

Preschool and Children's Pastor—Julie Ipock

WE ARE HAVING VBS!

I am so excited! I can't begin to tell you how GREAT it feels to be able to finally make a decision on VBS 2020! There has been A LOT of conversation about what to do with VBS this year. I have had a lot of different thoughts and none have felt very good until this one...

DRIVE- IN VBS 2020

Concrete and Cranes

June 29, 30 and July 1, 6-7 pm

DINNER PROVIDED ALL THREE NIGHTS

Come, bring your lawn chair and the WHOLE FAMILY!

PRIZES, FOOD, MUSIC, GIFTS, AND LOTS OF FUN!

Register at fbcspringfield.com

What if it rains? We will do a DRIVE- THROUGH VBS! So please join us!

What can I expect at a Drive- In VBS?

- Drive to the church and park
- Sit your lawn chairs in the parking space by your car
- A car hop will bring your family dinner and drinks
- Enjoy VBS music, a bible story
- Take home prizes, gifts, crafts and look for links for the Missions Videos and Music Videos to watch at home

Music Pastor—Tim Burgher

Reflections on the Greater Work

“But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.” Acts 20:24 (New Living Translation)

We put immense value in our freedoms and privileges in this life, many of which are taken for granted. When restrictions are imposed on us for our own safety as well as for the safety of those around us, we have an opportunity to place worth or value on the things we do that we cherish.

You might think that from this angle, I as a musician might put high value on making music and worshiping in song especially choral music. And though these expressions of worship have high value in my life, I recognize an even higher calling of work that Jesus has assigned to every Christian. Though I am of the persuasion that God has endowed His people with an amazing privilege of cooperate worship through song, the individual's "work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God" rises far above any other act or privilege that I may have as a child of God.

Restrictions of physical distancing remain in place for public gatherings. So, though we would love to have the privilege of gathering for cooperate choral worship, we restrain from our privilege of choral worship. The apostle Paul has challenged our values in this life to rise to the high calling of God in Christ Jesus—the work of telling the Good News. The choir is still on hold from rehearsals and sharing in worship. We are hopeful to resume by the end of the summer. In the meantime, sing at every opportunity because we are creatures of song.

Singing His Praise and telling of His grace,

Tim Burgher

Student Pastor—Aaron Ipock

FBC Family,

I am excited to announce Graduate Recognition Sunday on August 2. Springfield Public Schools are planning their graduations for August 7 and 8, and we felt like this would be a great time to recognize our 2020 Seniors. The class of 2020 faced hurdles and challenges unique to their graduating class, and we want to honor and recognize them Sunday August 2. If you haven't already sent in a photo of your graduate, it's not too late. Please send a photo of your graduate to baustin@fbcspringfield.com, and we will get them put into our slideshow. We simply want to honor and recognize every senior from college and high school.

One of my favorite passages for our graduates comes from Jeremiah 29:11-13. We are all familiar with verse 11, but I believe verses 12 and 13 are just as important: “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.” Three things to take away from this passage:

God's plans to give us a future and hope, not harm nor disaster. (v. 11)

When we pray, God will listen. (v. 12)

When we seek God wholeheartedly, we will find Him, and we will find His plans for us.

At FBC we rejoice in your accomplishments, graduates, but believe that God isn't done with you, and He has only begun to use you.

“May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:28)

In Christ,

Pastor Aaron

Discipleship and Family Pastor—David Stone

LifeGroups in Homes

Every need in the world is an OPEN DOOR to share God's love. That's why, as a church family, we're responding to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) crisis, not by **panicking** or hiding out of fear, but by **servicing** the people who are most vulnerable.

No matter how frustrating, confusing, or scary this crisis gets, **fear doesn't have the final say**. 1 John 4:18 says, “*There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.*” Our hope is built on the perfect love of Jesus Christ, so we've been called to share that love with the world. And that's exactly what we'll be doing in the coming weeks and months as more and more people in our community are in need.

When I examine the ministry of Jesus, there are many (if not most) of his interactions with people were interruptions. He was on the way to a certain place and a woman touched the hem of his garment. He healed her. He taught everyone there (including the disciples) that he was not caught off guard by the interruption. Actually, it looks to me that he actually *expected* the interruptions... the distractions... the “going off script.” We need to be the same way with our small group ministry here at First Baptist. We need to be open to the fact that God might be doing a NEW THING with us through this interruption called COVID-19.

My role as Discipleship Pastor requires that I help oversee our small group ministry. Up to this point, it has been primarily centered around Sunday morning and Wednesday night small groups. We must adapt to this new opportunity that the Lord has placed in front of us! It will be quite a long time before we can have consistent groups meeting here on campus at 525 South Avenue. But you all know this... The church is not a building — it's a community of people who love Jesus and love each other. So, while we may not be able to meet in person for the foreseeable future, we can stay connected with people who care about us in small groups.

