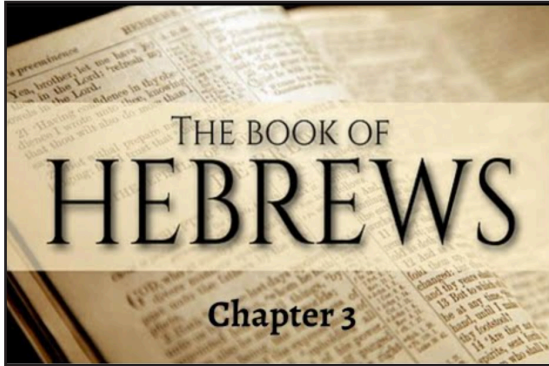


***Welcome to  
First Baptist Church  
Sunday, May 5, 2024***



**10:30 AM SERVICE**

Message: Do Not Harden Your Hearts!  
Hebrews 3:7-19  
Pastor Tim Knaus  
Communion

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**5:00 PM SERVICE**

Camp Barakel Member Church Presentation  
Pastor Tim Knaus  
Churchwide Fellowship After the Service  
in the Gym (See Article for what to bring)

***Church Information***

*512 S. US 27 (Whittemore Street)  
St. Johns, MI 48879  
(989) 224-3110  
office@stjohnsfbc.com  
www.stjohnsfbc.com*

## Today's Events

**6:45-8pm • Sr. High Bible Study**  
(Youth Room)

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## This Week's Events

### MONDAY

10:00am  
6:30pm

**Shuffleboard** (Gym)  
**Men's Basketball** (Gym)

### TUESDAY

All Day  
9:30am

**Special Election (Precincts 1&3-Gym)**  
Don't Forget to Vote!  
**Busy Hands for Missions**  
(Lower Level-Classroom #15)

### WEDNESDAY

6:30pm

**Prayer Meeting**

### THURSDAY

6:30pm

**Missions Committee Meeting**  
(Office Level-Conference Room)

### SATURDAY

7:00am  
3-6:00pm

**Coffee Conversations for Men**  
(Gym) Please Sign up.  
**Jade Schafer's Open House**  
(Gym)

## Coming Events

**Sun., May 12** • **Sunday School--9:15am**  
• **AM Service, Mother's Day--10:30am**  
• **NO Sr. High Bible Study**

**Mon., May 13** • **Men's Bible Study--7:00pm**

**Thurs., May 16** • **Deacons Meeting--6:00pm**  
(Lower Level-Classroom #8)

**Sun., May 19** • **Sunday School--9:15am**  
• **AM Service--10:30am**  
• **Sr. High Bible Study--6-8:00pm**

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## THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY

*We invite all our visitors, to fill out the visitor slip located in the pocket on our chairs. You may place it in the offering. You can also use the QR code to fill out a visitor card on our website.*



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### **May Sunday Evening Fellowship TONIGHT!**

#### **After the PM Service**

**Our May Sunday Evening Fellowship menu: Taco bar, fruit and dessert.**

It's important that we all sign up for items needed for the meal. Sign up on the Church Center app, our website: [stjohnsfbc.com](http://stjohnsfbc.com), or on the signup sheet at the Information Area.

#### **April Birthdays**

The April Birthday list is available at the Information Area.

### **Graduation Sunday, June 2nd**

We will honor our High School Graduates and recognize our College Graduates in the AM Service.

#### **Parents and Graduates we need your help!!!!**

We would like to include your High School/College graduate in the bulletin and the display easel (High School Only) in the foyer on Sunday, May 12th.

**High School Graduates** - - Senior picture, date of graduation, school graduating from, open house information by **Tuesday, May 7th**. **Please Note: If your graduate's Open House is in May, we need that information ASAP!**

**College Graduates** - - date of graduation, college or university graduating from, and the degree they are receiving by **Tuesday, May 28th**.

Please drop off, email, or mail your information to the church office or place in our Secretary's box in the Office Work Room.

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### **Missionary of the Month**

#### **Jason & Tami Hughes**

#### **(Ethnos360)**

1. Please pray for the Lembena people to be healthy as they to want to help them learn their language and culture.
2. Please pray for their language and culture evaluation May 3rd-6th, to go well.
3. Pray for their team to continue to have team unity.
4. Pray for them to be able to show the Lembena people His love. Pray that they will have wisdom with how to deal with each situation that comes up daily.
5. Pray for Jason & Tami as they parent and homeschool their kids.
6. Pray they continue to learn more about Him and lean on Him every day.

## Summer Sunday School Options for Adults

Sundays from 9:15-10:15am in June, July, and August

### **Video Series in the Auditorium:**

*Christianity in America*

**Description:** A choice confronts Christians in every generation: will we stray for the truth to gain the world's approval or stay the course at all costs. Here, the story of the American church can help us.

