

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



Operation Christmas Child
 Shoeboxes are available and FREE.
 Please take one, pack it, and send it
 with love and prayers to whomever needs
 God's love as a child.
 Contact Linda Downs for information.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October

Lois Durbin.....	1
Kyle Berghold.....	4
Ken Parshall.....	5
Jeff Bennett, Phoebe Vandiver.....	8
Carol Bennett.....	10
Debra Hahn.....	12
Jackie Williams.....	13
Jim Manning.....	15
Lucas Bennett.....	16
Steve Brown.....	18
Tim Schellhase.....	20
Bob Chapman, Devin Tolcou.....	21
Harve Cornish, Jerry Smith	
Norma McCleod, David LeMunyon.....	22
Larry Barker.....	24
Dan Outman.....	26
Joan Boxx.....	28
Jerry Williams.....	29

God Bless You on Your Birthday!

Coming In October

Lord's Supper Observance.....4

W.M.U. Meeting.....10

Building and Grounds Meeting.....13

Missouri Baptist Convention.....26-27
St. Charles Convention Center

First Baptist Church 61st anniversary..25

Halloween.....31



JOHN'S JOTS

October is finally here! This is my favorite time of year—cool air, colorful trees, the sights and smells of home. The years I was in college and Seminary in Oklahoma and Texas, I always was most homesick in the Fall. And, even in the face of the pandemic, and all the changes it has forced upon us, Fall suggests a time to slow down, to fold and put away the “busy things” of our lives, and to reflect on *whence we came*, and to look around. Pause, reflect, and enjoy the view!

Next Sunday, October 4th, we will observe the Lord's Supper. This beautiful ordinance with its symbols reminds us of what Christ did to obtain our salvation. I praise God for those symbols, the sacrifice they symbolize, and the faith they affirm. We will be using the new Lord's Supper trays—provided by gifts in memory of *Nadine Weir* and *Jim Robbins*, two precious members of the FBCO family that we lost last year.

October is Operation Christmas Child time. Linda Downs is once again leading us in this charity outreach emphasis. The familiar green and red boxes are available once again—both cardboard and plastic—and they are free. Brochures with new instructions for packing your box, and labels showing if your box is for a boy or a girl are available. Our Church family has responded generously in the past, providing over 150 boxes. I pray we can exceed that number again this year. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ and the joy of Christmas with children around the world—children you may never meet here, but may meet in Heaven someday, only to learn that your gift made all the difference in their eternity. Think about it, and Thank you!

Thank you for supporting the Missouri Mission Offering last month. You may still give to this important offering that supports our witness in many ways across the state of Missouri.

First Baptist Church of Oakville first met on October 25th, 1959, when a group of eighty-two people gathered at the home of Buel and Helen Clendinen to talk about organizing a new church. This year, October 25th falls on a Sunday once again. We will pause in our worship that Sunday to thank God for guiding and blessing FBCO for 61 years. We won't have the celebration we had last year, and Covid-19 makes a luncheon unwise, so we will praise the Lord for all His bounty and be grateful.

Perhaps, you wonder why we call this our Church Anniversary, and not our birthday. Birthdays can be celebrated all alone, but **Anniversaries celebrate relationships.** God has certainly blessed First Baptist Church of Oakville through the years with some wonderful relationships, and He continues to mature and add to His Church. We celebrate the relationships that have made FBCO what we are, and the relationships that define our Church family today. **I certainly thank God and celebrate my relationship with you all, as Your Pastor!**

Among the most valuable relationships that I enjoy at FBCO—members of our Church staff—John Gorse, Nancy Stanley, Rich Townsend, and Ronda & Steve Brown. Take a moment to let these precious co-laborers know that you love them, appreciate them, and pray for them. After all, they have to work with me!!

**God Bless,
 Pastor John**

GWEN'S Gallery

Courting Mr. Emerson by Melody Carlson

When fun-loving and spontaneous artist Willow West meets buttoned-up retired English teacher George Emerson, it's not exactly love at first sight. Though she does find the obsessive-compulsive man intriguing. Making it her mission to get him to loosen up and embrace life, she embarks on what seems like a lost cause—and finds herself falling for him in the process.

