



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER / 2024



Next month, our church will be celebrating our 108th anniversary. Every year, we mark this occasion with Homecoming Sunday. It is always such a meaningful time to reflect on how God has worked in our church over the last year, as well as how he has worked through our church in the Fairdale community for the last century. We have several special events planned for our Homecoming celebration that you will not want to miss.

To kick off the weekend, we will be hosting a fundraiser meal for Re:Center Ministries. Re:Center is a local homeless ministry that our church partners with in a number of ways. Program par-

ticipants will be preparing and serving a meal on Saturday, October 12 at 6:00 p.m. The cost is donation only. There will be a variety of other activities that night including live music, bonfire, and hayrides around Fairdale.

Sunday morning, our Homecoming celebration will continue with our gathered worship service. We will sing, pray, give, and thank God for his faithfulness to our church. Our guest preacher will be Derrick Ousley. Derrick was a part of FBC Fairdale from 2002 -2006 during his time at Southern Seminary. He now pastors Kings Baptist Church in Taylorsville, KY.

After the service, we will con-

tinue our celebration with a meal and fellowship. Lunch will be served in the basement and everyone is encouraged to bring a dessert to share. There will be various outdoor activities for kids and adults, board games, and the History Room will be open for viewing.

Homecoming weekend is always a wonderful time of remembering and celebrating God's work in our church. It is also the perfect opportunity to spend time with those who have been a part of our church in the past, reconnect with our church family, and get to know new faces. We hope that everyone will make it a priority to be a part of this special weekend at FBC Fairdale!

Citizens of Heaven in a Fallen World

Jake Beattie | Pastor

It is easy to be discouraged by the world we live in, especially in the midst of an election cycle. Pastor Josh Wamble has been teaching on how Christians should view politics through the lens of scripture. This has been a very helpful study through the month of August. This sermon series directed my thoughts towards how Paul told the Philippians that Christians are citizens of heaven. In Philippians 3:20-21 we read,

“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”

In this passage Paul is warning the Philippians not to live like the world around them. The world lives to satisfy the desires of their flesh, but we as Christians do not live that way. We live as citizens of heaven, not citizens of earth. I have to remind myself when I get frustrated by life on this earth that I am only passing through. This earth is not ultimately my home. I am a citizen of heaven and I am patiently awaiting Jesus to return and bring his people home to be with him for all eternity. That is an encouraging reminder. However, in the meantime, I am still living here on this earth, in Fairdale, Kentucky. Since that is the case, how should I think about what it means to live here on this earth while I am awaiting the return of my Savior?

While I don't have time to get into this whole topic in a short newsletter, I wanted to let you know that the last three Sunday nights in September, I am going to be preaching a short series on this topic.

Week one (September 15), we will look at God's original intention for life on earth. We know that God created the world in six days and on the sixth day he created man and woman and placed them in the garden of Eden. We will study what was humanity's purpose on God's created earth. We are also all aware that not long after mankind was placed on this creation, they disobeyed God and things changed rapidly. We will examine some of those changes that came about as a result of sin entering the world.

Week two (September 22), we will look at how to live in this fallen, sinful world as those who are trusting in God's promises to make all things new. We live in a world filled with sin and rebellion towards God, so how should we as Christians navigate life in this realm?

Finally, in week three (September 29), we will take a look at heaven. This is a topic that doesn't seem to be talked about a whole lot, but it is good for us to see what the Bible says about heaven and what is waiting for those who trust in Christ.

I am looking forward to this three week study and I hope you will be able to join us on Sunday nights in September as we study through this topic together.

Living for the Glory of God

Christopher Harrod | Director of Missions

This past month we had our third annual college retreat at Nolin Lake. It is always such a great time to take a long weekend and get away, hangout at the lake, and spend more intentional time with our college students.

Each year, we have a theme passage from the Bible which we focus and teach on. We have taught on Ephesians 2 and the 'I Am' statements from John in past years, but this year we decided to go over the entire Bible, cover to cover. Before you ask, we didn't actually read or teach through every single book of the Bible (although technically I think it could be done over the course of a weekend if we didn't eat, drink, sleep, swim, etc.). So while we may not have read cover to cover, we did teach the whole Bible, specifically the story of God's redemption from beginning to end: Creation to Consummation.

Beginning with creation when God spoke everything into existence and placed Adam and Eve in the garden, we walked through the Bible and looked through the history of God's glory, his history of promises and faithfulness to keep them, redemption of his people from slavery and sin, the coming of Jesus as the fulfillment of all God's promises, and the eventual reality when all nations will worship him in the new heaven and new earth. While the Bible may be written by many authors in different time periods, it is God-inspired and tells a clear story of God's redemption of all creation resulting in creation worshiping its Maker and Redeemer.

A challenge that we gave the college students is to use their lives in this unique stage of life for the glory of God. All of the Bible points to God's glory and goodness, and we as believers should be living in a way that points to God's glory. Both the story of the Bible and our personal testimony are witnesses of how great our God is. But there are so many distractions, worries, and decisions that college-aged people face. It is such a pivotal time in life as you navigate career choices, relationships, and questions about life. And during this it can be easy to forget what our real purpose is: that in everything we do, we give glory to God. So we challenged them to use this upcoming semester (or next life stage for those graduating) to live their lives in a way that brings glory to God - that every decision they make would have that thought in mind.

Would you pray for our college students? That what they learned about God during the retreat would be real to them. That they would grow in their faith and would use their lives for God's glory. And that they would run the race with endurance, as we support and encourage them along the way.

"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."

Romans 11:36