

NEWS & VIEWS

August 2020

AUGUST 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 - Regular Schedule - No Lighthouse Harbor	3	4 - "Better" Bible Study Starts 11 AM	5	6 - "Better" Bible Study Starts 6:30 PM	7 - 1:30 PM Life Plus "Indescribable"	1 8
9 - Regular Schedule	10	11 - Youth Mission Trip	12	13	14	15
16 - Regular Schedule -	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 - Regular Schedule	24	25	26 - 6 PM Youth Kickoff	27	28	29
30 - Regular Schedule	31	Regular Schedule: Sundays Worship Services at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., & 6 p.m. Bible Studies at 9:15 a.m. Lighthouse Harbor Kids Worship Service (Ages 4—Grade 3) at 10:30 a.m.				

But wait... there's more!

Find more information about upcoming events, schedules, and ministries on our website at www.farmingtonfbc.org.

Apparently I'm A Cat Person

By: Pastor Greg Robinson

Nothing is quite as scary as receiving a text from your wife that starts with, "I've had an idea..." Sends chills up my spine just thinking about it. Such was the case when a couple of weeks ago, Penny messages me while I'm at church and says, "I've had an idea. Let's get a cat." The story began several days earlier on a lovely Saturday morning outside with the family when our next door neighbor's brand new kitten stopped by for a visit. Oh sure, it was cute and cuddly, and Penny and the boys loved it, but I was absolutely fine when it traveled back to its owners. Don't misunderstand me. I love animals (although I'm admittedly a dog person) but we've got enough going on right now and I wasn't really looking to add to the chaos. Then that text came through. Sigh.

I know the neighbor's kitten had been a fun distraction but when Penny suggested that it was time for us to get a cat, I wasn't immediately thrilled. I offered several reasons why we should wait, why we didn't need any more mouths to feed (I've got two boys on the edge of being teenagers, and that's scary enough) but in my heart I knew the argument had been lost the moment Penny texted me her idea. I held out for a couple of days, but eventually relented and told her to take the boys to the local pet adoption center to see what was available. They went. They saw. They got even more excited. Therefore, I shouldn't have been surprised upon receiving the next text. "I've had another idea," Penny wrote. Sigh again. "We should get two cats! They'll entertain each other while we're gone." I replied, "Nope. No way. Not gonna happen." Want to guess what happened next?

I'm now the proud owner of two kittens. Prudence and Paxton. Pru and Pax for short. While this whole adventure WAS NOT MY IDEA, I will begrudgingly admit that it's been fun. First of all, the cats are stinkin' cute! No denying that. I can't be too much of a grouch when I have two one pound balls of fur curled up in my lap purring away. Also, my new family members have actually made my life easier. Since Penny said I have to "bond with the cats" I have been coming home each day and going into the room where they stay. I'll spend an hour or so lying on the bed reading a book and letting the cats play all around, and sometimes on me. This has actually been quite a nice way to wind down each day.

While I will await whatever new experience will come my way when Penny gets her next "idea," I'm reminded that God wants us to have open hearts and willing spirits when He whispers in our ears about something new He has in store for us. Change is never easy and new experiences will take some getting used to, but we can find comfort in the fact that God never leads us in ways that are bad for us. His promises say that He desires to bless us and grow us. We just need to be willing to go along with His plans.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11 ESV

Blessings!

In this edition:

- "Youth on Mission" -Jason Welker
- "Better: A Study of Hebrews" -Jinny LeDuc
- "The Gift of Art" -Sarah Fletcher
- "Meet Brittney"
- "Safety & Security"

Upcoming Highlights



Youth on Mission By: Jason Welker

Blaze Student Ministries is excited to announce that COVID-19 is not keeping us from going on Mission this Summer! Even though we had to postpone our trip to New Orleans to next summer, we are still planning on an amazing experience for our teens, albeit a little bit close to home.

On August 11-15, we will be in the exciting town of Bland, Missouri working at the Gasconade Valley Baptist Association Camp. This camp has been virtually un-touched since last Fall, so it is in dire need of restoration and renovation. While there, we will clean, paint, and work on small construction projects. We are also excited to help run a day camp the last day we are there. In addition, our group will also be working on building a sand volleyball court and a gaga ball pit. The camp director is hoping to use the new recreation possibilities to bring more people to the camp.

After we work all day, we will also have time when we can worship God together as a group. Please join us in prayer as we prepare our hearts to serve. Pray that we are able to work safely and efficiently, and the we will be able to grow closer to Jesus as we help children to grow as well.



“Better: A Study of Hebrews” By: Jinny LeDuc



Why "Better"? Jesus is better than angels, than Moses. He is a better high priest, a better promise, a better hope and covenant, a better Tabernacle, and a better sacrifice.

The book of Hebrews is basically a study of the Old Testament in the New Testament. It tells us what is true about Jesus, and who He truly is.

One of Jen Wilkins' main goals is to help us build solid study tools - to be an active learner. Her passion is to see others become articulate and committed followers of Christ, with a clear understanding of why they believe what they believe, grounded in the Word of God.

What does the book of Hebrews tell us about Jesus? Join us and find out!

“Better” Bible study will have two sessions available. The first will meet Tuesdays at 11 a.m. beginning August 4. The second will meet Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning August 6. Both sessions will meet in Room 401 near the church office.

Sign up for the study on the bulletin board outside the office. Books are \$14 each.

