



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025



2025 FAIRDALE
COMMUNITY

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY APRIL 12 @ 11:30



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.

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. Above all, pray that God would be glorified!

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. We will use this money to purchase food, candy, eggs, or whatever supplies are needed.

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.

God Desires for Our Speech to Honor Him

Josh Greene | Pastor

Our words are more meaningful than we realize. Or if we do realize that, then our words are more consequential than we realize. Our words matter. Our speech matters. How we talk matters. And the way that we most clearly come to know this reality is that God tells us that it matters to Him. I want us to consider this very often overlooked but weighty truth - God desires for our speech to honor Him. Let us consider this statement from these three different angles - What We Say; What We Do Not Say; and How We Say What We Say:

What We Say

The actual words that proceed from our mouths are important. We must speak. And when we do speak, the words we say should have value and purpose and meaning with them. There is so much that can be said about the purpose of the words we speak. We cannot cover it all here. But here are a few thoughts.

Our words can instruct, clarify, build up, communicate. Plainly stated, our words are useful. Where would we be without our ability to talk? Understanding the real usefulness, value, and purpose to our speech is found in God's instruction to us about our speech.

In Psalm 19:14 David says, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord." Jesus says, "what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart" (Matt. 15:18). And in another place (Jas 3:10) we hear, "From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so." What we say matters, and it matters because God desires that our speech is to honor Him.

What We Do Not Say

Not only does What We Say matter, but What We Do Not Say matters too. We should be more hesitant to speak in certain ways. Lies, complaints, grumblings, boasts, gossip, slander, and profanity should all be avoided. We should be mindful of God's desire for our speech to honor him, and therefore we should be more readily "quick to hear and slow to speak" (James 1:19).

Proverbs 30:32 says "If you have been foolish, exalting yourself, or if you have been devising evil, put your hand on your mouth." In some cases, it is better and wiser to not speak. We need to learn that. We all need to grow in the area of What We Do Not Say. Ephesians 4:29 says, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen". If it is not good for the occasion, then we must learn to not say it.

If God can be honored in what we say, then God can also be honored in us not saying things that dishonor Him. Learning this truth is a recognizable sign of growth and maturity.

How We Say What We Say

Finally, not only is What We Say and What We Do Not Say important, but also How We Say What We Say is important too. Learning this is also an attractive sign of growth and maturity. It is possible to say a good thing in a bad way or to say a bad thing in a good way.

Continued on page 4

A Sending Church: Missionary Care Team

Chris Harrod | Director of Missions

With our church sending out one of our families to the mission field (and more on the way!), our church has a newly formed Missionary Care Team to help advocate for and support them. I want to take some time to briefly explain this team: the purpose, the goal, and the structure. I want to explain and provide these details, so you are aware that our church is taking seriously and joyously this responsibility of being a sending church.

The purpose of this team is to be an advocate for our missionaries, which involves intentional connection and care for those we have sent out. As many of you know, when we don't see people face to face, it can be easy for them to slip from our minds. It doesn't usually happen overnight, but over time we can start to think about them less and less. Our hope for this team is that this would never be true of our missionaries. We desire for them to be fresh on our hearts, constant in our prayers, and deeply encouraged by our church's support. While all of us as a church are responsible for these things, the Care Team will be intentional in ensuring these things happen, that we "send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God" (3 John 6).

The goal is that this team will cause our missionaries to still feel encouraged, supported by, and connected to our church. On the flip side, the goal is also that our church will feel connected with them, consistently praying for them, and helpful partners to them and their ministry.

The team is currently is made up of 8 individuals and is structured similarly to our committees. Members of the team are

expected to join on a 2 year minimum basis and have the option to rotate, so there will be opportunities for others to join this team in the future! You can expect that the team will provide updates on our missionaries frequently, as well as provide avenues for our church as a whole to practically love and encourage them. It is a really strong team, who have been an intentional source of encouragement and love to our three families we are sending. I am really excited about this team, and I have already seen some of the great benefit that it will be to come.

Below are the members of the Missionary Care Team. Please be praying for them, that their roles and gifting would benefit the team, benefit our church and missionaries, and ultimately glorify God.

Caleb Haynes
Dale Carman
Janice Hannel
Melanie Pope

CJ Dillman
Frank Stivers
Jen Layman
Sarah Pomeroy

Reminders

Church Suppers | March 5 & 19

Prayer Breakfasts

Men's - March 15 - 8:00 a.m.

Ladies' - March 29 - 9:00 a.m.

(No meeting in April)

Morning Playdates | 10:00 a.m.

March 18 | April 15

Next2Him Game Day | March 24 | 11:00 a.m.

Men's Ministry Dinner | March 25 | 6:00 p.m.

Youth DNow Weekend | March 28 & 29

See Garth Farmer for more information.

Spring Break Schedule Changes

The church office will be closed the week of
March 31-April 4.

There will be no midweek Bible Studies due
to basement waterproofing.

Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting will meet
in Sanctuary.

Upcoming Dates

Easter Egg Hunt | April 12

Good Friday Service | April 19

Easter Sunday | April 20

Continued from page 2

Colossians 4:6 says "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." And in Matthew 24:4 Jesus warns for us to not be deceived which means that our speech can be deceptive. There is a God-honoring way to say the things that we say. And there is a way to dishonor God with the truthful things that we say. May we be concerned to understand this reality.

God desires for our speech to honor Him, and we are able to honor Him with What We Say, What We Do Not Say, and with How We Say What We Say. As Ecclesiastes 3:7 says there is "a time to keep silence, and a time to speak." May we be more responsible with our speech! And may our speech honor God.

Church Staff

