

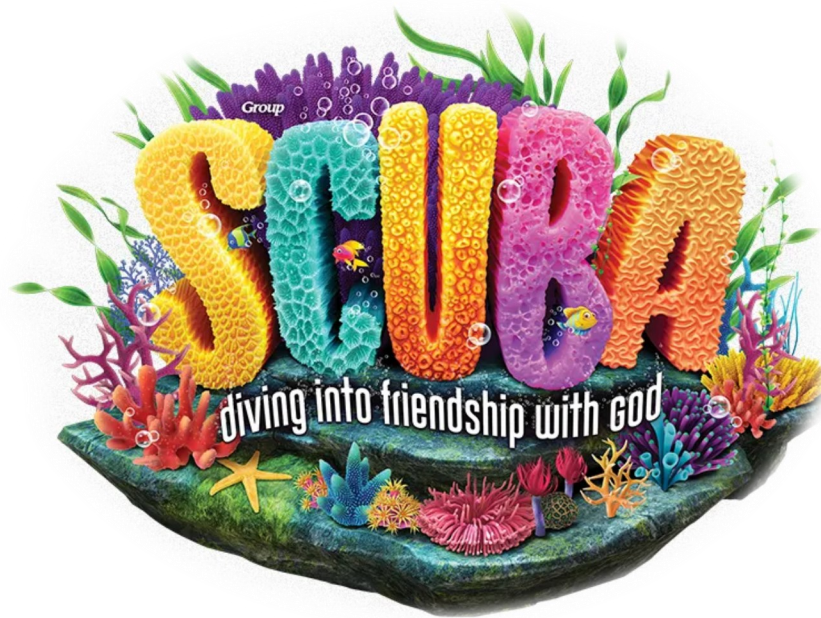
# First Light

First Baptist Church - Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Vol. XLVIII- No. 10

Website: [www.fbcoakridge.org](http://www.fbcoakridge.org) · Email: [fboffice@fbcoakridge.org](mailto:fboffice@fbcoakridge.org)

May 24, 2024



## Vacation Bible School

June 3rd - 6th • 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
(dinner at 5:30)

**We need your help! Here are a few ways you can serve:**

- Serve as a volunteer. Could you help guide a group of 5-6 students through activities, or assist them at the registration table as they check in and out each day? This year I am also looking for special volunteers who would enjoy being a buddy to students who needs additional help.
- Donate. With inflation, costs for VBS have increased this year. Monetary donations can be made to the VBS fund.

Contact Hannah to sign up or check the narthex for a sign up sheet.

To register a child, visit [www.firstbaptistvbs.org](http://www.firstbaptistvbs.org)

# REFLECTIONS

*"Calling them like I see them"*

This week marks 17 years of marriage for Gigi and I. We have plans to do something later because (*gestures at the month of May*) ... yeah. So for our actual anniversary night, we took the kids to Dean's, picked up a few things for our chickens at Tractor Supply, got some cash out for the kids' field trips, made a run to TJ MAX, and went home. That was it. Again, we have plans to do something special later. But that was our anniversary. Kind of an ordinary night. You might remark that we should have done more. And I understand the sentiment. We will eventually.

To be honest with you, I find it kind of fitting that our anniversary was spent doing very mundane, ordinary things. Because that's most of our marriage. Sure, we have spent nights staring at the stars, but most of them include washing dishes. We have gone to romantic restaurants just the two of us, but most meals are cooked and eaten at our kitchen table with the kids. We have taken times to get away just the two of us, but we tend to spend the most time together at home in pajamas. That's most of our relationship and there's nothing wrong with that.

It's easy to fall into the trap of imagining that our relationships should always be full of passionate nights and days spent walking beaches together. That's what happens in the stories, right? Movies of couples falling in love and not spending a moment apart from one another. But that literally can't be all the time. It just can't. We have to go to work. We have to do laundry. We have to take out the garbage, go grocery shopping, eat oatmeal.

I'm not saying we shouldn't have times like the ones we imagine in books or movies. We should! That's a healthy part of a marriage relationship. But we can't begrudge the rest of our relationship (the majority of our relationship) for not being the most dramatic parts. I'm grateful for 17 years of marriage and not just the highlights. I'm grateful for the ordinary, for the routine. Because I get to spend those days with Gigi. That's special enough.

