

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DAYTON COURIER

First Baptist Church of Dayton • 111 W. Monument Avenue • Dayton OH 45402
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APRIL 15, 2023
Volume 89, Issue 8

Life in the Easter Glow

By Pastor Kent Berghuis

Palm Sunday and Easter services here brightly reflected the good news of the holy week and season. Eight new adult members officially joined our congregation on Palm Sunday, and we joined in a wonderful luncheon fellowship sponsored by our Deacons. Those of us who participated in a Maundy Thursday service felt the reality of communion across traditions with our sister church, Christ Episcopal while washing one another's feet. Our Good Friday Walk for Justice and Peace reminded us of the long and difficult road Christ walked, and still walks through our communities in need. And on Easter four additional new members joined as young people being baptized. Wonderful music from our choir and guests filled the sanctuary, and the brass and tympani added a visceral emphasis to the deep-seated joy of the resurrection.

All these services reenact aspects of what is at the heart of the gospel, the death and resurrection of Jesus. And if this is the heart of the gospel, then that is also what we must be taking with us throughout the year. There is a sense in which every Sunday is Easter—the first day of the week when we rise with Christ to live a new life. What might it take for us to have the glow of Easter with us all the time?

The season is full of meaningful metaphors. The turning of the seasons from winter to spring speaks of the rebirth of life throughout the natural world. Spring cleaning can mean new beginnings, the courage to make decisions, the willingness to discard the old and replace it with something fresh.

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But behind the metaphors lies a reality that Christ is the source and bringer of this new life. In the midst of the cycles of the seasons we must also realize the uniqueness of the risen Christ. And our regular encounter with him is what makes it possible for the continuation of the Spirit's presence and the hope for newness of life.

Easter can rightly be seen as a highlight of the church's year. Perhaps it's not surprising that the weeks immediately following are often some of the more sparsely attended services. Yet this may be exactly when we most need the reminder that the Easter message is for all time, for all places. That the real glow of Easter comes not merely from the day on the calendar, but rather from the one who lives to walk with us along the road of life.

So I hope the recent holy week and Easter events may have meant something special to you, as they did for me. And I hope even more that we will all let that be a sign of what life is meant to be. May we continue to encounter the living Christ week by week and day by day. Then Easter will not be just a holiday, but rather a way of life.

--Pastor Kent

Welcome to New Members!

On Palm Sunday, April 2, the
Right Hand of Fellowship was extended to:

Angelina Berghuis

Angie joins by Statement of Faith and her faith partners are Ginger Tiffner & Tonya Mitchell.

Ryan Kline

Ryan joins by Statement of Faith and his faith partner is Barry Schlaile.

David & Melody Pugh

David and Melody join by Statement of Faith and their faith partners are Jon & Julia Wolfe.

Lee & Dustin Tyson

Lee and Dustin join by Statement of Faith and their faith partners are Michael Wadham & Jeff Perkins.

Clark Whittaker

Clark joins by Statement of Faith and his faith partner is Tim Holmen.

Anna Wildermuth

Anna joins by Statement of Faith and her faith partner is Linda Thomson.

On Easter Sunday, April 9, the
Right Hand of Fellowship was extended to:

Elijah Cox

Elijah joins by Baptism and his faith partners are Michael & Jeannette Cox.

Lucas Hazzard Owens

Lucas joins by Baptism and his faith partner is Aidan Owens.

Sydney Lynn Owens

Sydney joins by Baptism and her faith partner is Kimberly Bogan.

Jackson Timothy Smith

Jackson joins by Baptism and his faith partner is Stephen Reichard.

Newly baptized members, from left to right:
Sydney Owens, Lucas Owens, Elijah Cox, and Jackson Smith
standing with Pastor Jason Alspaugh.



25 Years of Service: Gregory Land

On Palm Sunday, April 2, the First Baptist Church family honored Gregory Land for his 25 years of dedicated service as organist. Greg was presented with two plaques during the service, one from the congregation and one from the Chancel Choir. Linda Thomson made sure there was a delicious cake to share with all in attendance at the Palm Sunday luncheon after the wonderful worship service.