A confirmed bachelor, George vacillates between irritation and attraction whenever Willow is around—which to him seems like all too often. He's not interested in expanding his horizons or making new friends, it just hurts too much when you lose them.

But as the summer progresses, George feels his defenses crumbling. The question is, will his change of heart be too late for Willow?

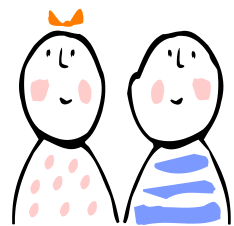
With her signature heart and touches of humor, fan favorite Melody Carlson pens a story of two delightfully eccentric characters who get a second chance at life and love.

A Reckless Love by Beth White

Aurora Daughtry recently orchestrated the marriage of her eldest sister and facilitated the engagement of her middle sister. She's also proud of the part she played in the transformation of her family's dilapidated and nearly bankrupt plantation into a lucrative resort hotel. So when federal deputy marshal Zane Sager arrives in town, Aurora wonders if the time has arrived at last for *A Reckless Love* of her own.

Zane is not visiting Tupelo, Mississippi, for a vacation. Along with Pinkerton agent—and Aurora's new brother-in-law—Levi Riggins, he is guarding two of the key witnesses for the upcoming trial of federal judge Marmaduke Teague's killer. And a piece of evidence he found at the scene makes Sager all but certain that Sam Jones is involved.

Author Beth White closes out her Daughtry House series with this exciting and emotional tale of two strong-willed people who may have met their match.



Kidz Kollege

Please pray that our
Kidz Kollege can safely
resume someday

Kidz Praise . . . Children In Action

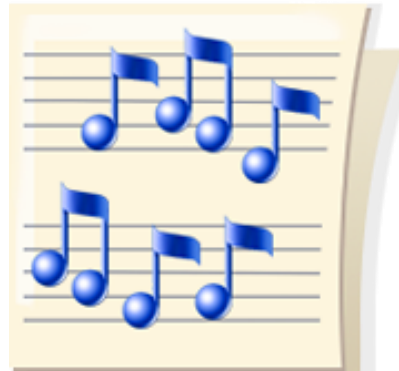
In October, Kids' Praise will be finishing our letterboxing mission project. We, then, plan to start working on some Bible skills while reading through Genesis. Right before Halloween, we plan to carve a pumpkin while we learn about God's love for us.

We praise God by loving one another, and we show that love through RE-SPECT.

Cyndi Harmon



A Note from Minister of Worship John Gorse



Greetings Everyone,

I hope you are all safe and coping with the pandemic as well as possible. I would like to thank all of the Holy Ghost Praise Band members, along with Jim Boxx, Ronda Brown, Tony Pezzo and their team of Audio/Visual crew that has been supplying music and Live Feed for the Facebook, YouTube, and Church Website platforms for the 2 services each Sunday. This takes a lot of effort and dedication and commitment to make these services happen, along with Pastor John's very pertinent messages from God in his sermons.

We are truly a very blessed church to not just be surviving during these trying and challenging times, but I feel we are thriving and reaching some people that we may never have reached, if not for the Covid 19 virus.

On a centering note, I ran across something recently that many of you might already know, but I will throw it out there anyway. The shortest chapter in the Bible is Psalms 117. The longest chapter in the Bible is Psalms 119. There are exactly 594 chapters before Psalms 118 and exactly 594 chapters after Psalms 118. If one adds 594 and 594 together you get the number 1188. Psalms 118:8 is the exact middle verse of the Bible. The next time someone says they would like to know God's perfect Will for their life and be in the center of God's Will for their life, you can point them to the center verse of the Bible, Psalm 118:8 that states: *It is better to put trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.* Great advice coming from the center of God's Word. Its been a long hot summer and I'm looking forward to these cooler days ahead. Very sad that FBCO had to cancel the Harvest Festival this year, but hopefully we will be able resurrect it next year. Stay safe, and with Halloween coming this month, I know you are all ready because you have been practicing for it by wearing your mask.

May God Continue to Bless Abundantly and I LOVE YOU ALL,

John Gorse



Operation Christmas Child
boxes are available in foyers!!

Contact Linda Downs for information.