**Lead By:** Pastor Chad and other Elders

### **Summer Growth and Accountability Group**

**Description:** Summer small group opportunity open to everyone to gather together and share what you're learning in God's Word. Our purpose is to hold one another accountable in our daily Bible reading and share with one another what we're learning from reading God's Word. We will ask everyone to share what they're reading in their personal Bible study at home, what God is teaching them through it, and how we can pray for you. We will finish our time with an extended time of prayer for one another.

**Lead By:** Brian and Melinda Carmichael. For questions please contact them.

### **Other Options:**

If you would like to pursue other options for small group ministry during the summer months, please contact Pastor Chad.

## **Support Families With Children Who Have Special Needs**

This letter is to inform our church community about opportunities to support families with children who have special needs. Many of these families feel overwhelmed and isolated, which may prevent them from attending church. We can help by providing parents with the chance to participate in services while their children receive care.

Currently, we need one-on-one aides for three autistic children during Jr Church or Sunday school once a month. This support would enable parents to attend our new Sunday school for parents of children with special needs. While we have some volunteers, we need more to ensure adequate assistance and allow current aides to attend services. Volunteers must be 16 or older, regular attendees, complete child protection paperwork, meet with Pastor Dan and parents, and undergo training with Julie Konieczny.

This is an opportunity to serve alongside these children, helping them engage in worship and learn about God's love. If interested, please contact Pastor Dan.

### **Camp Barakel-Mother/Daughter Retreat May 17-19th**

There's still quite a few openings for Camp Barakel's Mother Daughter retreat next month! It's May 17-19, for Moms (any age;) and daughters as young as 6. Nyra and I are looking forward to this time of worship, refreshment, & fun. If you and your daughter(s) end up going we'd love to share a meal or activity together over the weekend. Emily Barger

First Baptist Student Ministry  
**Summer Service Trip**



**What We Will Be Doing!**

The week of July 14-22, we will be serving alongside No Longer Strangers, a ministry to Congolese refugees, during our mission trip week. These families have so many needs from house work projects to a relationship with Jesus Christ. We will be tasked with a work project that could look like: building a porch, ramp, fence, painting or landscaping. The other aspect of your mission trip will be to lead a 3 day (2 hours each day) VBS program from 2-4pm Tuesday-Thursday for the children of these Congolese refugees. While the parents might not speak English, the children should know a good amount of English. The common thread to this mission trip is sharing the Gospel to both parents and children while meeting physical and spiritual needs.

**We need your help!**

We believe that prayer matters, and we are asking you to support us through faithful prayer. We are praying that we would have a lasting Gospel impact in the lives of kids and ministries we will be serving with. We are also praying for our group, and the many ways they will be asked to stretch, grow, and lead the ministry being done. We are praying for truth of the Gospel to be deeply rooted in everything we seek to do and prepare for. If you feel led, you can give financially to the students going on the trip. To give financially, you can designate on your envelope that your donation is for "Teen Mission Trip", or you can also give online where you can designate for the trip as well. We thank you for your continued support and generosity to our student ministry and look forward to sharing with you all how God has worked through this trip.

**Beacon of Hope**

Beacon will be a distribution site for slicing tomato transplants and pepper transplants offered through the food bank's Garden Project. Please feel free to come to Beacon for your own plants on Wednesday, May 15th from 10-2 as this is open to the public.

**Friends of Beacon**

**This week's wishlist: Some Folate and Vitamin A are on our wish list for the next two weeks. Yummmmm! Any store, any brand of canned carrots and beets. Thank you!**



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**2024 High School Graduates  
Open House Information**

*The following students would like to personally invite you to their graduation open houses.*

**Saturday, May 11th**

**Jade Schafer**, 3-6 pm, at First Baptist Church Gymnasium. (Kora Valley High School)

**Saturday, June 1st**

**David Bancroft**, 11am-2pm, at his home. (Academy of Home Education)

**Sunday, June 9th**

**Joshua Wood**, 1-3 pm, at East Olive Community Center, 2583 Green Road, St Johns, MI. (St. Johns High School)

**Friday, June 7th**

**Leah Konieczny**, 5-9 pm, at First Baptist Church Gymnasium. (St. Johns High School)

**Saturday, June 22nd**

**Averlin West**, 12-4 pm, at her home. (St. Johns High School)

**Benjamin Krajniak**, 1-4 pm, at St. Johns City Park, Main Pavilion, St. Johns, MI. (St. Johns High School)

## *The Pastors' Book of the Month* *Recommendation*

12 Truths & a Lie: Answers to Life's Biggest Questions, by J.D. Greear (K-Love Books)

Life is full of difficult questions and many of them often seem impossible to answer. In 12 Truths & a Lie, author and pastor J.D. Greear confidently tackles some of the most perplexing questions that Christians face. How do I know if I'm going to Heaven? What's my purpose? Why isn't God answering my prayers? How could a good God send people to Hell? How should Christians handle political differences? Why does God care so much about my sex life?