Garden Report

April 1st is kind of a day of its own with lots of practical jokes and bad humor, and maybe some good humor, too. For me though it has a lot of significance. April 1st was the 8-year anniversary of my partnership in work with Jule Rastikis at ManCo Property Services. April 1st was our grandson Brandon's 20th birthday. April 1st was the 40-year anniversary of the first date that I had with my loving wife Peggy. So you see, for me it represents a day of beginnings. It seemed appropriate to make it planting day to get the first crops of the new season in the ground. Peggy planted about 300 onion bulbs in a colorful array: red, white and yellow. Ted planted 42 red potato sets in the three beds facing the parking lot. All in time for God to water this week!! As for me, I ended up with the task of "separating the wheat from the tares" (weeding—see Matthew 13:24-30). Join us on May 13th in the afternoon for the next round of planting (time will be announced). Thanks be to God for new beginnings!

--Pastor/Farmer Dave



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

May Celebrants

- 2 Lewis Ashman, Lanie Henry
- 3 Lavanda Ferguson, Mary Ann Paloncy
- 4 Tina Rose
- 9 Mark Craig, Jeanne Kallenberg
- 10 Merriann Craig
- 11 Amy Radachi
- 12 Kate Landis
- 13 Jadon See
- 14 Phyllis Barker, Donna Curry
- 18 Ed Rhodes
- 23 David Taylor
- 24 Adam Hawkins
- 29 David See
- 31 Mary Malone, Luann Meador



(Is your birthday not listed? Please contact the church office and let us update our records.)



Take Me Out to the Ballgame

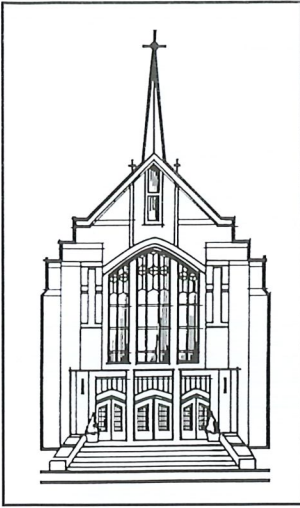
Join us at the Dayton Dragons game on Friday, May 19 at 7:00pm! The Board of Christian Education is sponsoring this event. Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased from Janet Landis. We have reserved seating for 30 in Section 105. Cash or check, and please note 'Dayton Dragons' on check.

March Financial Report

	Budget	Received	YTD Budget	YTD Received
Loose Offerings	75.00	180.00	225.00	430.00
Pledges	19650.42	28066.00	58951.26	69253.50
Non-pledged Contributions	3666.67	2395.67	11000.00	10348.01

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First Baptist Church of Dayton *Courier* (USPS 193/500). Published monthly by the First Baptist Church of Dayton, 111 W. Monument Avenue, Dayton, OH 45402. Periodicals postage paid at Dayton, OH. **Postmaster: Send address changes to First Baptist Church of Dayton Courier, 111 W. Monument Avenue, Dayton, OH 45402.**

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Our Condolences

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of John Nash who passed away on March 26, 2023.

A memorial service is planned for Saturday, April 29 at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist.

Thank You

From Alsbaugh-Downs Family:

My husband Kerby and I want to thank you all for your care and prayerful support in the wake of the death of his sister's son and husband. The whole family is grateful. May the Peace of Christ be with us all.



For Our Cards and Prayers



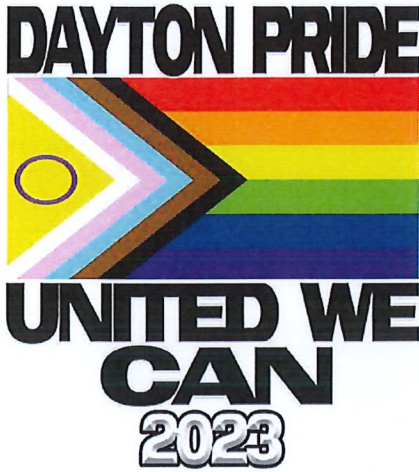
Gerald Busch	Nash Family
Florida Dixon	Mary Ann Paloncy
Jim Earnest	Robert Paloncy
Neil Earnest	Susan Parent
Lavanda Ferguson	Judy Smith
Bev & Bill Harrell	Taylor Family
Ray Landis	Anne Veghte
Lasley Family	Harold West
Gene & Mary K Lee	Dorothy Williams
Mary Malone	Kay Wingham
Arthur Merkle	

