

First Baptist Church of Oakville  
6741 Telegraph Road,  
St. Louis, MO, 63129



A Sprinkling of Love

Lisa Muser and Kim Vandiver delivered the diapers that were given to Sarah and Brendan Southards from the church. Thanks again to everyone who had a part in sharing



JOHN'S JOTS

I enjoy a CELEBRATION. We celebrate in worship every Sunday—our faith in a Living Savior, and being the body of Christ. But special celebrations are on the calendar in May. These special emphases give us opportunities to recognize people we love and remember people we miss. You can enjoy these celebrations of the body of Christ at FBCO by tuning in each Sunday morning, and sharing about our worship with family and friends.

Thank you for your faithful giving. Your tithes and offerings continue to support the work of our Church and Kingdom work. I know that these are uncertain times for many of you, but your faith in God is expressed in your giving. Please continue to pray for the ministry of FBCO. I long for the day when we can be back together again.

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, is the National Day of Prayer. The first Thursday in May has been a call to pray—for our President and other elected leaders and that God will heal our land. Please remember to pray for our nation in your personal devotional time next Thursday.

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, we will honor our mothers, present and remembered on Mothers Day. God's only begotten Son honored His mother—even from the cross. Even with social distancing, I hope you can honor them and celebrate the day.

I celebrate that Katie Brumbaugh is serving as our ministry intern again this Summer. Katie will be joined by Francis Lavall. Because of the covid-19 limitations, we will find creative ways for our interns to minister to the children and families of our Church and community. Our children's

camp and VBS/Soccer Camp are cancelled. Please support Katie and Francis with your prayers as they serve the Lord and FBCO this Summer.

Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Memorial Day, as we pause to remember loved ones that death has taken from our families and from our church family. Memorial Day will be very personal for me this year, with the death of my beloved Brenda, as it is for some of you. We will also honor those who have bravely served our country and defended our freedom—our military personnel, both living and dead.

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, is Pentecost Sunday. Fifty days after Passover, Pentecost marks the miraculous indwelling of the young Church by the Holy Spirit. Each year, we mark that day because, without the empowering and enabling of God's Holy Spirit, our Church would be just a social club with good intentions. And we really need a fresh movement of God's Spirit across this land.

On a personal note, the past few weeks have been the most difficult and painful that I have ever experienced. As Brenda and I walked through this valley of the shadow, we both felt God's presence and your prayers. Brenda faced the end of her life as she faced her cancer—with a confident faith in God, and a firm conviction that It is Well. She loved this Church and all of you dearly. And she appreciated how you loved her in so many ways. I, too, have found comfort in your love and prayers. And with God's help and your prayers, I intend to continue doing what Brenda and I did together for 53 years—preaching the Word and sharing Christ as your Pastor. I thank you for your love, and I thank God for you all. And still, It is Well.

Gratefully, Your Pastor  
John Hessel

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May Birthdays



Sam Jacobi.....	3
Barbara Mays.....	4
Ted McCarty.....	5
Iain Bennett.....	7
Allen Schulte.....	10
Angie Camden.....	12
Emily Cockrill.....	13
Dennis Amelung, Tammy Harper.....	14
Aniston Boxx, Jan Morris.....	15
Donny and Doyle Robbins.....	17
Mark Johnston.....	19
Wayne Kaiser.....	20
Don Olmsted.....	22
Sarah Willougby, Cheryl Agnew, Drew Juhlin.....	27
Ann Knight.....	29
Jim Boxx, Wayne Tedder.....	30

God Bless You on Your Birthday!

Coming In May

Church Council Meeting (6 pm).....	3
National Day of Prayer.....	7
Mother's Day.....	10
Memorial Day.....	25
Pentecost Sunday.....	31

When will we resume on-site Worship?

This is a topic the Church Council will address when we meet this Sunday. The past two months have strained our ability to maintain our network of Christian fellowship. We will obey the declarations of St. Louis County about when it is safe to resume onsite worship. Until then, we will continue live streaming our worship services.



## ***GWEN'S Gallery***

### ***All In* by Mark Batterson**

Half way is no way to live! Quit Holding back. Quit holding out. It's time to go all in and all out for God. The gospel costs nothing, but it demands everything. It's all or nothing.

Batterson writes, "When did we start believing that God wants to send us to safe places to do easy things? That faithfulness is holding the fort? That playing it safe is safe? That there is any greater privilege than sacrifice? That radical is anything but normal? Jesus didn't die to keep us safe. He died to make us dangerous."

Many people believe they are following Jesus when, in reality, they have invited Jesus to follow them. Mark Batterson calls it the inverted gospel. He challenges you to go all in and all out by fully surrendering your life to the lordship of Jesus Christ.

If Jesus is not Lord of all, then He's not Lord at all.

### ***Crisis Shot* by Janice Cantore**

Tess O'Rourke dreams of becoming the first female chief of police in Long Beach, California. As commander of the East Division, she is well on her way . . . until the night she responds to a call and fatally shoots an unarmed teenager. Despite being cleared of wrongdoing by a grand jury, Tess is so hounded by the public that she takes a job in Oregon to escape the bad press.

Winning over the residents of Rogue's Hollow might be more difficult than adjusting to her new role as police chief in the small, backwater town. Especially when her closest friend, the pastor's wife, goes missing and the woman's cousin is found shot. Tess finds an ally in sheriff's deputy Steve Logan, but as they track down Rogue's Hollow's first murderer, she worries that she's breaking one of her rules and getting too close to him.