The Gift of Art By: Sarah Fletcher

If you have recently stopped by our church office, you may have noticed a big and bright change. Recently, church member, local artist, and Farmington art teacher, Kimberlee Canter brightened up one of our office walls with a beautiful mural of our church logo!

When Pastor Greg asked Kim if she would be willing to paint our logo on the wall, no one could have imagined the creativity and artistic excellence that she would bring to the project. From sketching the design on the wall with merely a pencil, ruler, and level, to placing the final touches outlining the letters, it was amazing to watch the detail, patience, and care that Kim put into every brush stroke.

Every now and then you would hear her exclaim that she messed up on a part of what she was painting, but when you turned around to look, you couldn't even tell that she had made a mistake. Even her mistakes looked amazing!

We are very thankful to have Kim share her God-given artistic abilities with us! If you have not seen her mural yet, feel free to stop by the church office and check it out. Also, keep an eye out for more of Kim's work as she designs and leads other local artists in painting doors installed outside of various locations and businesses around town for a Farmington Chamber of Commerce promotion.



Meet Brittney!



This past month, our Personnel Committee hired with church approval a new part-time Administrative Assistant. We are happy to welcome Brittany Romano to the office team!

Brittney joined the Farmington First Baptist Church staff team in July of 2020 as Administrative Assistant. She has spent years helping family and community gatherings through her home church of Meadow Heights. She is proud to say that she has found a team here at First Baptist Church Farmington that loves God as much as she does.

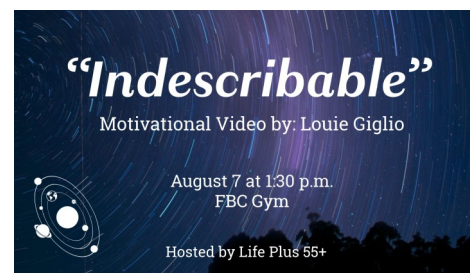
Brittney loves exploring nature with her husband, Michael, and daughter, Amelia. When the weather is too bad for hiking, she is busy playing games with family members, arts and crafts, and rooting on the Kansas City Chiefs.

If you would like to stop in and say hello or give an encouraging word to Brittney, her hours are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. She is excited to get to serve FBC.

Safety & Security By: Dave Watson

Our Safety & Security Team is in need of volunteers! The team rotates weekly surveillance of our church on Sunday mornings during worship services and Sunday School. We are thankful to have a small group of people willing to keep an eye out for the safety of our church body, and to say hello to passerby in the mornings, but we certainly have a need for more willing volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering for our team, contact the church office or our team leader, Dave Watson, at davewatson49@gmail.com or (573) 760-4152.

You may also notice some changes around our church building related to security. Non-essential exterior doors will now remain locked, such as those in the 100s Old Education building that face College St. and Franklin St. The side choir room door facing College St. will also now remain locked. You may have noticed we are leaving the exterior doors near the office locked throughout the week and are working on some additional changes to those doors to better aid our church office and control who comes into the building. We are also in the process of creating signage around the building letting people know about video and security surveillance as well as labeling exterior doors with numbers to aid in establishing safety procedures/exit routes and assist emergency personnel should they be called to the building.



FRIENDLY FACES OF FBC



Meet Tom Heberlie!

Tom has volunteered for many years as one of our 8 a.m. worship service Ushers. He has become a constant welcome smiling face to worship attendees in the morning as he hands out bulletins and helps people find their way. Tom has also stepped up on numerous occasions in helping organize all of our early service ushers and making sure that each is in their place and has what they need. He is always willing to help when there is a need and is friendly to all who visit FBC.

THANK YOU NOTES

“Thank you to all who came to my drive by 90th birthday! It was great to see so many friends. It was the best birthday ever!”

-Ruth Williamson

“Thank you so much for your generosity towards missions! We have now purchased 18 LED flood lights for our dining hall and dorms. We are able to continue serving our kiddos with excellence.”

-Ryan Higgins
Director, Cedar Lake Camp

“Thank you for your continued online services as it currently suits our unique situation. Please add to your prayer list my family who suffered the tremendous loss of our father... We appreciate all the prayers.”

-Connie Shaver

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sandra Melton, Leona Scoggin, Krista Myers, Sue Wahl, Debbie Holt, Donna, Barb White, Olivia Meek, Roy & Bonnie Robinson, Jerry Canter, Loman & Shirley Stone, Nancy Marler

IN MEMORIAM

Kenny Klemp

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- Eric & Whitney Meyer on the birth of their son, Tristan James Meyer
- Maxine Cole on the birth of her great grandson, Hudson Leo Peers

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Our church kicked off this year's budget planning season with a Budget Committee Meeting on July 21. The meeting resulted in the first draft of our 2020-21 budget which should be arriving in church members' mailboxes soon with a letter from Pastor Greg for your review. The new budget will begin October 1 with the start of the fiscal year.

During our August church business meeting on August 9 at 6 p.m. we will present the first draft of the budget for questions, comments, and further explanation. There have been some changes to the account structure of our budget, as well as a proposed budget increase of just over 1%.

A huge blessing this year is that our building loan interest rate has dropped from 5.5% to 3.25%. Through your generous gifts and prayers we have already been ahead of schedule to pay off the loan. The budget committee is recommending we maintain the current repayment schedule for next year so that we can use the new interest rate to pay off the loan even sooner! We are very thankful for how God is using our gifts and tithes to build his Kingdom here at First Baptist.