Military Duty:

Sebastian Ewald, Sunny Ewald, Brittany Kalbfleisch, Kyle Kline, Will Radachi, Andy Wilson

Upcoming Ministry Opportunities

Dayton Pride 2023 – United We Can – June 2-3



We are once again participating in Dayton Pride on Saturday, June 3rd, Noon-4pm, walking in the parade (line-up is at 11am on St. Clair by the Downtown Library) and participating in the festival with a booth on Courthouse Square. We are forming an ad hoc planning team to help with our preparations, and invite you to be a part of it. This group will particularly help with figuring out what materials/handouts we will have for our booth. Just let Pastor Jason know if you'd like to help in this way (jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org). We'll be scheduling a meeting soon.

We will also need folks to sign up to be at our booth for some portion of the day on June 3 to hand out materials and engage with festival-goers. This is a wonderful opportunity to share a word about God's inclusive love and our church's welcome and affirmation.

Prior to the parade line-up, at 10:00am, we will be raising our pride flag out in front of the church, sharing in a short litany/blessing. All are welcome to join us for this as well.

Also note that the day before, on Friday, June 2nd there is Pride Affair on the Square at Courthouse Square from 6-10pm with festivities featuring the Rubi Girls. You're invited to show up for this time of fun as well.

Vacation Bible School – Invitation to Join the Planning Team

The Board of Christian Education (CE) and Pastor Jason are looking forward to offering another week of Vacation Bible School for kids in our church and community this summer on July 17-21. We are still pondering our theme, but would also like to invite you to consider being a part of our planning team—helping us settle on a theme, develop our curriculum, create craft options, plan & provide snacks, dream up decorations for our learning spaces, lead music, etc. If you'd like to be on the planning team and/or serve as an adult leader during the week of VBS, please connect with Pastor Jason and/or Janet Landis (CE Chairperson). We'll be scheduling a meeting soon!



Additional Thank You Notes

From Gregory Land: *I would like to thank FBC for the special tribute in honor of my twenty-five years of service as co-organist of this historic church. The staff and congregation have always been most supportive and appreciative of my musical endeavors. I look forward to a great future together. Much love to you all!*

From the Bayless Family: *The Bayless family warmly thanks First Baptist Church of Dayton pastors, staff, and congregation for caring prayer and support these recent months.*

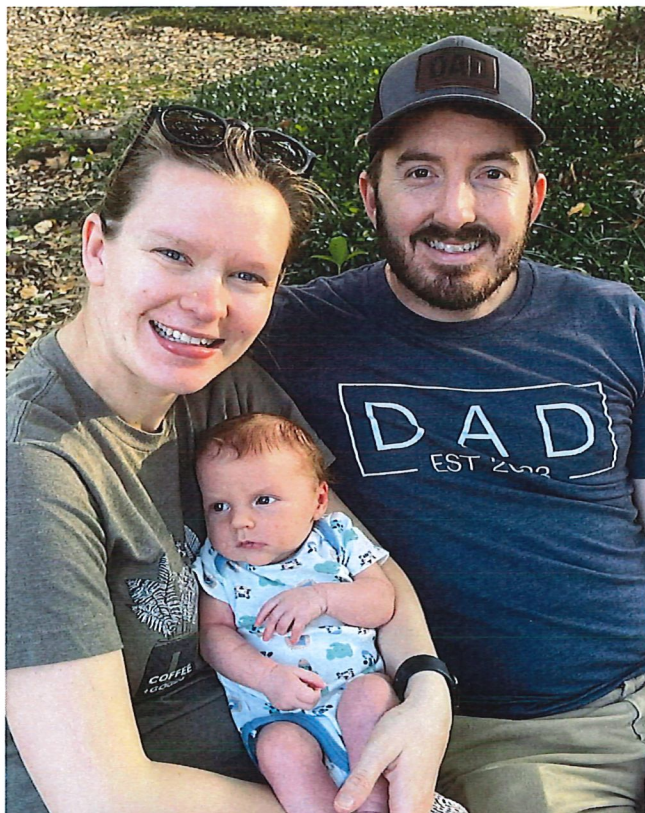
From Ray Landis, Church Moderator: *As Moderator and on behalf of the congregation I give a huge Thanks to the Board of Deacons regarding Palm Sunday--for Right Hand of Fellowship, Communion, and a wonderful lunch! Your hard work is appreciated!*



