



**First Southern**  
Baptist Church

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# FSBC

# Messenger



MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER | FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH | EL DORADO, KANSAS

## The Deacon's Corner

Saturday, March 23, was a glorious day in the life of our church. On that day, several men, women, youth, and children came together to clean the church and work on other projects that needed attention. Weeks ahead of this day, our church staff and facilities team put together a list of jobs that needed to be done. At first glance, this list seemed quite daunting. The numerous tasks that needed attention were more than any one, two or three people could accomplish. In the weeks and days prior to clean up day, different individuals started coming to the church during their spare time to knock out jobs on the list. On that Saturday, folks started arriving with their sleeves rolled up, ready to work. Those in attendance worked together, laughed together, and got the jobs done. If there was any complaining, it was minimal. Those servants of the church seemed genuinely happy to be there. I want to give a special shout out to the youth who came. Not only did they tackle the jobs assigned to them around the church, but they stayed extra hours to do more in the youth room. Our flower bed in front of the church got cleaned out and ready for spring flowers. The pews in the sanctuary got some well-needed scrubbing, taking the grime of several months away. We scrubbed walls, painted basement walls, and completed many, many more jobs. All in all, it was a fantastic day, and I am thankful for each and every person who was a part of it.

Rod Luehrs  
Chairman of the Deacons

## Outreach

People have wondered how the Blessing Box works. While Janna is more than happy to place any items that are donated into the box, it is not necessary to wait for her to do so. Everyone is welcome to place appropriate items in the box at any time. If you have multiples of the same item, please place a few items in the box and place the rest in the donation wagon. Also, we have come to the time of year that hot temperatures can be an issue. Please don't place items in the box that are likely to melt—such as chocolate.

Butler Homeless Initiative is looking for volunteers to cook a hot meal for twenty people. Please contact BHI at 316-323-4122 or email [admin@butlerhi.org](mailto:admin@butlerhi.org) if you would like to do this.

Thank you for your time and donations.  
FSBC Outreach team  
Janna, Karen D, Joe L, Karen L, Paula, Pastor David

### Blessing Box Suggestions

- Non-Perishable, ready to eat foods (crackers, jerky, trail mix, granola)
- Canned goods with pull tabs
- Socks
- Snacks
- Soap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Lotion
- Baby wipes
- Deodorant
- Hand Sanitizer

# The Pastor's Pen

Greetings Church! I love you, Church!

I want to begin by thanking each of you for your concern, support, love, and prayers for me the last two months as I have had to deal with the detached retina surgery and the loss of Lisa's and my newborn grandson, Luis. These back-to-back events have greatly slowed me down. I missed appointments with you, dropped some balls, was absent from the pulpit, and generally failed to be the pastor some of you needed me to be. That I regret, for I truly do love you and love ministering to you in the strength and spirit God provides. I look forward to being well and potentially more effective than ever.

Speaking of prayer, Thursday, May 2, 2024, is the annual National Day of Prayer. The theme is "Lift up the Word—Light up the World." The theme sounds much like one of the themes in our journey through Philippians: "Shining like stars in a dark world." The National Day of Prayer key verse is not from Philippians, though. It is from 2 Samuel 22:29-31:

<sup>29</sup> LORD, you are my lamp;  
the LORD illuminates my darkness.

<sup>30</sup> With you I can attack a barricade,  
and with my God I can leap over a wall.

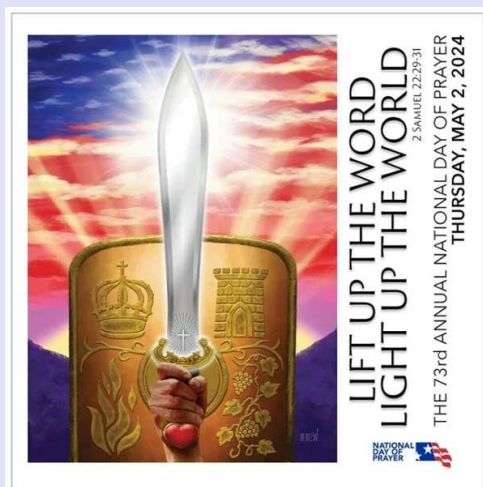
<sup>31</sup> God—His way is perfect;  
the word of the LORD is pure.

