



FIRST CHRONICLES

September, 2024

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.” – 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

It’s hard to believe that we are already in September! Time has quickly passed by. Summer is over, school is starting along with Sunday School and AWANA, and harvesting season is on the horizon. God has brought us through the summer with all its challenges and blessings and continues to walk with us as we enter the fall months. Personally, the month of September means that my family and I have been here for three years! What a blessing it has been! We are so grateful to God for you, this church, and for bringing us to this area. We look forward to what He has in store for FBC in the years ahead!

I hope we have grown in our understanding of worship over the year. As we’ve focused on glorifying God, I hope we’ve seen the intentionality that doing this takes. To glorify God, we need to actively engage in worship. As we saw last month, actively engaging in worship includes everything we do inside and outside of the church. When we offer our bodies as living sacrifices, we are purposefully focusing on glorifying God in our words and actions. This includes when we offer comfort to other people who are going through difficult times.

When we comfort others, we publicly witness to the comfort we received from God. We are not only comforting them, we are not only supporting them as God wants us to do, but we are worshiping. We are actively showing and sharing that we have hope in a God who is intimately concerned with us, who is with us, who wants to comfort us, and who loves us. We are showing in word and action the greatness of God’s comfort—and we are modeling what Jesus has done.

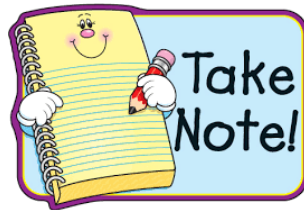
If someone falls and we reach down to pick them up, dress their wound, and help strengthen them in some way—we are mirroring the work of Christ. Sitting with someone during a funeral is modeling God’s presence with them. When we act like Christ, we are glorifying Him. When we encourage and help suffering individuals express their grief, we are glorifying God and demonstrating that He is powerful enough to take on the biggest grief, hurt, and pain and still be there with them—showing love, mercy, and comfort. Giving comfort to others not only helps them through a difficult time, it also glorifies God.

Most of the time, we don’t know why we go through difficult times. But we can know this—because of God, our suffering is not wasted. Through God, our suffering has at least one purpose—to help and comfort others who may be going through the same thing. This isn’t easy. We need to rely on God to strengthen us through it all. But in doing so, we share and proclaim the hope that we have in Christ. Comforting others is a way to actively glorify and worship God.

In Christ,
Jesse

OUR SCHEDULE!

GREETERS	NURSERY WORKERS	CHILDREN'S CHURCH
Sunday, September 1 Daryl & Mary Kramer	Sunday, September 1 Alyssa den Hoed	Sunday, September 1 Kayla Reck
Sunday, September 8 Greg & Lesli Kramer	Sunday, September 8 Judy Eben	Sunday, September 8 Abby Kramer
Sunday, September 15 Janice Schneidermann	Sunday, September 15 Gerri Spangler	Sunday, September 15 Sarah Gruis
Sunday, September 22 Dennis & Gracia Schrick	Sunday, September 22 Terresa Wagenaar	Sunday, September 22 Katie DeBoer
Sunday, September 29 Donna Shelly	Sunday, September 29 Donna DeBoer	Sunday, September 29 Rachel Kramer



- Christian Hour Circle White Cross Work Night will be Tuesday, September 10, at 7:00 pm. Come and join us!
- The Mission Banquet will be Sunday, September 15, following the morning service. Willie & Kathy Hunter will be speaking.

Shari's Kitchen will be providing a catered meal of chicken breast, roast beef, mashed potatoes, beans, dinner roll. There will be a Free Will Donation. There is a sign-up sheet in the Foyer.



September	1	Harlan DeBoer
	3	Merlyn Winter
	4	Harold Schneiderman Dennis Schrick
	5	Jesse & Katie Sternke
	7	Ronda Arends
	8	Florence Eben
	9	Greg & Sharon DeBoer
	10	Gerald & Alyssa denHoed
	14	Carolyn Wagenaar
	15	Linda Christians
	16	Ezra Schrick
	21	Charlie Johnson
	23	Dawson DeBoer
	24	Bob & Rhonda Kruse
	26	Steve Schneidermann
	28	Ashley DeBoer Ryan Schneidermann Kevin Wagenaar
	29	Brandon Kramer



Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means to reach children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

This program was started in the United Kingdom in 1990 by Dave and Jill Cooke. Three years after this beginning, the Wales-based shoebox gift project merged in a partnership with Samaritan's Purse, allowing them to share 20 years of expertise in relief and aid work with the project, and expand the reach of the shoebox gifts to more than 28,000 children that year. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to over 220 million children in more than 170 countries and territories.

After the shoeboxes are packed, local ministry partners distribute these gifts to children in various communities. The boys and girls who receive these boxes are invited to enroll in *The Greatest Journey*, a 12-lesson discipleship program of Samaritan's Purse. Through the program, ministry partners are able to establish long-term, caring relationships with children and families, sharing the love of Jesus Christ. God is using Operation Christmas Child in the work of evangelism, discipleship and the multiplication of believers.

Mission Board

Thank You So Much

Thank you, First Baptist Church, for your thoughts, prayers, and generosity that has helped us as we go through the aftermath of this flood. We are continuing to make decisions on what to do next and we ask that you continue to pray for guidance and understanding as we still figure things out. We are working to replace items lost and are still weighing the options on what to do next with our future home. We know that God has a plan, even if we don't know what that may be. We continue to trust in Him and know that He will provide. Thank you!

- Jessica Christians & Aaron Janssen

September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U	2	3	4 6:30 PM Awana Kickoff 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Visitation	5	6	7
8 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U	9	10 7:00 PM CHC 7:00 PM Deacon Board Meeting	11 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	12	13 7:00 PM Union Gospel Mission	14
15 MISSION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Mission Banquet	16	17	18 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Visitation	19	20	21
22 9:00 AM Sunday School Bell Choir 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U	23	24	25 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	26	27	28
29 BUILDING FUND SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U Bday/Anniv Celeb	30					