



MAY 2026

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Walking Together

By Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

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Do you enjoy walking? If so, do you walk alone, or with others, or maybe both? Being a dog owner requires that I walk regularly. Ricky, my athletic terrier mix, can never get enough walking. Our little Chiweenie, Morty, on the other hand, has short legs and an aging heart, so his walks are rather brief strolls around the yard or nearby sidewalks. Sniffing is truly the main attraction rather than walking!

For several years Brad Kallenberg, William Caldwell and I have been walking together on Friday mornings. We visit area trails in parks, along the river, or in cemeteries. Since adopting Ricky he's been joining us most of the time as well. William has a sensible temperature threshold where the weather must be above 40 degrees. Brad has Minnesota bona fides and insists there is no bad weather, only bad clothing, and will go all winter.

There's a saying attributed to be an African Proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together." Our group walks don't really go either fast or far, but they have endured as a weekly ritual. We began when I was going through a challenging season in my life and needed companionship. We may talk about personal matters, church happenings, or occasionally attempt to solve the world's problems. But the real point is being together—while getting a bit of much-needed exercise at the same time.

In the New Testament our Christian experience is often referred to as a “walk.” This is often obscured by modern translations that frequently use the word “life” to translate the Greek *peripateo*, which literally means to walk around. In other words, the apostles tended to conceive of the Christian experience as an active journey with God and one another. This walk requires us to keep in step with the Spirit. It’s a long journey that isn’t always fast. Instead, it requires companionship and mutual support along the way.

And so a church is a gathering of people who are together journeying with God. We meet for mutual support and encouragement, then continue walking day by day. Sometimes we may be alone—though we are never truly alone as God walks with us. And we often can walk together, if we reach out and invite a friend to journey with us.

So how is your Christian walk? Are you sustaining your journey with regular habits that propel you toward your goal? Maybe you need to gather companions, or join others in ways they walk where you could learn and grow. We all need that kind of friendship and mutual edification.

I’d be happy to walk with you if you ever want to join me on a walk—and I know Ricky would be overjoyed, too! More than that, know that you can share your spiritual journey with me or others, and we will promise to offer some encouragement along the way, even as you offer it back to us. Let’s journey together with God on the long road, where finally we all reach God’s intended destination for us.

--Pastor Kent Berghuis



May Church Meetings

Board Meetings

Wednesday, May 13 @ 6:30pm

Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 20 @ 6:30pm



First Baptist Church of Dayton

ALL~CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, July 26, 2026 ~ After church

Hills & Dales Park ~ Pawpaw Shelter

(2471 Deep Hollow Rd, Kettering, OH 45419)

Dorothy Lane American Baptist Church is invited to join us.



First Baptist Church
of Dayton

Founders Sunday

May 24, 2026



Our Founders Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 24 with the traditional recognition of 50+ year members during the service followed by a special fellowship time that will feature a light lunch of sandwiches, chips, cookies and ice cream sponsored by the Heritage Committee.

After lunch, Pastor Kent will lead a “Meet the Founders” walking tour of Woodland Cemetery to visit the graves of key figures in our church history and hear their stories. We will leave from church about 12:00 and be done by about 2:00. Please sign up on a yellow card or let Pastor Kent or the office know if you’d like to participate.



Education/Youth Sunday

Sunday, May 31, 2026

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; or you may include the info on a yellow card on Sunday. Also it would be helpful to know if you/they will be present in worship on that Sunday.

Garden Report

The FBC Love Your Neighbor Garden is open for 2026!!

Three hundred onion sets and 54 red potato sets were planted in the garden on the Monday before Easter. A few kale hibernating for the winter sprouted a couple of weeks ago, and today we delivered our first harvest, a basket of fresh kale, to the House of Bread for use in their mixed green salads. Pastor/Farmer Dave held a Weeding Workshop today (April 20). It was a chilly 43 degrees at 10 a.m., and Pastor Jason was the only one who braved the cool wind to show up for the working workshop. Besides getting 80% of the garden weeded, we were treated to an air show as our roofing company was using a high-flying drone to inspect the condition of the church roof. You missed a big day in the garden! Join us next time for a planting session to put in the summer crops. Watch for a time and date.

Growing by the Grace of God,
Pastor/Farmer Dave



BAPTIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (BYF)

Thursday Evening BYF Gatherings @ 6-8pm

Our Baptist Youth Fellowship continues to gather on Thursday evenings. Each week gatherings will include a fun theme/activity (sundaes, art, service, karaoke, improv, etc.), fellowship, food, and a spirituality/spiritual practice component. We will still have other occasional activities/outings at other times, including Sundays, but this would be our most regular gathering time. Special thanks to Camilla Albritton and Michelle Smith for helping to make this new endeavor possible.