J.D. Greear offers scriptural insights and practical advice to help readers navigate life's toughest challenges. Unafraid to approach areas of doubt and uncertainty, Greear welcomes even the most challenging questions with curiosity, thoughtfulness, and scriptural application, leading readers into a more intimate relationship with Christ.

**This book is now available in our church library!**

## Fun Day at the Bike Trail Saturday, June 8th

Are you ready to pedal your way to fellowship and fun? Join us for a refreshing day at the bike trail on June 8th. Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or just love the great outdoors, this is the perfect opportunity to connect with each other.

We'll gather at the Pavilion in downtown St Johns at 9:30am and embark on a journey through scenic trails, enjoying the beauty of creation and the camaraderie of our church community. Don't forget to pack your helmets, lunch, and plenty of water for the ride! Not a bike person? Feel free to walk, scooter, or run alongside your church family.

This event is open to all ages and skill levels, so bring your family and friends along for a day of adventure and exploration. Let's enjoy the blessings of fellowship and the joy of riding together. For more information or to sign up, please contact Dennis Whitlock. Let's make this day at the bike trail a memorable one! See you there!

**Mighty O.A.K.S.**  
**"RE"gressive Dinner**  
**Tuesday, May 14th**  
**11:30am meet in the**  
**church South entrance**  
**parking lot**



Please join us for our flipped, progressive dinner where we get to eat dessert first!

We will meet at the church and combine in vehicles for carpooling.

- **Stop 1: Dessert**  
4400 West Townsend Road
- **Stop 2: Main dish**  
7095 North Scott Road  
Bring a lawn chair if possible!
- **Stop 3: Soups**  
1034 Bills Lane

Each stop will be to the home of a First Baptist family. There are some steps to enter homes, but handrails are available. One will be gathered in the garage another will combine in home and out on the deck. Several people will be available to provide assistance for those who need help walking.

The summer schedule is also available at the Information Area to help you plan your summer. **Everyone** is invited to join us for any of these special trips.

## AM Sermon Notes

**Message: Do Not Harden Your Hearts!**

**Hebrews 3:7-19**

**Pastor Tim Knaus**

**Communion**

- I. The Hardness of the Human Heart
  - A. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is full of warning signs from God about the danger of unbelief.
  
  - B. The Book of Hebrews is written primarily for Jewish Christians, so the author appeals to the Old Testament to warn his readers.  
  
Psalm 95:7b–11
  
- II. A Warning to All of Us
  - A. All of us today must be careful that we are not guilty of the same unbelief as Israel.
  
  - B. In 1 Corinthians 11, the Apostle Paul says that a man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

### **Here is how you can accept Christ into your life:**

- Admit your need. (*I am a sinner*)
- Be willing to turn from your sins. (*Repent*)
- Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave. (*Be saved by faith*)
- Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to control your life through the Holy Spirit. (*Receive him as Lord and Savior*)

### **We suggest a prayer like this one:**

“Dear God, I know I’m a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is Your Son. I believe that He died for my sin and that you raised Him to life. I want to trust Him as my Savior and follow Him as Lord, from this day forward. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.”

(From the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

#### **YEAR TO DATE**

BUDGET: \$457,608.10

#### **ACTUAL YTD**

TOTAL INCOME: \$414,620.24

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$379,756.57

Income Minus Expenses: \$34,863.67

- **Childcare for ages 0-3yrs. old and Children’s Church for 4-8 yrs. old is available in the Children’s Wing during the 10:30am service.**
- **Drinks with lids are allowed in the Auditorium**
- **Hearing devices are available at the sound desk**

**Pastors and Staff**

**Tim Knaus**, Senior Pastor

Email: timknaus@stjohnsfbc.com

**Mike Briggs**, Pastor of Music & Technology

Email: mikebriggs@stjohnsfbc.com

**Dan Dubois**, Pastor of Youth

Email: dandubois@stjohnsfbc.com

**Chad Konieczny**, Pastor of Discipleship

Email: chadk9@stjohnsfbc.com

**Holly Merignac**, Church Secretary

Email: holly@stjohnsfbc.com

**Darrell Painter**, Facilities Manager

Email: darrell@stjohnsfbc.com

**Beacon of Hope Staff**

**Cyndi Thelen**, Director of Beacon of Hope

Email: beacondirector@stjohnsfbc.com

**Annette Wood**, Beacon of Hope Administrative Asst.

Email: beaconoffice@stjohnsfbc.com

**Sarah Thomas**, Beacon of Hope Office Asst.

Email: beacondesk@stjohnsfbc.com

**Beacon of Hope Phone Number: (989) 224-0328**

**Church Office Hours**

Tuesday - Friday 8-12 & 1-4

**Guest WIFI**

FBC\_Guest, password: Godisgood



