

MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 - Regular Schedule No Lighthouse Harbor	2 - 1:30PM CARE "C"	3	4 - 5PM Fellowship Meal	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings - Regular Schedule	9 - 1:30PM CARE "A" - 6:30PM GLOW Missions Meetup	10	11	12	13 - Youth 24 Hour Justice Experience	14
15 - Regular Schedule - 6 PM Business Meeting	16 - 1:30PM CARE "R"	17	18	19	20	21 - 8:30AM Men's Breakfast
22 - Regular Schedule	23 - 1:30PM CARE "E"	24	25	26	27 - 7:00AM Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage Conference (Centene Center)	28
29 - Regular Schedule	30	31	Regular Schedule: Sundays Worship Services at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., & 6 p.m., Adult Choir 5 p.m. Wednesdays 6 p.m. Adult Bible Studies, Youth Worship Service, Children's Choirs 6:45 p.m. Adult Prayer Group, Adult Choir, Children's Mission Groups			

But wait... there's more!

Find more information about upcoming events, schedules, and ministries on our website at [www.farmingtonfbc.org](http://www.farmingtonfbc.org).



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NEWS & VIEWS

March 2020

Are You Building Up or Tearing Down?

By: Pastor Greg Robinson

A few months ago, I was sitting beside my oldest son, Peyton, in a dark bedroom when our normally casual bedtime conversation took quite a serious, albeit God-ordained turn. He began to share with me about some troubles he had experienced with a few friends at school. It was nothing major, but I could sense his frustrations about why people sometime act the way they do. In an effort to encourage him, I shared a very important truth that I've learned over the years. I told him that he should view every single interaction he has, whether with a friend, his brother, a teacher, or even a casual acquaintance, as an opportunity and a choice to either build that person up or tear that person down. Of course I told him that not only was it God's will and desire that we build others up, but that by doing so, by making the right choice, it could lead to some pretty dramatic changes in how other people dealt with him.

My words must have struck a chord with Peyton, for over the next few weeks I began to see some pretty awesome things. I noticed that he began going out of his way to help more around the house (he's helped his mother cook several family dinners, which I'm personally quite happy about!) he's found more ways to encourage and be nice to his brother, and I've witnessed him handle the occasional hurt he's received from others with an attitude of grace and forgiveness. I've been very proud of him! Of course, he's needed a few helpful reminders along the way, but I love to see that he has begun to understand and internalize this concept of building up those around him.

This life lesson I've been trying to impart to my son has also been helpful to me. On more than one occasion, I've had to stop and check myself to see if I'm practicing what I'm preaching. While I'm certainly far from perfect in this, I can say with assurance that some of the biggest blessings I've experienced have come from times when I've sought to be a blessing to others. I think we all need this reminder that when we interact with others, whether we intend to or not, our words and our actions are either building others up or tearing them down. I believe that as followers of Christ, we have been called to be intentional in building up those who God puts in our paths. I hope and pray that today you will find new and unique ways to bless and build up those around you.

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. (Romans 12:9-15, NIV)

In this edition:

- "Trivia Night" -Robert Schultz
- "24 Hours of Justice" -Jason Welker
- "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage" -Chris Landrum
- "LIFE Plus" -Kathy Crocker
- "Sunday Van Rides" -Ben Davis

Upcoming Highlights





TRIVIA NIGHT By: Robert Schultz

Pastor Greg was in rare form Sunday morning, February 23, fresh off his Friday night Trivia team win — and still celebrating! Friday, February 21 our church gymnasium filled with nearly 100 trivia fanatics for another successful annual trivia night. The night was a win/win for the church; players had a fun evening all while raising a total of \$1,185 to support children’s summer camp. Thank you all for your donations and laughs!

As a behind the scenes guy, I can tell you the success was the result of a tremendous group effort. Denise Schweiss and Carol Grix did a great job as fast paced judges. Dr. Gary Grix was the evening’s Trivia Master, creating 8 categories of questions, some without mercy, others a bit easier. The Adult 6 Sunday School class was the main sponsor, providing fun white elephant style prizes and gift cards to favorite local restaurants. Ardie and Chuck Henson provided organizational expertise, with Susan Schultz and I backing them up. And, our newest pastor, Mark Phillips organized a swarm of prospective kids campers who collected/ran food and score sheets for each team. If you missed out on Trivia Night this year, never fear, you can always join the fun next year!



