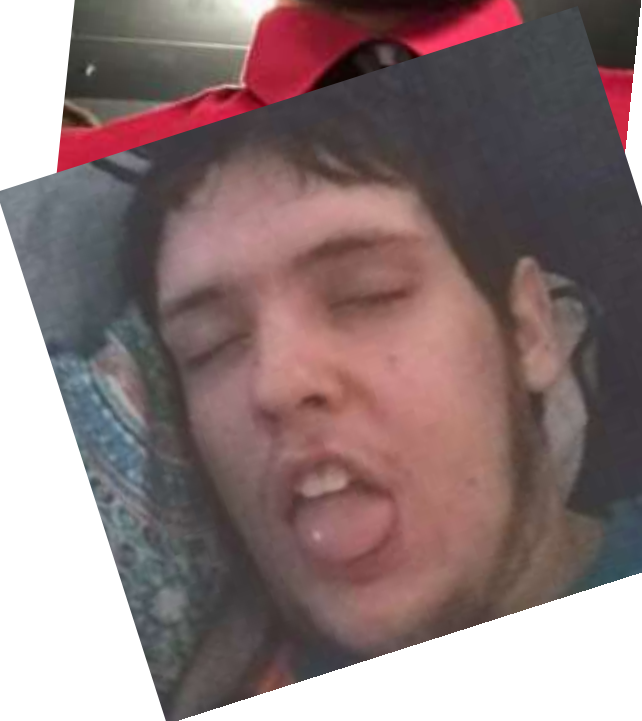
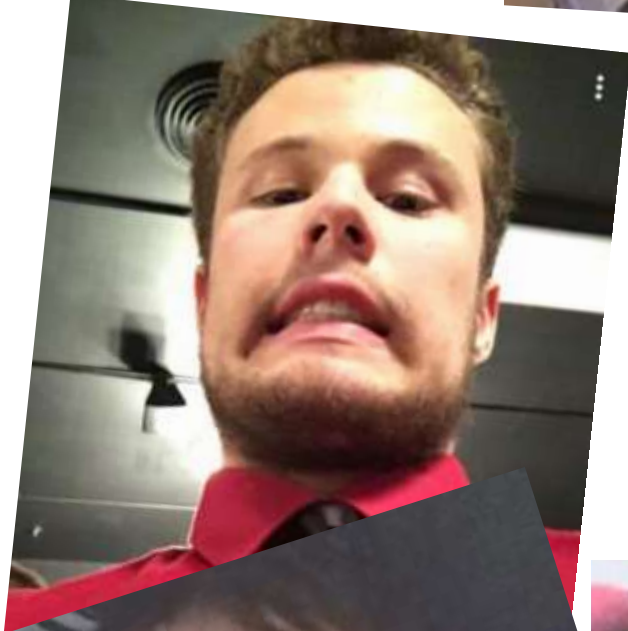
The big task coming up soon is our yard sale. People have already been bringing items to the church and we need more. *We would especially like to have some furniture!* If you have any, let me know. I can bring my truck and some strong helpers to pick it up. The yard sale is set for July 9 and 10. Pending on the need, we may have it outside instead of indoors.

It is so important to keep our youth together and I hope everyone is praying for our youth and for this isolation to end. Thank you and please continue those prayers for the youth. Reach out to those you know so they can feel your love and support. Remember, ***the youth of our church today IS our church tomorrow.***

Blessings,

Ann

What's it like graduating from High School this year?



More Senior Stuff



John Wagoner, John ‘Nikki’ Nicholson and Alex Leonard received honor cords from the Ravenswood Fire Department for the outstanding service to the community of Ravenswood. Each student spent numerous hours in training in addition to their school work.



Graduate “flowers” were planted around Ravenswood for all the seniors.


Senior Parade



Congratulations Dr. Jesse Mize!



CAMP — IN A — BOX



This is your chance to have camp come to YOU! Sign up for this summer camp pack and don't miss out on having camp fun sent right to your door!

