

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



Join us for Worship at 9:00 & 10:45 each Sunday
OR Watch us on our website, Facebook, or Youtube.

July Birthdays



- Rich Phillips, Maddie Boxx.....3
- Don Cook.....4
- Linda Beattie.....7
- Michael Boone.....10
- John Gorse Jr.....14
- Shelba Townsend.....17
- Ronda Brown.....19
- Jimmy Boxx, Jared Emmons.....21
- Pauline Maness.....22
- Jerry Boulch, Mary Amelung, and
 Frank Moravec.....25
- Tom Bradham.....29
- Katy Brumbaugh.....30
- Sean McGinnis.....31

God Bless You on Your Birthday!

Coming In July

- Happy Independence Day!.....4
- Lord's Supper.....4
- WMU Baby Shower for Missouri Baptist
 Children's Home.....25

NOTE:
 Sunday School, Evening Worship
 and Wednesday Night
 activities are suspended until Fall.



JOHN'S JOTS

Next Sunday, July 4th, we will celebrate Independence Day! In July, 1776, 58 men signed the *Declaration of Independence*. They pledged their fortunes and their lives on the premise that liberty was worth the price. But in recent months, we have seen liberty adulterated by those who presumed they have the liberty to attack our institutions, violate our laws, and trash our traditions. The lessons of history have been lost on those who would think they have the liberty to forfeit the liberty of others. I recall learning in high school history that the greatest expression of freedom is the freedom of self-restraint. I can most truly celebrate my liberty by choosing not to violate yours. May God help our Police officers, our governing leaders, and our citizens to learn that we cannot assure the liberty of the future by shredding the fabric of the present and forgetting the lessons of the past. Today, we can express our gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy, and being reminded that freedom is not free! May God bless the United States of America!

Sunday, July 4th, we also will celebrate our spiritual freedom to worship—and our freedom from sin—by observing the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is always a blessing to me. But this Sunday will be special. **NOTE:** We will have only ONE worship service at 10:00 am—a reunion of our Church family after 15 months, around this most important memorial meal. And that memorial meal reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. As Jesus declared in John's Gospel, *if the Son shall make you free, you are free indeed!!*

Katy Brumbaugh and Sean McGinnis are busy as our Summer interns. Several mission activities are planned for this month. Others are also working in this important ministry. Please support Katy and Sean with your prayers and your encouragement—they are standing in the gap in this pandemic altered Summer, and doing a good job!

Our Nominating Committee has begun their important work for the new year. I am grateful for this committee, and their diligence to insure that qualified, willing workers staff the multiple ministries, work groups, and committees essential to the mission of FBC, Oakville. Ronda Brown is chair of the Nominating Committee again this year. Herein is an important Biblical principle and a conviction of mine--**EVERY member of FBCO is a minister, not just the Pastor.** That includes YOU! What is your *ministry* through our Church? Ask God to guide you in finding your place of service. Then, my job as Pastor is to be an encourager and an equipper for all of you ministers. I couldn't be more grateful for that privilege.

Two other important groups are working in our Church—the Pastor Search Committee and the Vision Committee. One group is seeking the Pastor God has for FBCO, and the other group is guiding a much needed addition to our facilities. Please pray for them, and for others who serve God through our Church in so many important ways. And remember—God still is in charge, and we can trust Him for the future and the future of FBCO. Please keep praying—I am still assured—It is well!

Gratefully, Your Pastor
John

GWEN'S Gallery

***Bookshop by the Sea* by Denise Hunter**

After her mother became bedridden and her father bailed on the family, Sophie Lawson found herself serving as a second mother to her twin brother, Seth, and younger sister, Jenna. Sophie supported her siblings through their college years, putting aside her own dream of opening a bookshop in Piper's Cove—the quaint North Carolina beach town they frequented as children.

Now it's finally time for Sophie to follow her own pursuits. Seth has a new job, and Jenna is set to marry her college beau in Piper's Cove. But the destination wedding reunites Sophie with best man Aiden Maddox, her high school sweetheart who left her without a backward glance.

When an advancing hurricane strands Aiden in Piper's Cove after the wedding, her finds the hotels booked to capacity and has to ask Sophie to put him up until the storm passes. As the two ride out the weather, old feelings rise to the surface. The delay also leaves Sophie with mere days to get her bookshop up and running. Can she trust Aiden to stick around this time? And will he find the courage to risk his heart?

***Jesus Before Bethlehem* by Rob Phillips**

What was Jesus doing prior to his conception in Mary's womb? While we see the Father and the Holy Spirit actively engaged in human affairs across the pages of the Old Testament, the other member of the Trinity is foreshadowed in messianic prophecies but otherwise absent from the earth. Or is he? *Jesus Before Bethlehem* explores dozens of Old Testament appearances by a figure often called "the angel of the LORD." He not only speaks for God; he speaks *as* God. He appears as a man, a voice from heaven, a flame within a thorn bush, and a divine presence in a pillar cloud and fire—all of which come to us as appearances of the preincarnate Christ.

