



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DAYTON COURIER

First Baptist Church of Dayton • 111 W. Monument Avenue • Dayton OH 45402
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MAY 15, 2023

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Does the Vehicle Require Service?

By Pastor Kent Berghuis



The check engine light in my car has been coming on occasionally lately. When I had it checked out by my trusted mechanic, it came back with a sticker-shock estimate for changing a timing chain. Can this be so? Is it worth it? Weighing the vehicle's value against the repair amount means I will probably have to swallow hard and do it. But it does make a person wonder.

The Berghuis household currently has an excess of vehicles. The three of us adults who live here each have one. We've also taken possession of one from the New York City branch of the family, since it hardly makes sense for them to have one there at Columbia University. Parking and all expenses there are at a premium, plus public transportation makes it possible to make other choices. Additionally, our recent college grad is considering options for spending the next year overseas, meaning we could potentially have another one. So there may be some vehicle sales in our future (can I interest anyone in a used Hyundai or two? Or even better, a nice Audi that just might need a timing chain?).

I read an article that said there is now more garage and parking space in this country per car than there is living space per person. In my downtown peregrinations I have been amazed at the number of parking garages in the city, many of them almost completely empty. Our own experience at the church with the oddities of managing a parking lot also speak to the strange relationship we have with the automobile and the spaces they occupy.

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There is a vicious cycle of developers demolishing buildings to create parking, only to find that when there is no longer a thriving destination, the remaining buildings and their businesses (and even their parking) suffer.

Jesus told us in Matthew 6:25-34 that we don't need to worry so much about basic things like food and clothes, because God promises to take care of us even as nature is cared for. I wonder if that can be extended to transportation? It does seem to take up too much of my concern at the moment, and I notice that is true of our general culture as well. Perhaps we all need to re-heed the famous verse of Matthew 6:33 that says, "Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Perhaps the check engine light is starting to flash on the nature of our economic and lifestyle values, too. It may be time for the Holy Spirit to assess the damage our many interlocked personal and social systems are undergoing. Our spiritual "vehicles" may need to be serviced more regularly to stay in good condition. We might not like it when we see the bill. There may even be times we need to find different options to get to where we need to go. But the value of human thriving will eventually call us to make reparative decisions that help us restore the best quality of life we can.

--Pastor Kent

First Baptist Sings! "The Best of the Season"

Sunday, June 4 @ 4:00PM
First Baptist Church of Dayton

The Music Department at The Historic First Baptist Church of Dayton, Ohio will present "The Best of the Season" as part of the annual **First Baptist Sing Series** on Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 4 p.m. The program will feature choral favorites that were performed during the worship services throughout the year. Arrangements will include, *In Thee Is Gladness* by Alfred Whitehead, *Gloria* by Vivaldi, *Here I Am Lord* by Mark Hayes, and a special rendition of *Amazing Grace* arranged by Rebecca Pellett for the Cincinnati Symphony and Classical Roots. The program will also feature the First Baptist Male Ensemble singing African American Spirituals and other favorites. The program will be directed by music director Dr. William Henry Caldwell, and accompanied by organists Dr. Alan Kimbrough and Mr. Gregory Land. There will be a reception following the concert in the Fellowship Hall. The concert is free and open to the public and parking is also free in the church parking lot. A freewill offering will be taken in support of the First Baptist Church Organ Fund.



Education Sunday at FBC

June 4, 2023

Each year we take time in worship to recognize those who have served in the education ministry of our church—Sunday School teachers, Vacation Bible School volunteers, Children's Messengers, and others. And we celebrate those who are graduating from high schools or universities.

CALL FOR GRADUATES! If you or someone in your family will be graduating this spring, we would be happy to include you/them in our list of graduates. Contact the church office (fbc@fbcd Dayton.org) with the graduate's name, institution of learning, and degree if applicable. Send in a photo of your graduate if possible. Also it would be helpful to know if you/they will be present in worship on that Sunday.

Founder's Sunday

May 28, 2023

First Baptist Church will honor those who have been members of FBC for 50 years or more during our Sunday morning worship service on May 28th. Not only do we recognize them for their contributions given in the past, we are mindful that they make significant contributions to the life of the church in the present.



Save the Date!