He is a shield to all who take refuge in him.

I want to encourage you to join me and other brothers and sisters from other churches in town for two prayer rallies that day:

- ⇒ **A noon rally at the courthouse flagpole**
- ⇒ **A 7pm prayer concert at First Christian Church**

Let us join together to seek a movement of God in our land!



Also coming in May is Mother's Day. So, Happy Mother's Day to all of you glorious moms! That Sunday, the 12th, we will do a special event during Sunday worship that is a first for my time here! We will be giving parents an opportunity to stand before the Lord and His Church to dedicate their child(ren) to the Lord in the spirit of many mothers in the Bible, including Hannah, mother of Samuel. Any parents wanting to make this significant commitment are asked to prepare for the dedication by attending a workshop hosted by myself and Miss Paula. The dates for those classes are Saturdays **April 27** and **May 4**, from **9am till noon** each day (You only need to attend one). Please let Paula know ASAP that you wish to participate. Child care is available.

Lastly, something for the men. There is an important and powerful opportunity for men to tackle something significant in their own spiritual journey. This opportunity is designed to employ the power of the Word of God and accountability to heal from a hurt, overcome a habit or sin, or get victory over a hang-up. Whatever is getting in the way of your becoming the man of God that you are called to be and long to be. It is a tried-and-true process called a step study. The men involved in Celebrate Recovery are beginning a new weekly study and invite you to join them in this safe, useful, and effective journey. We will meet on Saturday mornings at 8 beginning June 1. If you are interested, man of God, talk to me and I will get you the information you need.

Pastor David



# Operation Christmas Child

Packing OCC shoeboxes not only brings joy to us, but also to those who receive it and those whose lives are touched by the person who received the box.

Millions of Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts are packed for boys and girls in need around the world each year, many of which include an email or letter inviting the child to write back.

If you have ever packed one of those boxes and wished you could hear from the child who received it, let the letters below from Cambodia encourage you with how God is using every prayerfully packed shoebox gift to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**EACH OF THESE CHILDREN IS GRATEFUL TO RECEIVE THEIR SHOEBOX GIFT, PACKED WITH PRAYER BY SOMEONE AROUND THE WORLD!**

**From Makara, a 14-year-old boy**

"I live in Trokeat village of Takeo province in Cambodia. I love sports, and, in the future, I want to become a doctor.

"My parents divorced when I was 9 years old. My life had no hope.

"One day I was invited to New Life Baptist Church in my village. I saw a lot of kids show up and sit down in rows by age. I was wondering [what it was all about] but I just sat down with them as well. During the event, the teacher showed us a poster about creation.

"She mentioned that man is the best creation of God because He created man in His own image and He loved [people] like us with all his heart. That's why we should love others as ourselves because God is [the Father of all]. I was very sad in that moment because I never felt love from my parents. My heart was broken. A little tear came out of my eyes, but I wiped it away before my friends saw it.

"After the class, the teacher shouted out loud and told us, 'We have a gift box for everyone in the class.' I was surprised when she lifted the cloth and there were so many boxes

underneath it. Everyone said, 'Wow!'

"She passed out one gift box to each one of us. I held the shoebox tightly. I began to open it gently. [This time,] tears came because I was very, very excited. There were so many balls, pens and pencils, many little cute toy cars and trucks, a notebook, nice shorts and a T-shirt, underwear, a toothbrush, and a pen bag, which I never had in my life.

"My heart was so happy. I began looking at my friend and everyone around was excited and happy, screaming loud. This was the most excitement I'd experienced in my life. I felt so warm. I felt care. I felt love from the teacher, and she invited me to come back for The Greatest Journey discipleship class the next day.