## ***Kidz Kollege***

We'll start up again next school year.  
Keep the faith - this too shall pass.

***Ed & Pauline Maness***

### **Welcome Our Newest Members**

Rev. Ed & Linda Mohr (by letter)

***And the Lord added unto the Church . . .***

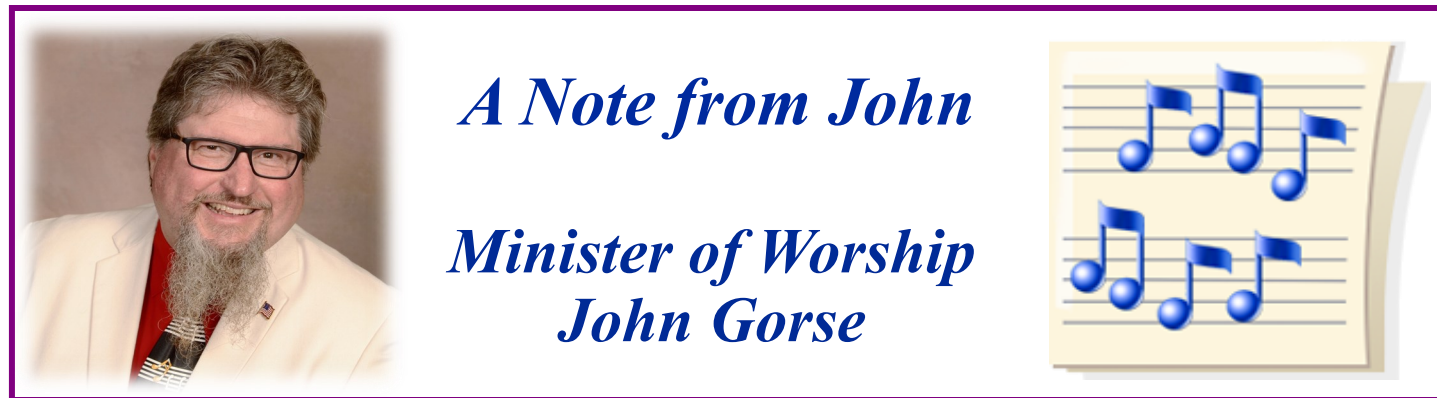
## ***Kids Praise . . .***



It's official! Kids' Praise is now on Youtube! Our channel is called simply Kids' Praise. Our Sunday morning lessons will be there by noon. I will also link it to both the KP Facebook group and FBCO Facebook page. With that said, we will be learning about prayer in May. How to pray, why we pray, and where we pray are just a few of the topics we will focus on.

We praise God by loving one another and we show that love through  
RESPECT.

***Cyndi Harmon***



## ***A Note from John***

### ***Minister of Worship*** ***John Gorse***

Greetings Everyone,

Greetings everyone. I trust everyone is social distancing and staying safe during these unprecedented times. I would like to thank again all of those responsible for keeping our online services going and all of you that are watching online. We must keep up the good work. We will get through these challenging times with our faith in God. I would like to share with you a letter I received awhile back AIRMAIL as it were. I'm embarrassed to say it describes days that I have had way too many of and perhaps some of you have had also. The good thing is we can always change it. Here is the letter:

*Good morning,*

*As you got up I watched and hoped that you would talk to me. Just a few words, such as thanking me for something good in your life yesterday or last week would do. But I noticed you were busy selecting the right clothes for work. I waited again to hear from you. When you ran around the house collecting papers, I knew there would be a few minutes to stop and say hello, but you were too busy to talk to me. I wanted to tell you that I could help you accomplish more than you ever dreamed possible if you would just spend some of each day with me. At one point, you waited fifteen minutes in a chair with nothing to do. I waited to hear from you. Then I saw you spring to your feet; I thought you wanted to talk to me, but you ran to the phone and called a friend. I watched as off to work you went and waited patiently all day long to hear from you. With all your activities you were too busy to talk with me. I noticed at lunch you looked around; maybe you just felt embarrassed to talk to me. You glanced three tables over and noticed some of your friends talking to me before they ate, but you wouldn't. There was still more time left, and I hoped that we would talk. You went home and had many things to do. After they were done, you turned on the TV; just about anything goes there and you spend many hours watching. I waited as you continued watching TV and ate your meal but again you wouldn't talk to me. At bed-time you were totally tired. After you said good night to your family you plopped into bed and fell asleep. I had so much wanted to be part of your day. We could have had so much fun and accomplished so much together. I love you so much that I wait every day for a thought, prayer or thanks. Well, maybe tomorrow! I'll be waiting.*

*Your Friend, God*

On a personal note I am at a loss of words to express my deepest sympathies to Pastor John and his family at the passing of Brenda Hessel. To me she was a great encourager and friend and kind soul. I thank God for her time here at FBCO and the many special memories and talks. She will be missed immensely. May God be our Strength during these uncertain times and I LOVE YOU ALL,

***John***



## ***National Day of Prayer—Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>***

The theme this year is ***Pray God's Glory Across the Earth.***  
The first Thursday in May is a day of prayer for our nation,  
and our nation is so in need of prayer.  
***Please, God, heal this land. Amen.***