Join in with campers across the state by getting your 2020 camp gear, fun activities, summer devotional, weekly virtual Bible Study groups and so much more! Nothing can replace being at camp and we know you want to be HERE! We MISS you too! Sign up for this pack and join in with us today!

What Is Camp-in-a-Box?

This camp pack is a box mailed to your home filled with camp activities, Cowen gear, and access to online content.

How Much Does It Cost?

\$50 with the option to add on additional items to customize the box for your family.

When Will They Be Available?

The first round of boxes will ship the first week of June. Subsequent orders will ship weekly.

How Do I Sign Up?

Order online at www.campcowen.org or call 304-422-6449 for an Order Form.

Can I Order One For A Friend?

Yes, that is a GREAT idea! You can order one for a friend and have it shipped right to their door!

What is Included?

Camp Gear: A camp t-shirt, bracelet, cup, sunglasses, pencil/highlighter, stickers. Items may fluctuate due to available inventory. Additional items will be available as add-ons to customize your box.



Devotional: An 8-week devotional developed for your age group.

Activities: 2 crafts, 4 camp game cards, 4 summer recipes, 2 nature activities and more!

Summer Challenges: Camp BINGO and summer Scripture Memorization Challenge.

Online Content: Join a weekly Cowen Bible study, wacky game nights, and an Invite-A-Friend Friday.

Discount: Receive a one-time use, 10% discount on a future 2020 or 2021 on-site event.



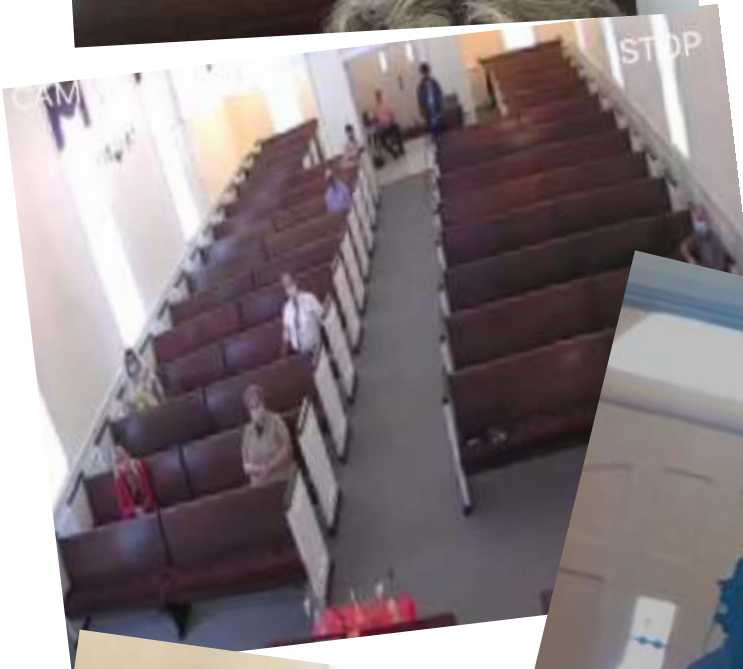
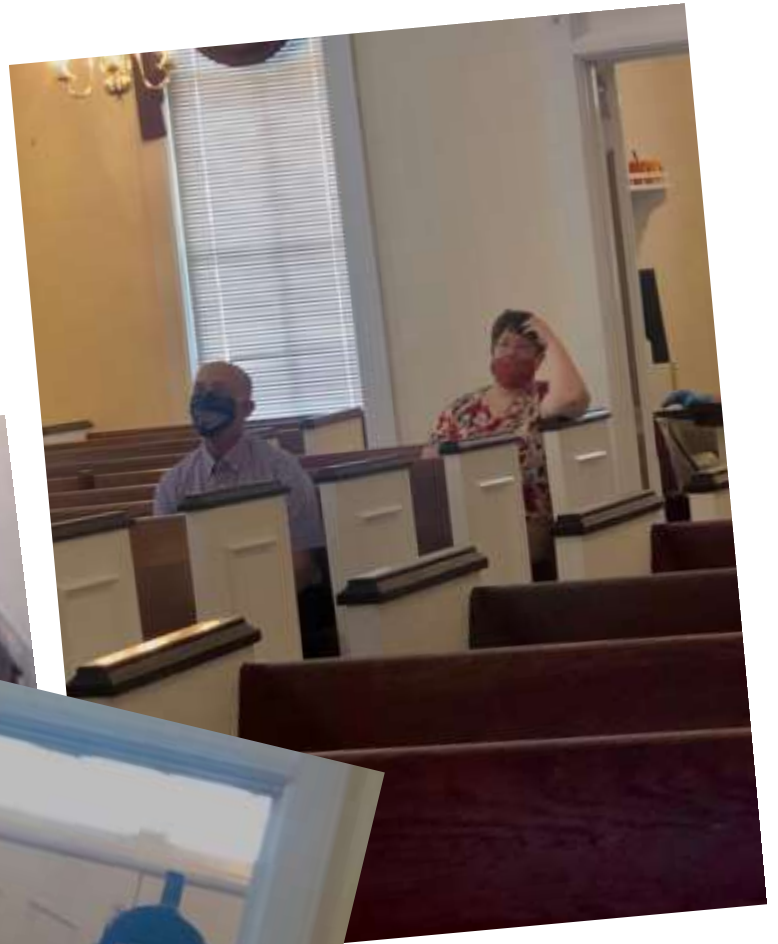
Celebrating Memorial Day



