



FirstNews

Newsletter of First Baptist Church

Elkton, MD

July/August 2020

Farewell Message

As I reflect on my time among you at First Baptist, I find our parting to be rather bitter sweet. We have had almost 7 years together. We have walked through some rough seasons, made strong friendships, laughed, cried, and celebrated together. I am going to miss you all. I am beyond thankful that God brought me here with all of you. The people of First Baptist and the town of Elkton will always hold a very special place in my heart. That said, I have seen glimpses of your future and I am beyond excited about what God is about to do in your midst.

The best way for all of us to move forward is to facilitate a healthy ending to this chapter in the life of this church. We have had plenty of opportunities to say goodbye, celebrate our time together, and “pass the baton” to Pastor Greg. Our friendships will last a lifetime (and beyond) but we have to be open to what God will do in our future. God can do incredible things when we trust in His plan and I know He has incredible plans here in Elkton.

Finally, I want to thank you for the luncheon and gifts you gave me, Kelly, Noah, and Jackson. We are incredibly overwhelmed by your love and generosity. We love you and will miss you.

Pastor Arlen

From Pastor Greg's desk...

We are now in another season. Summer is here and this summer will be different from last year. With the challenges from the virus many activities and vacations had to be canceled or modified. This is the first year since I have been here that we did not have VBS. It is such an important program because young children need to hear the Gospel.

This summer will also bring other changes to our church. Changes are not always easy but we should always seek to bring honor to the Lord in those changes. In the challenges and changes that we are facing let me remind us of a few things. **First**, God is in control and nothing takes Him by surprise. **Second**, we need to stay focused on the Lord and stay busy in the work of the Kingdom. **Third**, nothing is impossible with God and we can and will continue to spread the Word even in the midst of the virus. **Fourth**, remember to pray for one another and join us for worship. We need to stay connected.

I am looking forward and excited to what the Lord is going to do in the coming months.

God bless you.

Pastor Greg

Birthdays

- 7.1 Heather Gladfelter, Angela Gray
7.3 Christopher Benedict, Troy Cherwaty
7.5 Steve Lambert, Linda Seaman
7.7 Tim Gravely
7.14 David Seaman
7.15 Kelly Pfenninger, Margaret Ward
7.16 Pat Long, Kris Rochester
7.19 William Phillips
7.20 Noah Pfenninger
7.22 Don Cornett
7.23 Danielle Scott
7.25 Lynnette West
7.26 Peyton Laye
7.27 Velma Anderson
7.28 PJ Gray
7.30 Barb Glessner
- 8.2 Trudy McMillan, Sue Musser
8.3 Jeff Estock
8.5 Belinda Porter
8.7 Ed Williams
8.9 Tammy Goldsmith
8.10 Rob Chavis
8.11 Anthony Cooper, Linda Snyder
8.16 Shannon Lawson
8.17 Cassandra Clute
8.18 Jessica Brock
8.19 David Glessner
8.22 Jim DeBusk
8.24 Forest Farley
8.26 Carol Ditzler
8.28 Bill Holter
8.29 Jim Hinzman, Amanda West
8.31 Halus Haines

Anniversaries

- 7.15 Tim & Deborah Gravely
7.27 Tom & Paula Sheldon
- 8.9 George & Vera Whisner
8.12 Paul & Melissa Moses
8.17 Chris & Laurie Smith
8.20 George & Belinda Porter

FBC Happenings

- 7.5 Business Meeting
7.7 Deacon Meeting: 6:30 PM
7.14 Nominating Committee Meeting: 6 PM
8.2 Refocus offering, Business Meeting
8.4 Deacon Meeting: 6:30 PM

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study

Beginning **July 1**, the adult Bible study on Wednesday evenings will be held in-person at FBC. It will also continue to be livestreamed through Facebook for those who would like to continue participating remotely.

You can find the link to the livestream events on the FBC website, www.fbcelkton.org.

FBC Worship Services

You are welcome to attend in-person worship services at FBC on Sundays at 10:30 AM. Doors open at 10 AM and our current guidelines are posted on the doors.

Sunday mornings are only the worship service; there are currently no Sunday school classes, Children's church, or nursery. All are welcome in the worship service.

The service continues to be livestreamed over Facebook live each Sunday morning. You can access that link on our website at www.fbcelkton.org. Videos from previous services are also available there.

FBC Choir

Choir practice will resume in September. More information will be announced when it is available.