24 Hour Justice Experience By: Jason Welker



PRAYER REQUESTS

Allyanna Hahn, Loman Stone, Olivia Meek, Gene Wilfong, Lavena Marshall, Troy Mercer, Ron Elkins, Antonio Devoto, Ruth Steimley, Lorene Kollmeyer, Paul Branstetter, Donna Carpenter, Sandra Nickens, Dorothy Watson, Ted Medlock, Larry Jones, Cherie Turner

IN MEMORIAM

Louis Rauch, Justin Wayne Gillam, Darrell Johnston, Irene Maurice

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- Riley & Ally Hahn and family on the birth of their son, Duke O'Dell Hahn

Did you know that experts estimate that there are more slaves in the world today, than there have ever been at any point in history? In fact, there are an estimated 45.8 million slaves around the world right now. We call this problem human trafficking, and it is quickly growing into one of the largest criminal industries on the planet. This is a huge injustice, and our students don’t just want to sit back and let it happen. They want to do something about it! Therefore, in March our youth group is partnering with the International Justice Mission to host two events.

The first event is Freedom Sunday, on March 8. Our students will be leading in worship that day, and I will be bringing a message about God’s view of injustice. During this service, you will hear about how you can partner with our teens to raise awareness and support about this ever growing issue.

The second event is the 24 Hour Justice Experience on March 13-14. Our students will be spending 24 hours at our church learning more about human trafficking in our own area and abroad. We will also be involved in community service during the event to provide tangible assistance that very weekend to people who have been victims of injustice.

International Justice Mission is the world’s largest organization fighting human trafficking. Their group consists of lawyers, counselors, and other activists that strive not only to rescue slaves from around the world, but to help them return to normal life after they are freed. They estimate that it costs \$6,300 to conduct one rescue mission, so surrounding our events in March our students will be trying to raise that amount. If you would like to get involved with this, please contact me for more information. Together, we can fight injustice and help to eradicate from the earth.

LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE By: Chris Landrum

In case you’re sitting on the fence about Mark Gungor’s *Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage*, let me encourage you to buy your tickets today. It is a male-friendly comedy event that will keep you laughing for days. Laugh Your Way promises to: bring hope and positive change to marriages; create better communication in marriages; help couples better understand each other’s needs; rekindle romance in marriage relationships; appeal widely to husbands, even those who may typically resist marriage ministry.

Tickets are available in the church office by cash or check, or online by going to [farmingtonfbc.org](http://farmingtonfbc.org), our Facebook page @FarmingtonFBC, or [markgungor.com](http://markgungor.com)

I think I’ve been to a marriage conference once and I remember being terrified about the process and what might be revealed to me about my inadequacies as a wife. I’ve never wanted to go another marriage conference until now.



Mark Gungor’s Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage is an event I can get on board with. Pastor Greg asked my husband, Mit and I to help, and we have been busy reaching out in the community to promote this nationally acclaimed opportunity.

What’s the difference? First, Gungor’s light-hearted approach won’t be pointing fingers at anyone. He promises to bring hope and positive change to our marriages. Second, this event will help us communicate more effectively and understand each other’s needs better. And finally, all these things will then help us have a more loving, romantic relationship with our spouses.

Time on this earth is short and living in a happy, healthy, loving marriage can be one of our greatest joys. DVR your favorite shows and join us for this unique, one-of-a-kind event Friday evening and Saturday morning, March 27 and 28. I’m confident you’ll be glad you did!

LIFE PLUS By: Kathy Crocker



LIFE Plus started as 3F’s (Faith, Food, and Fellowship). They did things like luncheons, trips, enlisted speakers and entertainers and had fun programs and activities all to encourage our fellow members to get to know each other better.