This study is designed to show how the eternal Son of God has always taken a personal interest in those he created to be imagers on earth.

***Baby Shower and Purse Ministry Party* for Missouri Baptist Children's Home Sunday, July 25, 2021, following second worship service Light luncheon (sandwiches and drinks)**

ITEMS NEEDED:

For the babies:

- Disposable diapers (newborn to size 4)
- Diaper rash cream
- Baby clothes (onesies, sleepers, socks, t-shirts—
Summer weight clothing)
- Baby bottles (4 oz. and 8 oz.)
- Unscented, dye-free laundry detergent (like Dreft)
- Baby lotion, bath/wash, shampoo

For purse ministry for the young mothers:

- New or gently used purses
- Purse size hygiene items (toothbrushes, small tubes
of toothpaste, bar soap, lotion, ChapStick, or Carmex
type lip balm, stick-type deodorant NOT AEROSOL)
- Wide tooth combs
- Natural bristle hairbrushes
- Individually wrapped sanitary pads, any size or type
- Hair care products for African-American hair

Kidz Praise

In July, we are going to continue looking at what the Bible says about different emotions.

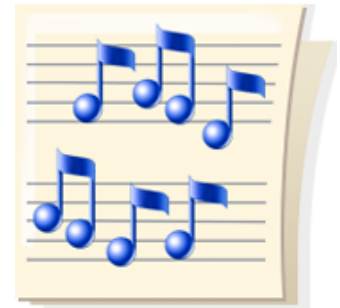
For the 4th, we will learn how to fight the battles we face against sin.

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

Cyndi Harmon



A Note from Minister of Worship John Gorse



Greetings everyone,

FBCO Building History as I know it (Continued) PHASE II: We Need a Building Addition/Sunday School Educational Wing.

We left off last month with FBCO needing to expand its building due to outgrowing its old farmhouse and garage and the sanctuary basement level that was being used for Sunday School and Training Union classes and a need for more parking. As we entered the late 60's and early 70's the existing farmhouse and garage that had served the church functionally as children and youth Sunday School rooms were becoming obsolete, as there was no a/c and heating was a challenge in the colder winter months. And aesthetically, it was very unappealing as a church facility. With that, plans were made to add a wing to the church building that would serve as Sunday School & Education Building, and demolish the farmhouse and garage.

In 1971/1972 Under the direction of Architect Bob Renner, plans were drawn up for the attached Education building, in which the lower level included new bathrooms and a relocation of the nursery that was where the current Sunday School office and Library is. It also included a church office and Pastors office and the long hall of Sunday School classrooms. The church voted on this addition and it was approved and, like had been done on the original sanctuary, some of the work provided was by men and women of the church which included some carpentry and concrete and painting. The Pastor during this building time was John King a young pastor that had graduated from Baylor University in Texas.

A side note to this time was when the farmhouse was being torn down, it was discovered that part of the house was a log cabin that had been the original building of Point School, and a historic society requested in a special called church meeting that the log cabin remain and be restored and become a historic site. The church rejected this option as the new grade for the parking lot and the new grade of Telegraph Road was 6 ft or more lower than the log cabin grade and a compromise was made to offer the log cabin to the society, so a portion of the cabin corner became an exhibit area at the newer Point School location.

As mentioned virtually the entire lower level or the building was utilized as offices and classes and a nursery area. The upper level was completely open with a state of the art smooth finish concrete floor. It soon became the home of First Baptist Church of Oakville's recreational roller hockey arena that brought in youth and adults of all ages and sizes and shapes and faiths to compete in pick up games of roller hockey. Under the coordination of Dave Renner, hockey players such as Mark Goodson, Tom Ferhman, Mike Ebert, Jeff Alexander, Don Bracey, Dave Sanders, John Fank, Kevin Kain, Darry Castor, Jim, Jeff, and Joe Bennett and myself along with scores of others spent many an afternoon and evening playing in the dimly lit ***Holy Hockey House***.

In October of each year, continuing with the early church tradition at the farmhouse, the area was turned into a giant Halloween ***Spookhouse***, that was very comparable with any of the community spookhouses, complete with a western hanging scene that almost hung Mark Goodson. Literally! But I digress, eventually the church offices were brought upstairs to their current location and the conference room, choir room, and bathrooms were added. Lastly the commercial kitchen and Activities Center area and stage was finished off, which ended all roller hockey games. Its exciting to see how God has blessed us and brought FBCO from a farmhouse on a hill to the great worship center it is today, and looking forward to the new ***Welcome Center*** addition. Hope to see you all in the church services in person and online.

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

John