FBC SUMMER PICNIC

Sunday, June 25

Oak Grove Park in Centerville

After church 'til 5pm

Main dish & beverages provided

Bring sides and desserts

GAMES – FISHING – PLAYGROUND

AMERICAN BAPTIST JUNE OFFERING

One Great Hour of Sharing: It's Time to Share

*"So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good.
At the right time we will harvest a good crop
if we don't give up..." -Galatians 6:9*

In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's Spirit energizes and re-energizes us in every season. We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world. The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. **It's time to share.**



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

Serving as the hands and feet of Christ



Garden Report

With Mother's Day comes the first frost free days in Ohio, the time when all gardeners look forward to getting summer crops and flowers planted. On Saturday our gardening crew was busy both in the vegetable garden and in the flower beds around the church. Since our focus was on the task at hand I neglected to get action photos but managed to reassemble the crew on Sunday. These may be the best dressed gardeners you will ever see! Julia and Jon Wolfe replanted the large planting pots at the front entrance to the church, as well as some of the beds along the walkway. This tops off the work of the Trustees' large garden crew that planted 32 boxwood bushes and put down mulch the previous weekend. Pete and Linda Thomson worked in the vegetable garden to transport 192 shovels full of topsoil onto the planting beds, rake the beds out and then plant summer vegetables. The planting included tomatoes, squash, zucchini, peppers, kale, green beans, cucumbers and sunflowers. As usual, we had passersby who were interested to hear about the garden and the work of the House of Bread to feed our neighbors in need. Thanks to all who contribute in many ways to the success of our efforts!

--Pastor/Farmer Dave

Julia & Jon Wolfe



Pete & Linda Thomson



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June Celebrants

- 3 Emily (Wolfe) Crowley
- 7 Colin Brown
- 10 Sarah Burtenshaw
- 11 Abigail Owens
- 12 Johnny Davis
- 15 Aimee (Petry) Leach, Shawn Petry
- 16 Greg Craig, Margie Earnest
- 17 Riley Baldwin, Jaimee Ryan
- 18 Michael Wadham
- 20 Todd Mikesell
- 21 Linda Ginter-Brown
Susan Harker
- 23 Brad Pipenger
- 25 Parker McWain
- 26 James Paloncy
- 27 Mary Anne Chadbourne
- 28 Gina Greenwood
- 30 Robert Paloncy



Pastor Kent's recent Mother's Day visit to Iowa



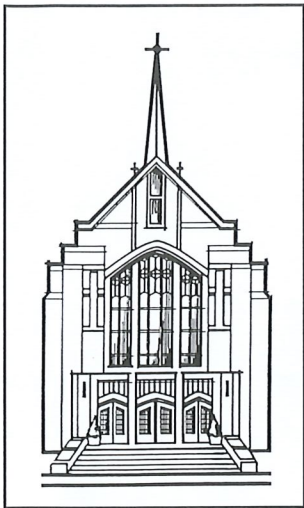
Jade, Harriet, and Kent Berghuis

April Financial Report

	Budget	Received	YTD Budget	YTD Received
Loose Offerings	75.00	262.00	300.00	692.00
Pledges	19650.42	16658.50	78601.68	85912.00
Non-pledged Contributions	3666.67	2687.67	14666.68	13035.68

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Our Condolences

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of James Hornbeck who passed away on May 5, 2023. A funeral service was held May 13th at Newcomer Funeral Home in Beavercreek.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Bill Harrell and the family of his brother, Edgar Gene Harrell, as Edgar passed away May 1, 2023.



*For Our Cards
and Prayers*

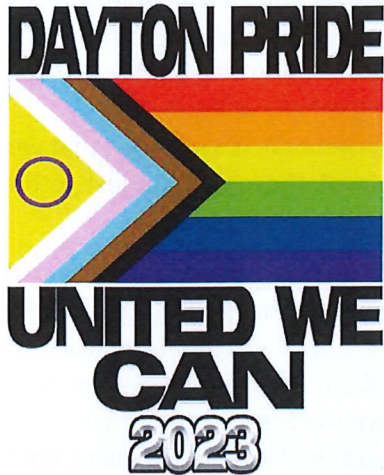


- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Gerald Busch | Arthur Merkle |
| Florida Dixon | Nash Family |
| Jim Earnest | Mary Ann Paloncy |
| Neil Earnest | Robert Paloncy |
| Lavanda Ferguson | Susan Parent |
| Bev & Bill Harrell | Judy Smith |
| Ray Landis | Taylor Family |
| Lasley Family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

Military Duty:

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

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



June is Pride Month, and we are once again participating in Dayton Pride on Saturday, June 3rd, walking in the parade and participating in the festival with a booth on Courthouse Square. Here is a schedule of events kicking off this month of celebrations:

Friday, June 2 @ 6-10pm – Affair on the Square with festivities featuring the Rubi Girls.