We're Back!

Our first Sunday back after being closed due to COVID-19 was May 24, Memorial Sunday. We had a total of 12 people in attendance. The sermon was great; the music was great....it was great being back in the Lord's house.

Hopefully, soon we will be filled with more worshippers, but until then, what a blessing we can still listen on line too.



One Great HOUR OF SHARING



During the month of June, we will be collecting the (OGHS) One Great Hour of Sharing offering at FBC. Our goal for this offering is \$1500.

Please give as the Lord leads.

DID YOU KNOW?

This offering began seventy-one years ago in response to the devastation of World War II. In March 1949, a national broadcast on a Saturday evening asked Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. A remarkable assembly of national leaders and celebrities gave their efforts to the broadcast, and more than 75,000 churches responded the next day.

Today, One Great Hour of Sharing serves people in over 80 countries around the world. Sponsored by eight Christian U.S. denominations and Church World Service, One Great Hour of Sharing makes sure that we can respond to needs as soon as they happen and that tens of thousands of people receive support for ongoing relief, rehabilitation, and development.

The World Relief Committee of the American Baptist Board of General Ministries reviews each development project request funded by the One Great Hour of Sharing offering received from American Baptists. Gifts reach the ministries and people in need through a network of regional and international partnerships with the following:

American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

American Baptist Home Mission Societies

Baptist World Aid - the compassionate arm of the Baptist World Alliance, supporting three areas of ministry: relief, development, and support of national partners.

Church World Service - Founded in 1946, Church World Service is a relief, development, and refugee assistance ministry supported by 36 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations in the United States. Church World Service transforms communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.

Happy 90th Birthday!



On June 27, Geraldine Gregorich will be celebrating her 90th birthday. Let us all join in together and wish her the best birthday ever!

Happy Birthday, Geraldine!

Father's Day Remembrance

Father's Day without a Father

Could be just another day.
And yet I find my thoughts returning
To when things were another way.

Back to days when I was young
And come to think of it, so was he.
He had the time to do his job
And still had time for me.

He made me laugh and built me toys,
Like kites, wheelbarrows and swings,
And when the day was winding down,
We'd join together in family 'Sings'.

He stood faithful in the eyes of friends
And straight in the hearts of all.
When it came to serving God and men
He had time for their every call.