April Photos from BYF Gatherings/Outings

Youth participated in Holy Week events this year—Maundy Thursday with Christ Episcopal, Good Friday Walk for Justice & Peace (also serving at our soup luncheon). The group also gathered at Hills & Dales park one Thursday where they finished up their Cross & Bible Verse Paintings, spent time in prayer using our prayer journals, and played some games together 😊





Time to Update BYF Medical-Transportation Forms

Youth are always welcome to invite friends, but (as always) we'll want everyone to have a completed & signed BYF medical-transportation form on file (available on the table outside the church office). **Also, if any medical or contact info has change within the last year, please fill out a new form for your youth(s).** If anyone has questions or would like to help out in some way, please connect with Pastor Jason (jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org).



YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS SAVE THE DATES

**BYC (Be Loved Youth Camp) in Laurel Springs, NC
June 28-July 3, 2026**

**Quest Camp in Green Lake, WI
July 19-24, 2026**

Connect with Pastor Jason to RSVP your youth(s),
and/or if you have questions/need more info at this time.

And if you would like to help offset the cost of summer camp for our youth,
you can simply give to the church and note that it is for the “BYF Fund.”

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

**RIVERS' EDGE PEACE CAMP
July 13-17 @ 9:30am-Noon**



Children grades PreK-5th grade are invited to a week of VBS where we will explore ideas of peace & peacemaking from the Bible and songs of faith, particularly those that make a connection with river/water imagery. Speak with Pastor Jason or a member of the Board of Christian Education if you are interested in helping with VBS this summer. There are opportunities to help with curriculum, registrations, storytelling, crafts, games, music, snacks, and decorating. Registration will open soon, and forms will be available online and in print.

Adult Sunday School

Spring 2026

El Salvador Trip 2026: Presentation & Conversation with Diane Ashman

**Sunday, May 3 @ 11:30am
1st Floor - Sanctuary**

Diane Ashman traveled to Ahuachapán, El Salvador and the surrounding area on March 1-7 to connect with our folks there, visit scholarship students, and observe the status of ongoing and new ministry projects. **If you would like to help offset some of the cost of her trip, there's still time. You can simply give to the church and note that it is for "El Salvador Trip 2026."**

"The Road to the Protestant Reformation"

Led by Dr. Roy Vice

**Sundays, May 10 & 17
11:30am-12:15pm
1st Floor - Chapel**

The unity of the Catholic Church began to break down during the Avignon papacy, especially during the schism of one pope in Rome and another in Avignon. John Wycliffe and his followers, the Lollards, criticized the Church. John Huss (Jan Hus) was burned at Constance. His followers raided Germany. The Humanist Lorenzo Valla showed that the Donation of Constantine was a forgery. Erasmus of Rotterdam satirized many Catholic practices and published the first edition of the New Testament in Greek. This was used by Martin Luther to translate the Bible into German.

Welcome Class

New to our church? We'd like for us to get to know each other better. Pastor Berghuis will host a "Welcome Class" after worship the first three Sundays of May at 11:30 in the Pastor's Study on the second floor. Let us know you're coming by writing "Welcome Class" on the yellow information card and place it in the offering, or get in touch with Pastor Berghuis or the church office.



BE A PART OF FBC DAYTON'S PRIDE TEAM

This year the *Greater Dayton LGBT Center* celebrates 50-years of unwavering support and advocacy, and we are once again planning to participate in the Dayton Pride Parade and Festival on **Saturday, June 6**. If you would like to help with our preparations, join us in the parade, and/or greet folks at our booth, please connect with Pastor Jason (jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org). And even if you cannot make the parade and festival, you can share your ideas, donate bottled water or candy for us to hand out, or paint some Pride rocks for us to give out (supplies will be available each Sunday in the Parlor).

A sign-up sheet will be available soon in the main hallway outside the church office where folks can sign-up for a time slot to sit at the booth and greet festival-goers, and/or indicate a donation. If you forget to sign up, just show up 😊. A word of thanks to Ted Greenwood who has volunteered to lead the group setting-up & starting-up our booth (Pastor Jason will take the lead on the group that will walk in the parade).



Coffee & Cookie Social Time at One Lincoln Park



Monthly - 1st Wednesday
from 2:00-3:30pm
590 Isaac Prugh Way, Kettering 45429



Mary Herbert has planned a monthly coffee/cookie social time for our members who reside at One Lincoln Park. Currently we have 4 members living there--Linda Ginter Brown, Gerald Busch, Bill Harrell, and Ken Taylor. You are invited and encouraged to drop in for these monthly socials! **Upcoming dates:** May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug 5, Sept 2, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2. If you have any questions, please contact Mary at 937-298-2866.



