



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH / 2023



The sun has been shining, birds are chirping, and the temperatures are warming up outside. Spring is just around the corner and we are gearing up for all of our Easter events at church. Our Community Easter Egg Hunt is a big hit, not only among our church people, but within the entire Fairdale community. We display banners at the high school and the roundabout, get local businesses involved, and pass out flyers at the elementary schools. Our church gets a chance to love and serve our community, kids have fun, parents and families get to spend time together, and memories are made.



Besides all this, we also get a chance to share the truth of the gospel message with our neighbors. Every year, one of our pastors takes time to share a short gospel message with the crowd. We give out a few kids bibles as prizes. Volunteers are able to take time to

build relationships with people in the community. It is our hope and prayer that our event is done with excellence, but more importantly, that it is done with an aim towards sharing the love of God with our neighbors.

Even if you can't be physically present to volunteer, we hope that you will get involved with our Community Easter Egg Hunt in some way. Check out page 3 for some specific ways to serve. Above all, please pray that in all aspects of this event, our community would feel loved and served, Jesus Christ would be central, and God would be glorified.

## Josh Wamble Pastor

About a month ago, our church was faced with a great opportunity to help one of our sister churches in the area. Cove Baptist Church is located on South Park Road, about a mile south of South Park Country Club. Cove and our church are both members of the Louisville Regional Baptist Association, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Our church was involved in the founding of Cove in the 1960s.

On December 13, their pastor of 37 years, Roger Hodge, passed away. The church is grieving and heartbroken over losing the pastor who has helped them to follow God for so many years. Beyond that, they are also worrying about their church and how to move forward now without him. I attended a members' meeting at Cove in January along with some other pastors from the Louisville Regional Baptist Association. We wanted to assure the church that they have sister churches in the area who want to stand by them and help them in any way that we can.

During that initial meeting, we offered to immediately help them in one very tangible way. We offered to provide preachers for them until they had a new pastor in place. Cove decided to take us up on this offer. For the past 4 weeks, we have been sending preachers to Cove, and we plan to continue until they no longer need us.

I hope you are encouraged by this news! The Lord has really blessed our church. We have 7 men who are part of a rotation to help Cove Baptist Church, and several others who also preach here on Sunday evenings. It is so uncommon for a church of our size to have this many men who are qualified and gifted to teach and preach His word. We should be so thankful and humbled by the way that God is working here.



I also hope you will commit to praying for these men and for our brothers and sisters at Cove. There are several things that we can all be praying about.

- Pray that God will continue to work in the lives of the believers at Cove even in this time of instability.
- Pray that God would provide unity among the members of Cove as they are deciding what is best for their church and how to move forward.
- Pray that God would make it clear to the members of Cove what He has in store for them in the future.
- Pray that God would lead the men of our church who are serving at Cove.
- Pray that God would use our church to bless the members of Cove and that His Kingdom would be advanced through this partnership.

## BEING A CHURCH THAT PRAYS

This month, let us pray for our community - Faridale, Louisville, and all the areas where we live and work.

Pray that:

- our good works in the community would glorify God.
- we would live with integrity as representatives of Jesus.
- we would look for ways to serve and love our neighbors and community.
- God would grant opportunities to share the gospel with those around us.
- we would be faithful to share about the faith and hope that we have.
- the Holy Spirit would be working in hearts, preparing people to respond in faith.
- our church would be diligent to disciple new believers.



# Psalm 67: Praying for God's Glory to Be Known

Chris Harrod  
Director of Missions

**H**ave you ever thought about why God saved you? Of all the people in the whole world, the United States, the state of Kentucky, in Louisville, and in Fairdale, why you and I? It's definitely a humbling thought, and one that honestly we don't think about much in everyday life. Thankfully for us, God has given us some of that answer, but it may not be what you would have expected.

In Psalm 67, the passage our church has been memorizing and reciting each Sunday morning this year, we find meaning to our salvation:

*"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,*

*That your way may be known on earth, Your saving power among all nations." (vs 1-2)*

Here the psalmist is crying out to God, asking that He would be gracious to Israel and would show Himself to them and bless them. He then explains why: so that all the earth would know the saving power and goodness of God. Interestingly, his motivation to cry out to God isn't focused on himself! He is crying out to God to bless his people, so that everyone else in the world can see how good and worthy God is.

When we experience something that is so good, we want to tell anyone we can about it. The psalmist here knows God's goodness and has experienced it, and he wants everyone else in the world to know as well. He asks God:

*"Let all the peoples praise you! Let the nations be glad and sing for joy." (vs 3-4)*

Because the psalmist recognizes how great God is, it's not enough for his neighbors, friends, and family to know Him. God is so worthy of praise, so forgiving of sin, and so great a Creator and Savior that He deserves to be known and worshiped by everyone.

**"God is so worthy of praise, so forgiving of sin, and so great a Creator and Savior that He deserves to be known and worshiped by everyone."**

So for us, we should run to Jesus and drink of the living water He provides. Grow in your love for God, praise and thank Him for saving you, and rejoice that He has forgiven you of all your sin and given you the Holy Spirit. And as you do this, I'd encourage you to think about this psalm and pray a similar prayer for your coworkers, friends, family, and the whole world. Pray that the people of Ecuador would be glad and sing for joy, because they know the true God. Pray that the Cicipu people in Nigeria would praise God, because they have experienced His goodness and have His Word in their language. And pray that God would bless you and make his face to shine upon you, so that those in your life may know Him and be saved.

## Opportunities to Serve

Spring is here and with it, lots of excitement about Easter. As mentioned on the front page, we have lots of ways that you can be involved with this wonderful community event.

Pray! Please pray for the volunteers to be strengthened, joyful, and full of God's love as they work. Pray that this event would help our church develop good relationships with the community. Pray that God would use the gospel message that will be shared to change hearts and lives.

Give! We are collecting donations for small candy items; those can be dropped off in the downstairs hallway. You can also give a designated offering just for this event. Mark it "Easter Egg Hunt" on your envelope or online giving submission.

Work! We need people for food prep, set up, decorating, crowd monitoring, clean up and much more. Sign up on the office bulletin board or talk to Samantha Beattie, Matt McBroom, or Mary Catherine Anderson for more information.