Years have passed since I felt his hug
And saw the twinkle in his eye,
But I know I lost my dearest friend
When my Father bade me Goodbye.

Carolyn H. Brown
June 16, 1996 5:30 p.m.

MRE Distribution at FBC



Gary Balser Jon Moore Richard Massey

Our men are on the job helping distribute MREs (Meals Ready to Eat) during the discontinuation of the CommUnity Kitchen. FBC received over 400 FEMA MREs and bottles of water to help feed those in the community that made need food.

Our CommUnity Kitchen will restart on June 6. Through June, we will be distributing wholesome bag lunches to those who come. If you are interested in helping with CommUnity Kitchen sometime, please contact Susan in the office.



Mail! Mail! Mail!

How are we staying in touch with our people at FBC? All different ways.

Phone calls; visiting through windows; online services: Morning worship, Bible Study, Kids Videos and all. But we are also trying to make sure everyone is up to date with our activities and news by mail too.

If you don't have a computer and would like bulletins, Anchors, and other items, please let Susan know. We will add you to our mailing list.

Focus on Sunday School:

Spreading the Gospel of Jesus has been difficult to say the least recently. Our teachers - still prepared and willing to teach - are trying to stay in touch with their students.



We have completed and posted on Facebook 8 kids videos, so far. Many thanks to Connie Staats, Destiny Thomas, Talia Martinez, Sami Wagoner, and Susan West for all their hard work and dedication to the project. Also to Ann Johnson, Pastor Toby and Sandy Confer for adding their extras to the videos.

There are other ways our teachers may be able to help reach out to their classes. We can utilize Zoom, Facebook, phone calls, and mailings.

Psalm 96:3 says, ***'Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!'***

We are trying new techniques all the time to declare His glory. If you need assistance or have an idea for outreach for your class, please don't hesitate to contact Sandy McClure or the office. We can help with mailing, videos, set you up with Zoom for your class and more.

2 Timothy 3:16 states, ***'All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.'***

We have been given the great commission to teach the Gospel to all. FBC is willing to use our abilities and means to bring the unsaved to Christ. Let us know what we can do to help you bring that message to your class.

June Birthdays



Bryan Crow—6/1
Tara Davis—6/3
Cody Williams—6/7
Anna Bailes—6/13
Benjamin Crow—6/14
Aaron Wagoner—6/17
Geraldine Gregorich—6/27
(Geraldine will be 90!)

**Is your birthday name missing?
Tell Susan**

Bible Book of the Month June 2020

Genesis



Right Now Media Link

For over a year, FBC people have had the opportunity to enjoy Bible Studies, Children's shows, a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want on *Right Now Media*. There is content for all ages and stages of life.

Some of you have already signed up for it. If not, I encourage you to register today. Here is the link:

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/fbcraevenswood>

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.



June 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Nathan Hall	2 Mike Hall	3 Jo Hendricks	4 Kyle Hickman	5 Crystal Hickman Destinijane, Tara	6 Lisa Hoke
7 Kathy Hudson	8 Robert & Charolette Jeter, Christian	9 Margaret Johns	10 Bob & Helen Johnson	11 Ann Johnson	12 Torren Johnson, Shealyn, Emrie	13 Jason & Leigh Ann Kerns, Mason, Logan
14 Matt & Kristi King, Landon	15 David Lehw	16 Debbie Legg	17 Wayne & Pam Legg, Samantha, Victoria, Joshua	18 Tom & Susan Lookabaugh	19 Burt & Debbie Lyons, Philip	20 Greg & Rhonda Lyons, Cameron, Kyler, Libby Hall
21 Peg Lyons	22 Talia Martinez	23 Richard & Phyllis Massey	24 Robert McCauley	25 Fred & Robin McGoskey	26 Adam McGoskey, Taylor	27 Seth & Lauren McGoskey, Cole, Hadleigh, Tyler, Kian
28 Theresa McKown	29 Cassandra McKown	30 Carolyn Mellinger				