A Choral Concert *First Baptist Sings!*

THEME: PRAISE, WORSHIP, PEACE

Sunday, June 7 @ 4 PM
First Baptist Church of Dayton



On June 7, 2026 historic First Baptist Church of Dayton will present “First Baptist Sings” featuring the Chancel Choir and accompanists Dr. R. Alan Kimbrough and Mr. Gregory Land under the direction of Dr. William Henry Caldwell. The theme for this concert is “Praise, Worship, and Peace.” The concert will feature works by Holst, Randall Thompson, Lloyd Larson, Undine Smith Moore, Moses Hogan, and an arrangement of “God Is” by Dr. William Henry Caldwell. Parking is available for all in the parking lot near the ramp. A reception for all will follow in the Fellowship Hall and donations to the Organ Fund are welcomed. The public is cordially invited.

Join Preservation Dayton in Celebrating Outstanding Local Preservationists!

Sunday, May 17 @ 4:00pm
Dayton Arcade
Free Event!

The Excellence in Preservation Awards, presented by Preservation Dayton Inc., will return on Sunday, May 17 at 4:00 PM at the Dayton Arcade! Preservation Dayton is giving an award to our church for our work on preserving our building. Jon Wolfe will receive the award on our behalf.

Join us at the beautifully renovated Dayton Arcade as we recognize and celebrate the 2026 award winners. You’ll also get a look at what Preservation Dayton has planned for the year ahead. We will also be announcing our updated “Top 10 Most Endangered Properties.” This is a **free event** with refreshments provided and limited seating available.

Location & Parking: Guests may enter through The Hub at 31 S. Main St., or take advantage of valet service (for a fee) at the Hilton Garden Inn Dayton Downtown entrance at 18 W. Third Street. Ample street parking is available downtown (free on Sundays), and the Reibold Building Parking Garage offers convenient access nearby.

Here is the link to use to make your online attendance registration:
<https://tinyurl.com/48n8ad8d>



Mary Herbert

Mary was born in Columbus, arriving in Dayton at three weeks and considers herself a “native.” She attended Oakwood Schools. Her two oldest friends go back to nursery school, and recently celebrated 80+ years of friendship with them. She is active with the sustainers of the Junior League. Her favorite project was working on the photo history of Dayton in the 1970s. Mary’s hobbies include cross stitch embroidery, collecting movies, music of the 40’s—a limited edition of 45’s Glenn Miller targeted to his museum in a small town in Iowa—to preserve them. She also loves to read books, and loves event planning for teas, lunches, and dinners. After a busy 30 years of pet sitting, she is now semi-retired but occasionally will see pets. Mary was dedicated at 9 months at First Baptist Church and will be a 75-year member in 2026. Wow!

BUILDING BRIDGES BIBLE STUDY

**Thursdays @ 7:30-8:30am
Wholly Grounds Coffee Shop
825 Wayne Ave, Dayton 45410**

Each week Pastor Jason convenes a group for spirited discussion and reflection on one of the Scripture passages from the Lectionary for the upcoming Sunday, making connections and applications to current events. Many of us have been doing this for years, but it’s an open gathering and anyone can join us anytime. If you have questions, please connect with Pastor Jason (jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org).

Summer Teachers Needed for Kids Sunday School 2026

We are seeking volunteers to help with our Kids One-Room Sunday School Class (preK-5) this summer (June 7 thru Aug. 30). There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway. Note that there are two slots for each Sunday—one for the person who will teach, leading the reading/discussion of scripture; the other for the person who would provide a craft project to help the kids connect with the lesson. Please speak with Pastor Jason, or Roy Vice or Mark Ryan, co-chairs of Christian Education. They will also be on hand to provide resources, supplies, etc., throughout the summer.

From the FBC Photo Album

Blessings to Logan Crowley

Baptized on Easter Sunday, April 5th

Grandpa Jonathon Wolfe is his Faith Partner



Congratulations to Ava Powell (Stage Manager) & Jadon See (Prince), and the whole cast and crew at Fairmont High School on a wonderful production of “Into the Woods” that ran April 16-18, 2026!





Good Friday Walk for Justice & Peace April 3, 2026





For Our Cards and Prayers



May Celebrants

- 2 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 Miles Curry
- 18 Ed Rhodes
- 23 David Taylor
- 24 Adam Hawkins
- 29 David See
- 30 Alina Brown
- 31 Mary Malone

(Is your birthday not listed? Please notify the church office to update our records.)

Linda Ginter-Brown

Gerald Busch

Merriann Craig

Neil Earnest

Lavanda Ferguson

Bill Harrell

Debbie Harshman

Gene Lee

Patty Loxley

Shirley Nash

Mary Ann Paloncy

Susan Parent

Petry Family

Judy Smith

Nancy Soloski

Joanne Stephens

Anne Veghte

Harold West

Sharon Wingham

Military Duty:

Sebastian Ewald, Sunny Ewald,

Brittany Kalbfleisch, Kyle Kline,

Will Radachi



MARCH 2026 Financial Report

	Budget	Received	YTD Budget	YTD Received
Loose Offerings	108.33	155.00	325.00	283.00
Pledges	17667.67	17992.00	53003.00	71027.76
Non-pledged Contributions	5000.00	4280.00	15000.00	11123.00