"The next day, me and my other friend came back for The Greatest Journey. During the class, I admitted that I was a sinner. I was always angry at my parents, angry at myself, and unhappy with all circumstances in my life.

"I have asked forgiveness from God and asked Him to come to my heart and save me from my sin and be my Savior.

"I know now that Jesus is in my heart. He is always in my life. He gives me hope. He gives me joy—my heart is full of peace. I always come back to The Greatest Journey class because I want to know about Him, and I want Him to guide me by His will. "Thank you so much Operation Christmas Child for bringing me to Jesus!"

**From Lim, a 12-year-old girl**

"I live in Somroung village of Kandal province, Cambodia. I love bicycling. In the future, I would love to be a teacher.

"I was very excited when I received the gift box because it's the first present that I have ever received in my life. I was so excited, tears started to come [as I had] joy in my heart. When I opened my gift box, I saw a lot of things that I have dreamed for, and I wished I could have—such as hair clamps, pencils, colored pencils, dolls, shoes, a bracelet, a necklace, and a beautiful dress. All these

things I never expected to have. I began feeling care and love from someone I never knew.

"The next day, I came to the Gospel Community Church again. Through The Greatest Journey discipleship class, I made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. As I was studying, I learned that God is seeking me every day. I knew I was lost. I asked forgiveness and accepted Him as my Lord and Savior and want to know more about Him and His will for my life. My favorite Bible story was about how David was able to kill the lion and Goliath (1 Samuel 17).

"Thank you so much for the gift box. You have brought me to God!"

*You can be part of how God is writing stories like these in the lives of other children around the world. Pack a shoebox on your own or help us collect items to pack boxes as a church in November. You just might receive a letter like one of these!*

Karen Leibbrandt

## Shopping list for May Quality toys:

- Balls (foam, bouncy, tennis, soccer—include a manual pump)
- Finger puppets
- Etch-a-Sketch
- Dolls (baby, Barbie, etc.)
- Small Music instruments (harmonica, woodwind recorder)
- Marbles
- Small cars, trucks, boats (like hot wheels or plastic)
- Yoyo
- Hacky sack
- Baseball & mitt
- Tools (pliers, screwdriver with multiple heads, **no knives**)
- Playing cards
- Any other toy that you see that a boy or girl (ages 2-14) would like that would fit in a shoebox

# Volunteer Rotations

Date	Prayer	Bus Driver	Children's Church	Nursery 1	Nursery 2	Lead Counter	Counter 2	Counter 3
5/5	David C.	John	Reinert	Keith A.	Karen L.	Deb S.	Laura L.	Rod
5/12	Joe L.	Linnie	Reinert	Johnie G.	Rod L.	Deb S.	Rod L.	Marsha
5/19	Rod L.	Deb	Reinert	John B.	Julie H.	Deb S.	Janna D.	Donna
5/26	Johnie G.	Janna	Guest	Kat H.	Cara S.	Deb S.	Susan F.	John T.
6/2	John M.	Sheila	Reinert	Keith A.	Karen L.	Rod L.	Laura L.	Marsha
6/9	John B.	John	Reinert	Johnie G.	Rod L.	Rod L.	Laura L.	Deb
6/16	David C.	Linnie	Reinert	John B.	Julie H.	Rod L.	Susan F.	Donna
6/23	Joe L.	Deb	Reinert	Kat H.	Cara S.	Rod L.	Janna D.	John T.
6/30	Rod L.	Janna	Guest	Keith A.	Karen L.	Rod L.	Laura L.	Marsha

## Little Buddies Fishing Tournament



Seventeen children and eight men participated in the "Little Buddies Fishing Tournament" on April 13th. Everyone had a great time!

## Youth

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! I appreciate all who gave money to help the youth go to camp this year! Please be in prayer for us leading up to and during the week of July 22nd through the 26th while we will be at Super Summer Camp in Salina.