Saturday, June 3 – Dayton Pride Parade & Festival

10am – Blessing & Raising the Pride Flag at FBC Dayton

10:30am – Set-up our booth at Courthouse Square

11:00am – Lining up for the Parade on St. Clair St. by the Library

Noon – Parade steps off and heads to Courthouse Square

Noon-4pm – Festival at Courthouse Square

As a church group we are celebrating and promoting a theme of “Beloved,” sharing the message that God loves us all, LGBTQIA+ folks included. In addition to those walking in the parade with our church, we will need people 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, and we are seeking donations of baked goods to hand out. There are sign-up sheets for these things in the Fellowship Hall. You can also contact Pastor Jason if you’d like to help out (jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org). And if you forget to sign up or send an email, just show up! We’d love to have you!

Pride T-Shirts! – We have ordered a limited number of T-shirts for Pride this year that are heather gray and say “Beloved” in rainbow lettering on the front, and have our church’s name on the back. They are \$24/each, and payment can just be made to the church, noting it’s for “Pride T-shirt”. You can email Pastor Jason to reserve a T-shirt (note your size), and we’ll have them soon for sale and pickup during Coffee Fellowship (Note: If money is tight, just let Pastor Jason know. If you want a shirt, we’ll make sure you get a shirt 😊).

VBS 2023 – Jesus Stories

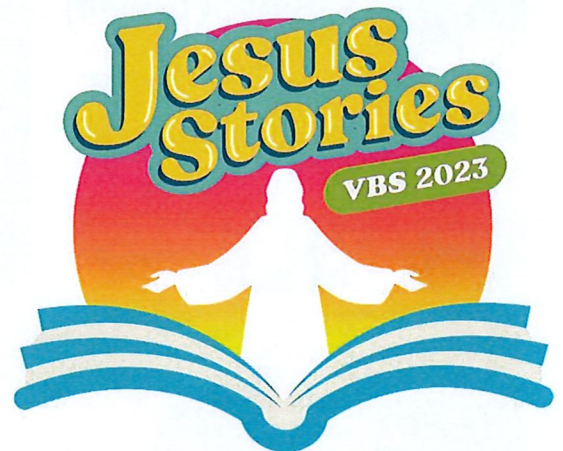
July 17-21 @ 9am-Noon

PreK – 5th Grade

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. This year’s theme will be “Jesus Stories,” and each day we will explore stories about Jesus and stories (parables) by Jesus. If you’d like to be a part of our VBS planning and/or leadership team, there are still plenty of opportunities to do so. We will need volunteers to:

- Design and decorate our VBS spaces ahead of time
- Register and welcome kids each morning
- Help lead opening and closing music with the kids (children & youth are invited to help here, too)
- Lead our kids around to the various stations during VBS (assisting with crafts, etc.)
- Serve as story-tellers
- Help plan and lead games with the kids

There are lots of ways to be involved. If you’re interested in helping out, please speak with Pastor Jason (jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org) or Janet Landis, chair of Christian Education.



Connect This Summer! by Pastor Jason Alspaugh

We take a break during the summer months from our usual 11:30am Sunday school schedule, and I am looking at this as an opportunity for us to expand our fellowship time after worship, and find some creative and fun ways to connect with one another. One Sunday you might discover conversation cards intended to foster table talk. Another Sunday you might find a kind of "Guess who?" game at your table. And on yet another Sunday we might have an Open Mic, Coffeehouse vibe going. If you have ideas you'd like to share, please let me know. But, in general, it's my hope that we will use these open times to re-connect with those we know, and make new connections with those who are just getting to know us as a church.

And...this sort of thing can happen outside of Sunday mornings! Throughout the summer there are so many opportunities to be out in the city, sharing time together. There's always a festival of some kind happening, free music at the Levitt Pavilion (www.levittdayton.org). And there's the Square is Where happening now throughout the work week (<https://www.downtowndayton.org/things-to-do/the-square-is-where/>). We could schedule some times to meet up for lunch on the square and play trivia or listen to music and talk. Maybe we can revive the Sketch Group that Jerome Stueart organized last year. You could spend some time working in the church garden. Or we could plan a time to go on a group hike at one of the Metro Parks. Whatever it is, I encourage you to connect this summer 😊.

A Memorable Honor Flight Trip

Dear Congregation: Thank you so much for your notes of thanks and appreciation to my Father, Harold West, a Veteran of the Korean War. The "Mail Call" with your mail was a highlight of his trip. We were part of the Honor Flight Dayton program which takes veterans to see Washington DC for a day. It was an amazing and heartwarming experience for both of us and all involved. The program is top notch and run by a caring and kind team. The welcome home at the Dayton Airport was unbelievable! It will be a day my father and all those involved will always remember! Thank you again to all for your notes and words of appreciation! **Blessings, Linda Thomson**



HONOR
FLIGHT
TRIP
APRIL 29
2023