SUMMER MUSIC TIME AT FBC

The summer is almost upon us which means it is time to start planning the summer music schedule at First Baptist Church of Dayton, Ohio. Last summer we were fortunate enough to have perform and worship with us singers and musicians from across the Miami Valley and from every venue. How many churches in the area can say that they had members from the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra come and worship? We have a very special connection to this city and we would like to think that all roads lead to First Baptist Church on Sunday mornings especially during the summer. If you would like to select a date and add your name to the summer music schedule, you can use the sign-up sheet that is posted on the bulletin board, or you may contact Linda Blair (fbc@fbcd Dayton.org), along with Alan Kimbrough or Gregory Land should you require their services. Please provide the name and composer of the composition that you will perform and lyrics if possible for all vocal selections. We look forward to having you in worship with us this summer!

Dr. William Henry Caldwell
Music Director



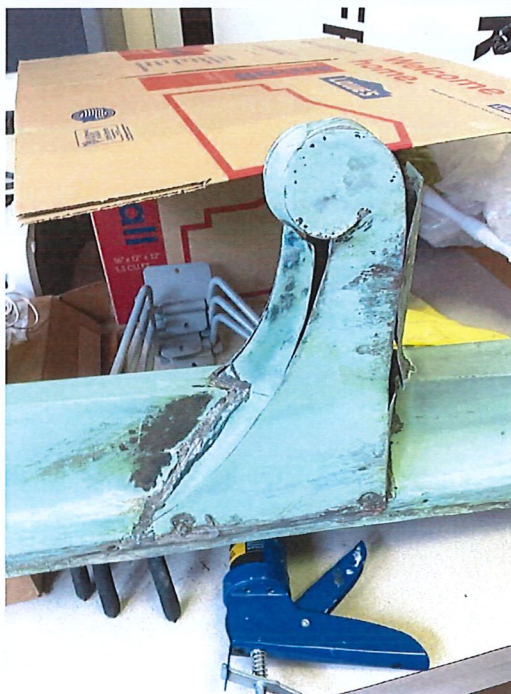
Congratulations !

Congratulations to
Erin Taylor Dewett & Joshua Dewett
on the birth of their son
Liam James Dewett
born February 20, 2023
8 lbs. 3 oz.



Church Steeple Repairs

In the first photo you can see the Steeple Jack Company, HKC Roofing and Sheet Metal of Cincinnati using a 150 ft boom to reach the damaged area. The old wood lath that was torn off in the storm was replaced with new lumber. The damaged area was then covered with a white roof underlayment that has made the steeple water tight. We were fortunate that most of the pieces were laying on the roof. These were collected and will be sent to a fabricator in Chicago that specializes in copper work. The photo of the curved decorative copper piece is called a crocket and is used in Gothic Church Architecture. It is made up of eight pieces of copper that are soldered together and sets our steeple apart from others. You will see in one photo the basket almost touching the roof. The roofer who just happened to be Baptist saw we had some shingle damage from the storm, asked for our spare shingles, and fixed the damage on his own. No time line yet as to when full repairs will be completed. --Jon Wolfe, Chair of Trustees



Easter Bonnets

You look marvelous!