Thank You!  
Lisa Crook



## Baby Bottle Campaign

The annual Baby Bottle campaign to support Branches Pregnancy and Family Center (Formerly Pregnancy and Family Resources Center) is about to kick off! Beginning on Mothers' Day, we will have baby bottles available to fill with coins, paper money, or checks made out to "Branches." Bring them back full by Fathers' day!



VBS is  
June 3-7  
9 am-Noon  
Sign up  
Today!





# MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sundays</b> 9:30 am—Sunday School 10:45 am—Worship 5:00 pm—Women’s Bible Study	<b>Mondays</b> 6:15 pm Prayer meeting	<b>Tuesdays</b> 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	<b>Wednesdays</b> 6:30 pm Adult, Youth and Children’s Bible study	<b>Thursdays</b> 6:00 pm GriefShare		
<b>28</b> Johnie & Donna Gragg	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill	<b>2</b> National Day of Prayer	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9-Noon Child Dedication Class
<b>5</b> 12:30 pm “A-Team”	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes	<b>8</b> Last Children’s Evening Program for Summer, Youth Mission Impossible 6:30-9:15 pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill
<b>12</b> Mothers’ Day, baby and child dedication day (no women’s Bible Study)	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Joe Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt 9 am Newsletter Items Due (for SUMMER EDITION)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Joe Reinert
<b>19</b> Graduation Sunday	<b>20</b> Nancy Wright	<b>21</b> Lonn Adkison	<b>22</b> Jerry Dewitt	<b>23</b> Terry Stephens	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 3 pm Church reserved for a Wedding
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> David and Lisa Crook Memorial Day, Office Closed (NO prayer meeting) 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Julie Hill	<b>31</b>	

## May Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st—Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill  
 7th—Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes  
 11th—Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill  
 15th—Joe Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt  
 18th—Joe Reinert  
 20th—Nancy Wright  
 21st—Lonn Adkison  
 22nd—Jerry Dewitt  
 23rd—Terry Stephens  
 27th—David and Lisa Crook  
 30th—Julie Hill

## May Events

| 2nd—National Day of Prayer  
 | 5th— 12:30 pm “A-Team”, Be prepared to discuss events through August.  
 | 8th—Last Regular Wednesday night kids’ & Youth Program for Summer  
 | 12th—Mothers’ Day, baby and child dedication day, Graduation Sunday  
 | 15th—by 9:00 am—Newsletter items due 19th—Graduation Sunday  
 | 25th—Church reserved for a Wedding  
 | 27th—Memorial Day, Office Closed

# JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sundays</b> 9:30 am—Sunday School 10:45 am—Worship 5:00 pm—Women’s Bible Study	<b>Mondays</b> 6:15 pm Prayer meeting	<b>Tuesdays</b> 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	<b>Wednesdays</b> 6:30 pm Adult Bible study	<b>Thursdays</b> 6:00 pm GriefShare		<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 5 pm VBS Kickoff Event (no women’s Bible Study)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Madylanne Wint	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Vacation Bible School 9-Noon</b>						
<b>9</b> VBS Program Potluck “A-Team”	<b>10</b> Kelly Davidson, David & Christine Baca	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Susan Fyffe	<b>15</b> Bread of Life Food Ministry
<b>Pastor Out of Office for SBC Annual Meeting 10-16</b>						
<b>16</b> Fathers’ Day (no women’s Bible Study)	<b>17</b> Nathaniel Hill, Pastor’s 6th “Anniversary” Here	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> David Hill	<b>20</b> Johnie Gragg 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	<b>21</b> Men’s Ministry Campout Youth Lock-in	<b>22</b> Youth Lock-In Concludes
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Sophia Baca	<b>28</b> Brenda Sherman, Ellis Baker, Tyson & Penny Neilsen, Ellis & Joanie Baker	<b>29</b> Church Reserved (Reinert)
<b>Staff Planning Retreat 26-28</b>						
<b>30</b> Youth Sunday (5th Sunday)						

**FSBC Kid's Ministry April 2024**

**First Southern Baptist Church**

**200 Oil Hill Rd, El Dorado, KS**

**316-321-3465**

**Bus 316-452-3594**

**Paula Moore 316-258-6596**

**WOW! WOW! WOW! WOW! WOW!**

What a fabulous year we have had with Kidz Club on Wednesday evenings. We have been blessed with dedicated workers and children hungry for the message of the Gospel. Praise the Lord! We learned about God's Superheroes AND how we can be Superheroes for God. Even children can spread the Gospel and be examples of Jesus' love to others.