As LIFE Plus (Living in Faith Effectively) our goal is to continue this ministry. Our hope is to offer wholesome involvement to the 55+ community of our church who may need/enjoy this service. Friends who are not members are also welcome. We would like to get to know each other better through this type of Christ-centered fellowship. The committee has planned trips, seasonal programs, lectures that are beneficial to our age group along with a few service and mission projects for this year.

On our first outing a few of us went out for a meal. It was nice to sit and talk with each other. We also sent Valentines to the widows and widowers just to let them know we are thinking of them. Recently, a group of us attended Missouri Baptist University where we watched the play *Into the Woods*, then we headed to Fitz’s Bottling Co. for a delicious meal. There were lots of smiles, laughter, and talking.

Other plans down the road are a three day trip to Springfield, IL to the Lincoln Library, a visit to the new St. Louis Aquarium, recognition of our Farmington first responders, a St. Patrick’s Day sing-a-long with cookies at the Baptist Home, a Lunch-and-Learn about our health/spines featuring a local doctor, an outing to the Muny, a visit to the Wall in Perryville, an Art Show featuring local artists, a trip to Ballpark Village, apple picking at Eckert’s, Christmas shopping, and our annual Christmas Dinner with entertainment. If you would like to get away sometimes, cultivate friendships, and have a few laughs, join us in this ministry. We are also in need of more bus drivers to go on

SUNDAY VAN By: Ben Davis

The church provides a van service for people who want to attend on Sunday mornings, but are in need of transportation. Our riders don’t drive anymore, but I would say they look forward to attending church more than most. They are a very appreciative group and it’s nice to be a part of something that makes them happy. My favorite part of driving is I feel like I’m giving back to folks who have given so much to the church over the years. Now I can serve them.

Our current van drivers are David Rhives, John Tutt, Carol LeSage, Gordon Epps and me. We have been able to split up the responsibilities and have been very flexible to trade weeks. Of course, we’re always looking for more drivers. If you are interested in receiving rides to church or being a van driver on Sunday mornings, contact the church office. We are happy to meet your needs.



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



On June 3, 2012 our church broke ground on the newest addition to our building called The Family Life Center. The goal of this new addition was to not only relieve our need for more space, but also to provide a facility that was welcoming to the community for the purpose of bringing more to Christ. The addition included new facilities for our youth and children’s groups, a new and updated kitchen, a gymnasium, a multi-purpose conference room, elevator access to the second level, and large bathrooms equipped with shower facilities for outside mission groups to use. The addition also included a new handicap-friendly entrance to our church to greet and welcome visitors. Over and over the new building has been a well-loved resource and a blessing to our ministries at First Baptist.

Through your gifts to the building fund the balance due on the Family Life Center loan is now \$685,513.68 (as of 2/14/2020). If everyone continues to give as in the past it will only take approximately six years (or even less!) to pay off this debt. That would be several years ahead of schedule! You all are to be commended for your commitment and generosity in paying this down. Keep up the good work!



FRIENDLY FACES OF FBC

Meet Dave Watson, one of our long-time volunteers for our Student Ministry. He has been working with our youth for more than two decades, but honestly, we’ve lost count! On Sundays, you will find him in one of our youth Sunday School classes, and on Wednesdays, hanging out with teens at our Ignite Worship Service. Anytime there is a youth event, he is there either driving the van, building relationships, or keeping students in line. He also serves on our Sunday Tech Team and on our newly formed Security Team. Thanks Dave for your years of service to our church!

THANK YOU NOTES

“Thank you for allowing me to share about MBCH with your congregation.”  
-Ken Vawter, Missouri Baptist Children’s Home

“Thank you so much for the donation to the Baptist Home in memory of our mother.”  
- The Family of Katherine Rogers

“...thank you for the cards, prayers, and well wishes for our retirement!”  
- Steve & Kathie Jones

“Thank you for allowing our students to use your church for our lunch.”  
- South Iron Schools

“Our family would like to express appreciation for serving us after the memorial service.”  
-The Black Family

To read more of our thank yous for this month, visit our “Thank You Board” located outside of the sanctuary in the foyer.