



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## CELEBRATING 106 YEARS

Next month, on the 16th of October we will shift our focus from our study of Revelation and celebrate our 106th homecoming. This is always a big Sunday in our church each year. It is a reminder each year that the Lord has seen fit to work in and through our little church to reach Fairdale with the Gospel.

This year we are very excited to hear from Marcus Leman as our Homecoming preacher. Marcus and Rachel and their family are a great reminder of one of the ways God has been using our Church to accomplish his purposes. Marcus and Rachel joined our church while studying at the Seminary and

have now been sent out by our church as missionaries working to translate the Bible into new languages that do not have the Bible. This is a massive need all over

the world and we have the opportunity to be directly involved through our support of the Leman's and their work.

It will be a joy to hear from Marcus and spend time with their family for our 106th Homecoming. We also look forward to a full day of fellowship. Following the morning service we will have a potluck lunch and some activities for children and organized games for adults. If you have not been involved with a Homecoming celebration before, you don't want to miss it. Make plans to join us on October 16th as we worship the Lord for all he has and continues to do here in Fairdale.



# How Do We Approach Sunday Mornings?

Josh Greene  
Pastor



**A**t this point in our study of Revelation, we are now months into it. And we are still months away from finishing it. In other words, we are right in the middle of it.

We have come a long way with it - by now we know what God is doing in our world and with the future. He is making sure of some things:

- That He is worshiped and glorified
- That Christ is known as the worthy savior
- That Satan is ultimately defeated

Those three points are coming through clearly week after week and chapter after chapter.

We need to remember that back in chapter 1 (1:3) we were told "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near."

That is describing us! Or at least, we hope and pray and desire that verse is describing us. Revelation 1:3 is who we long to be.

We deeply want to be a true church - a united body of believers - who gather weekly to seek with hunger the truth of our salvation through our Lord Jesus.

Fundamental to this, church family, is

our approach to Sunday morning worship.

How we approach Sunday morning worship is critical to the growth and health of our faith. A faith that we must take seriously. A faith that we must walk by. A faith that must be rooted and grounded in the truth of God's gospel.

On Sunday mornings, we need to come ready to hear God's Word. We need to be focused on OUR study in Revelation, What God is doing with it, and how it is strengthening our faith! We are a church that believes Revelation 1:3 - we show up Sundays to read this Word, to hear this Word read aloud, and to keep it/live it/obey it! That's us! May our Sunday morning service be used by God to increasingly grow this in us!

It is often said that "Sunday morning church is a Saturday night decision." I like this phrase a lot. Go ahead and determine now that you are going to prioritize Sunday morning church. You want to be there. You know you should be there. You know that the fellowship is good for you. You know that we all matter to each other. You know that we cannot neglect the gathering. You know you need to hear the Word. You know that once or twice a month is not consistent. Go ahead now and resolve to let your commitment to Sunday morning church be what influences your Saturday evening plans. Not the other way around! In our busy and full lives, if we continue allowing Saturday's plans to impact Sunday's plans, then we will be missing church more than we should. Instead, be resolved enough to say that Sunday morning church is the commitment and priority and therefore, Saturday's afternoon and evening plans are determined based off of Sunday's commitment. Once you get this resolved, your devotion to church will increase greatly!

I am loving this study in Revelation. And I am eager to see how God continues to use it!

## BEING A CHURCH THAT PRAYS



Earlier this year we introduced the Church Prayer Team. This is the large whiteboard in the basement with names filled in for each hour of the week. If you have not yet signed up, there are still time slots available.

As a reminder, we are NOT expecting you to be praying for the entire hour that you are signed up for. We ARE expecting you to be prayerful during that hour. At some point during that hour, pause and spend some time in prayer for our church, for your pastors, for the staff, for the community, for the various ministries at our church. There may also be times when we reach out to you about specific things happening that you can be praying about. We anticipate you being able and willing to pray for those things when those opportunities arise.

It will strengthen us as a church to know we have people praying around the clock. It will also strengthen your own faith to be continually committed to praying, and continually being prayed for.

Let's be a people who are constantly and consistently committing ourselves to crying out to the Lord.

# College Ministry; First Ever College Retreat.

Andrew Crawford  
Minister of Music

**T**his past month, the church took its first ever college summer retreat. We spent a weekend down at Nolin Lake, fellowshiping with one another, enjoying God's creation, and spending time in the Word. It's been such a joy and pleasure to lead the college ministry these past five months. College ministry holds a special place in my heart. For one, because of the great relationships and friendships I've built these past few months with our college students - but also because of my own personal experiences with college ministry. My time in college is where I first began serving in the church both through teaching Sunday school and leading worship. College was a time where I gained clarity on my calling to ministry, and the college ministry that I was a part of was instrumental in that process and in my own discipleship. And most importantly, college ministry is where I met Jess, my wife. In these next few paragraphs, I want to write about 3 reasons that college ministry is important to the life of the church, and three ways the church can serve it's college students.

Three Reasons that College Ministry is important to the life of the church.

1. College Students need the church

College is a time that is full of life change. For starters, college students are learning what it means to be adults and making decisions about career, relationships, and education that will impact the rest of their lives. College is also a time where students feel some of the most stress, anxiety, and uncertainty about both present and future. More people walk away from the church in college than any other stage of life. The church has an opportunity to step alongside their college students and disciple and guide them to be Godly adults.

2. College campuses are a mission field

The current generation of college students make up the largest number of students in history - and yet, this same generation has the lowest percentage to grow up in church. The number of lost people on the campuses of colleges in America is higher

than it has ever been. Having a college ministry is both a mission field, and an equipping for that mission field. The students in our college ministry are called to be a light and a witness of Christ wherever they go.

3. College ministry is an investment in the future of the church.

The students in our church today will continue to grow and be leaders in the church tomorrow. Whether that be in this church, or churches all throughout the country, we have a unique opportunity in college ministry to disciple young men and women who will grow into godly leaders in their future workplaces, homes, and churches.

Three Ways the Church can serve its college students:

1. Pray for the college students in the church.
2. Encourage the college students in the church.
3. Build relationships with the college students in the church.

Our prayer for our students should mirror Paul's prayer for the Colossians in Colossians 1:9 - "For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives."



## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

There has been significant progress made on our Food Pantry building since last month. We are closing in on the day when we will be able to move our whole operation into the new building.

If you were not aware, our food pantry has been continually growing. It seems like a regular occurrence to break a record each week for number of cars through the line or number of families fed. The continual growth of the food pantry is a steady reminder that people in our community are in need.

Our church's mission statement is, "We exist to proclaim

Jesus, while loving and serving both God and people." One of the way we serve people is through the food pantry. If you have not considered being involved and serving, there is always room for more volunteers.

Even if you are not physically able to commit to serving or your schedule does not permit it, please continue to pray for the food pantry. More than just giving out food, we desire to give out hope through the Gospel. Pray that we would be faithful to do just that.