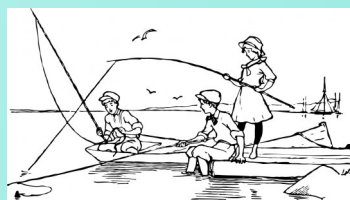
May 8th will be our last meeting for this school year. No need to worry about keeping your kiddos busy though, Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! Details are in this newsletter, on Facebook, and displayed around FSBC. We hope to see our current students, as well as some new faces. I encourage you to have your child invite friends to come and participate in our Twists and Turns VBS and to learn that "Following Jesus changes the game".

Jesus told us, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit", *Matthew 28:19*. VBS is one of the largest outreach events for FSBC and the Children's Ministry. We would love to have you join us. We are still looking for a few volunteers to join our VBS team and welcome you to contact us to sign up. Thank you for sharing your children with us and giving us the opportunity to love and disciple them in Jesus' love.

In His Service,  
Ms. Paula



The Men's Ministry recently sponsored a Little Buddy Fishing Derby. It is clear when listening to the kids or looking at the pictures, that it was a success! Thank you to all that helped untangle lines, bait hooks, and cook lunch for the 17 kids that attended.



The kids are keeping Pastor David busy! On Easter Sunday, Anastasia Stewart was baptized. We are blessed to be able to welcome Ana into the family of God. Please contact Ms. Paula or Pastor David if your child is interested in salvation and baptism.

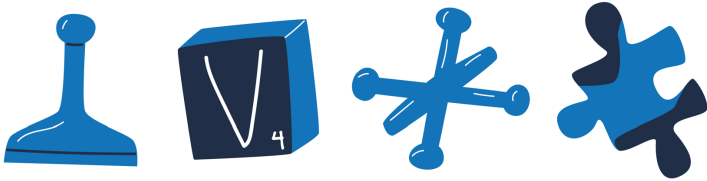


Ms. Susan has started the Nursery Sunday School lessons through the use of Sweetie Lamb (a puppet), and multi-sensory experiences that will be repeated weekly. This is a great opportunity for our youngest to learn about the love of Jesus. Thank you Ms. Susan!

### Upcoming Events

- \* May 8– Last Wed. for Kidz Club
- \* May 12– Mother's Day, Child Dedication
- \* May 19— Graduation Sunday
- \* June 2, 5pm– VBS Kick Off Event
- \* June 3-7– VBS 9am-Noon





## FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME

### VBS SERVING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

- \* PreK Assistant
- \* Bus Monitors
- \* Bible Story Assistant
- \* Recreation Leader & Assistant
- \* Kid's Group Leaders
- \* Door Greeters
- \* Kitchen Helpers

### VBS DONATIONS NEEDED

- \* 6 inch red paper plates (2 dozen)
- \* 6 inch black paper plates (2 dozen)
- \* 2 inch wide black painter's tape (2 rolls)
- \* 12 Hula Hoops
- \* Old jigsaw puzzles 100 or 500 pieces (10-15 puzzles)
- \* 200 3 x 5 unruled index cards
- \* 3/4 inch Dot stickers in brights and neons (3 packs of each)
- \* Scrabble tiles
- \* Homemade cookies (You can always make ahead and we can store them in the church freezer)

**Wednesday, May 8th is the last Kidz Club until September!**



**JUNE 3-7  
9AM-NOON**

# TWISTS & TURNS™

**VBS**  
P3-5TH GRADE

FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME PSALM 25:4

**FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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ONLINE REGISTRATION