Therefore, I believe we must step out in faith—on mission. What would happen if each of us started a small group with just a few of our friends, family, or neighbors? I believe it could be an opportunity to see God really bless our church as we bless those around us. I know of no better way to live out the Great Commandment of “Loving God and Loving My Neighbor” than to be a part of a small group! So, as the Discipleship Pastor here at First Baptist, I want to encourage each and every one of you to take a risk and start a new group. **I hereby give you permission to start a new group!** That may be on the telephone, on the internet, in person (with physical distancing), etc. You can do it! You can be a light to those around you and I am here to HELP YOU COMPLETE YOUR MISSION! Call me (417.866.7202 x22) or email me (dstone@fbcspringfield.com) and we can walk through every detail!

How do I start a small group?

Pray—Pray for opportunities in your life that might turn into a way to start a group. For example, pray over your day. Pray for each person you come into contact with during the day. What about the phone calls? What about the texts? Emails? Maybe your next-door neighbor and that neighbor's neighbor could get together and form a group—and “do life... together.” Pray for who God wants to be in your group.
Be a good HOST – Have a HEART for the Lord and for People; OPEN up your home (or phone line, or ZOOM); Serve some SIMPLE SNACKS; TALK or TURN ON THE VIDEO – Facilitate discussion. (I used to say, “You can be a STAR if you can run your VCR!” That dates me, but I've been leading groups in homes THAT long!)

A FINAL CHARGE: Remember that the goal of leading a small group is CHANGED LIVES. How does God usually do this? Memorize this verse: “*We cared so much for you that we were pleased to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.*” (1 Thessalonians 2:8, HCSB).

It's easy to meet and simply discuss information with others, but that's not the goal. You must be willing to demonstrate God's love to the people in your group. Be ready for people to share the messy parts of their lives as well as the polished parts. This is the true hard work of leading a small group, but it is the most rewarding part as well.

May God bless your labor. May it be to His glory and His glory alone.

Pastor David



THE RECORD SPEAKS

	April	May
AVG. ATTENDANCE	N/A	N/A
YEARLY TITHES TO DATE		\$344,866.53
YEARLY BUDGET TO DATE		\$406,000.00
YEARLY EXPENSES TO DATE		\$359,045.91

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR	MICHAEL OVERTON
DISCIPLESHIP/FAMILY PASTOR	DAVID STONE
WORSHIP PASTOR	TIMOTHY BURGHER
PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S MINISTER	JULIE IPOCK
ADMINISTRATOR	KEN MCCLURE
YOUTH MINISTER	AARON IPOCK
ADMINISTRATION/DISCIPLESHIP SECRETARY	VALERIE PFEIL
RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASSISTANT	BRITTANY THOMPSON
MUSIC SECRETARY/PASTOR'S SECRETARY	BETTY AUSTIN
MEDIA DIRECTOR	CHRIS WASSAM
FINANCIAL	CELYNDA BLACKBURN
ORGANIST	BLYE MOORE
PIANIST	JANICE BRANDENBURGH
MAINTENANCE	DOUG MCKINNEY
CUSTODIANS	DAVID LAUGHLIN, ISREAL REEL
CONTRACT CLEANING	JIM SMITH

CHURCH INFORMATION

Worship with us at 10:45 am & 6:00 pm Sundays,
6:00 pm Wednesdays
Friday Night Freeway @ First meal 6:00 pm, service 6:30 pm
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Telephone: 417.866.7202, Fax: 417.862.4925
Check us out on the web at www.fbcspringfield.com

The First Edition is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Springfield, Missouri



www.fbcspringfield.com

525 South Avenue
Springfield, MO 65806



“Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?” Psalm 85:6

On Vision Sunday, I communicated the Lord’s vision for FBC Springfield for 2020-2027: “For the glory of God, First Baptist Springfield will be revitalized in order to partner with the Lord to revitalize other churches.” Before we can partner with the Lord to revitalize other churches, we need revitalized. In that Vision Sunday sermon, I described a revitalized church as a church experiencing the power of God to accomplish:

- Lost people being saved, baptized, and set on the road to discipleship
- Attendance increasing in corporate worship and Bible studies
- Stewardship patterns improving
- Members adopting a missional lifestyle in their community & around the world
- Discipling and equipping the saints will be a priority
- Corporate gatherings will be a house of prayer

The next step is for each of us to look over these images of a revived church and ask, “What do I need to do to make this happen?” It begins with a revitalized or revived spiritual life. You must be walking with the Lord, submitting to His Lordship, growing in your love and knowledge of Him and being equipped to carry out His Great Commandments and Great Commission. It begins with the confession of any sin that will hinder the Holy Spirit’s work in our lives and in our church. It begins with crying out to God to “revive us again”.

Notice the Psalmist said, “again”. We as sheep are prone to wander, prone to leave the God I love. Join me in praying for God to tune our hearts “to sing Thy grace!” Join me in praying for God to revive us again and pray for God to do again what He has done in days past.

In Christ,
Michael

June Memory Verse

“Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?” Psalm 85:6