All right, time to land the plane here. It's easy to fall into the trap of imagining that our relationship with God should always be full of intense moments of clarity and passionate ministry. But the ordinary routine of daily prayer and choices of conscience is special enough. Because we get to spend it with the God who loves us.

*Peace, Rory*

## *Before His Presence with Singing*

*"O what a wonder it is! A glory amazing, yet true;*

Today's hymn is relatively new, as far as hymnody goes. It was copyrighted in the mid 1980's. Nevertheless, since publication, it has become a favorite in worship for many Baptist congregations. We will sing it this coming Sunday, but it is not in our hymnal, which is unfortunate, especially since its copyright is held by Broadman Press, a Baptist entity.

Rae Whitney was an extremely gifted hymnwriter whom I've had the pleasure of meeting and with whom I have attended classes at gatherings of the Hymn Society. Sadly, she died in 2023 in her home state of Nebraska. She was a delightful person to know and in her presence, one had the sense of being among brilliance when it comes to shaping language.

In this hymn, she takes biblical pillars which hold up the faith and allows the singer to touch them and stand under their faithful support. "For God so loved the world, His only son he gave, that whoever believes in Him should have eternal life." And, "We learn to follow Him by living in God's Word."

I resonate warmly with the opening lines of the final stanza: "It is a wondrous thing God's glory to proclaim." There is something divinely blessed about our appointment as ambassadors for Christ. That God employs us, mere mortals, in spreading the good news of His salvation is a wonder, a glory.

And the refrain employs the singer primarily in that very task: proclamation of God's love: "O what a wonder it is, a glory amazing, yet true; O what a wonder, O what a glory that God loves me and you."

For God so loved the world  
He gave His only Son,  
That all who would believe in Him,  
He'd save them every one.

Tho into sin and shame  
Our thoughts and actions stray,  
Still Jesus calls us to Himself,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way.

We learn to follow Him  
By living in God's Word.  
The Holy Spirit gives us grace  
To know and love our Lord.

It is a wondrous thing  
God's glory to proclaim!  
For sending us our Savior Christ  
We praise His holy name.

O what a wonder it is,  
a glory amazing, yet true;  
O what a wonder, O what a glory  
that God loves me and you."

In Christ, *Tim*

## Prayer Requests

**SYMPATHY:** Brenda Story passed away May 11, 2024. The family will receive friends at First Baptist Church Friday, May 24, from 4-6 p.m., with the service following.

**IMMEDIATE:** Debbie Barker. Carol O'Shaughnessy. Robbie Laney. Ginny Bowers. Sue Ann Gross (Bill Stephenson's sister). April West (friend of Diana Giles). Katie Emmerson (Ellin Ward's daughter). Robert May. Jim Gibson. Debbie Pulliam (Carol O'Shaughnessy's sister). Johelen Stephenson. Liane Aldridge (Mary Jane Williams' daughter). Katie Vogel (Johelen Stephenson's friend). Heidi Rose Harris. Bruce Marshall. Barbara Pruett (Karen McCall's friend). Larry Carter. Ray Roach (Tim Bounds' brother-in-law). Jackie Laney's dad, Barney. Sherry Bath (Gigi Naeve's friend). Diane Ray's friend, Donna. Mark Ebeler (friend of Carol O'Shaughnessy). Tammy Lee (Kay Smith's sister). Adrian Flory. Sandra Burns (Johelen Stephenson's cousin). Wanda Vines (friend of Sandy Davidson). Carolyn Maples (Brandon Weaver's aunt). Kay Smith. Michael Turnbill (Lela Moore's brother-in-law). Roy Smith (Carl Smith's father). Joyce Dippel (Jan Stoutland's sister). Robert Darnell (Diane Qualls' brother). Frances Darnell (Diane Qualls' mother). Richard Evans. Cheryl King (Diane William's sister-in-law). Ben Davidson (Tom Davidson's nephew). Debra & Mark Belvin's neighbor. Mary Jane Williams. Lynn Satterfield (Gary Giles' sister).



## Calling All Graduates!

Do you have a graduating senior in your family? Now is your chance to share that news with your First Baptist Church Family. Simply email any information about your graduate to the church at [fbcoffice@fbcoakridge.org](mailto:fbcoffice@fbcoakridge.org) or call the church office at (865) 483-4615. Please include the student's full name, his/her connection to First Baptist, when and from what school he/she is graduating, and any other important information. We will publish the graduates' names in the June 4th First Light newsletter. **Graduate information needs to be turned in no later than Wednesday, May 29.**

## JUNE FBCFBC

Please join us in the library at 12:30 on Monday, June 1, when Dianne May will lead a discussion of Jane Smiley's *Perestroika in Paris*. *Perestroika*, a young horse who escapes her stall one night, ventures into the city of Paris, where she meets various characters, including a German short-haired pointer and an intellectual raven. The book has been described as a beautifully done story and an immersive fable in a place where kindness is king. Contact Dianne at (865) 414-9766 if you have questions.

The Church Office is

**CLOSED FOR  
MEMORIAL DAY**



Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

## YOUTH NEWS

Feast (Youth) will not meet Sunday, May 26th due to Memorial Day.

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Passport Meeting for parents and campers June 9, 5:00 p.m. in the youth area.

## Thank You!

We are so grateful to have such a loving church. During Robert's recent hospitalization, we were made especially aware of this. We thank you for all your support, your well-wishes, and your prayers.

Robert and Dianne May

## NOISY OFFERING

On Sunday, May 12th, we collected our Mother's Day Noisy Offering. The Huffmans would have been proud that we have carried the tradition forward. We collected \$871.15 for the Baptist Children's Home!



## Discussion Group

**Movie:** The Kid (2000) starring Bruce Willis.

**Viewing:** Streaming on many pay-per-view platforms for -\$4.

**Time & Place:** Friday, June 14, 6:30 pm at Joy Reedy's home - 109 Downing Drive, Oak Ridge

**Questions:** Contact Mike Crowell (505-695-1757), Brandon Weaver (865-384-5833), or Joy Reedy (815-922-8992).

## Children's Ministry

### VOLUNTEERS

#### Sunday, May 28, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. .... FUN DAY  
Children's Church ..... FUN DAY  
(Hannah Simic & Gigi Naeve)

#### Sunday, June 2, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. .... Sally Hutson & Susan Williams  
Children's Church ..... Hannah Simic & Jackie Laney

#### Sunday, June 9, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. .... Jackie Laney & Karry Garcia  
Children's Church ..... Hannah Simic & Karen McCall

# JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball] <b>10:00 AM VBS Decorating</b>
2 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship & Communion <b>11:00 AM Worship Service</b> 2:00 PM Finance Mtg./RM.105 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.	3 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 12:30 PM FBCFBC/Library <b>~First Light~</b>	4 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time	5 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends /Parlor]	6 1:30 PM Agape Help Center	7 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym]	8 9:00 AM [Ecumenical Storehouse Pickup] <b>9:00 AM -12:00 PM [Grow Oak Ridge-FH &amp; kitchen]</b> 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
<b>6:00 - 8:00 PM Vacation Bible School (Dinner @ 5:30pm)</b>						
9 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] <b>3:30 PM Deacons Meeting/RM.105</b> <b>5:00 PM Parent-Youth Passport Mtg./youth area</b> 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.	10 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 6:00 PM -8:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH) 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym] <b>7:00 PM Trustee Mtg./RM. 105</b>	11 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy]	12 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends /Parlor] 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study/FH 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	13 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] 6:00 PM -9:00 PM [ORCband /FH] 6:00 PM -7:00 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	14 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>6:30 PM Movie Discussion Group/J. Reedy's</b>	15 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
16 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL. <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>	17 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 2:00 PM Library Mtg. 6:00 PM -8:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH) 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym] <b>~First Light~</b>	18 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy]	19 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends /Parlor] 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study/FH 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	20 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] 6:00 PM -9:00 PM [ORCband /FH] 6:00 PM -7:00 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	21 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>5:30 PM Free Community Meal/FH</b>	22 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
<b>PASSPORT CAMP 16th. - 21st.</b>						
23 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service <b>2:00 PM Church Council Meeting/RM. 105</b> 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.	24 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 6:00 PM -8:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH) 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym]	25 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy]	26 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends /Parlor] 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] <b>5:30 PM Potluck Dinner</b> <b>6:00 PM Regular &amp; Special Business Meeting</b> 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	27 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] 6:00 PM -9:00 PM [ORCband /FH] 6:00 PM -7:00 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	28 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym]	29 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
30 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.						