

First Light

First Baptist Church - Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Vol. XLVIII - No. 11

Website: www.fbcoakridge.org • Email: fbcoffice@fbcoakridge.org

June 5, 2024

Congratulations 2024 Graduates!

High School Graduates

Bradley Bowers

*Graduate of Oak Ridge High School
Son of Stephen and Lisa Bowers & brother to Meghan
Grandson of Bobby and Ginny Bowers & Virginia Griffith
Bradley will be attending Massey Electric's apprentice program.*

Alexia Galyardt

*Graduate of Frederick High School in Longmont, CO.
Granddaughter of Gary and Adrienne Giles*

Kelsey Weaver

*Daughter of Brandon Weaver
Graduate of Oak Ridge High School and
Roane State Community College with an Associates of Science.
Kelsey has been accepted into the College of Arts and Sciences
at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.*

Chloe Sarah Williams

*Daughter of Troy and Susan Williams, and sister of Clay &
Carter Williams, is a 2024 Graduate of Oak Ridge High School.
Chloe is a regular member of the FBC youth group.
She is a member of the National Honor Society and graduated
with Honors and Work Ethic Distinction.
Chloe plans on attending East Tennessee State University in
August where she will continue her love of dancing by being
a dancer on the ETSU Dance Team.
Chloe will pursue a degree in health sciences.
Proud grandparents include Bob and Ginny Bowers,
Carmen Lockett, and Fran and Robert Williams.*

College Graduates

Krysten Bunch

*Graduate of LMU with Nursing Degree
Granddaughter of Gary and Adrienne Giles*

Sarah Elisabeth Ray

*Sarah is wife of Jonathan Ray and
daughter-in-law of John and Diane Ray
She is a graduate of Brescia University in Owensboro, KY.,
with a Master's Degree in Speech Language Pathology*

Anne Turner

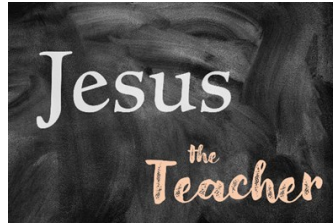
*Anne is wife of Matthew Turner
and daughter-in-law to Doug and Melody Turner.
Graduating with a PhD in Civil Engineering
from the University of Tennessee
Dr. Turner is a professor in the Construction management of
civil and construction engineering department
at the University of Arkansas Little Rock.*

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REFLECTIONS

"Calling them like I see them"

It occurred to me that I haven't really talked about the theme of the sermons for this month or so. It's called Jesus, the Teacher. Kind of ironic that I'm talking about it in the graduate edition of the First Light. Didn't all those folks on the front page *finally* escape their teachers?! I mean, that's what we celebrate at graduation. The completion of that student phase. You've mastered the necessary criteria. You don't need a teacher anymore.



You probably see where this is going.

What fascinates me about the teachings we find in the Gospels are not necessarily the lessons, but the students. To be sure, Jesus is teaching beautiful content. It's deep and probing, life-changing and history-making lessons on life and faith. But he's teaching enemies and old pros and folks who haven't darkened the door of a classroom in decades. The students named in most of the Gospel stories are graduates of some degree or another. And here Jesus is teaching them something.

I'm not trying to diminish the achievement of our graduates. Not by a long shot! They should be commended for their efforts and lauded for their achievements. You truly have mastered all the algebra you're likely to need and you've probably read enough of *The Scarlet Letter* to get through the rest of your life. No need to go back to school.

But that's not to say we don't have more to learn. Because we do. Even experts learn new things about their craft and learning something outside of our training can broaden ourselves in some beautiful ways. Even those of us who fancy ourselves experts on matters of faith should have enough humility to listen to another lesson by the Master.

Congratulations to all of our graduates! Now, the rest of y'all get back to class.

Peace, Rory

Before His Presence with Singing

"Thou my best thought, by day or by night"

Vacation Bible School is vision training. As I write this, Vacation Bible School begins in just 3 hours at FBCOR. A week of focus on things Jesus will train the vision muscles of little ones. They will learn Bible verses, Biblical principles, learn songs and make crafts that focus their attention on Christ and on God's will.

The hymn that this line is taken from is all about vision, all about focus. It is a prayer, where the singer asks God to focus his or her primary lens on things Jesus.

I love the imagery of these lines: "Thou my soul's shelter, and Thou my high tower." The singer is claiming God as protector, as a shield from the things in life that threaten AND, claiming God as a viewpoint, a perspective origin. "Lord, keep me safe from that which threatens my focus on you, and be the position from which I see the world around me. Let me see through your eyes, with your mind, from your perspective.

That same stanza ends with a fascinating thought: "Power of my power." I love the layered, interlocked self-sufficiency of that phrase. "Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power." Notice the capitalization of the first "Power." It is a subtle confession that every ounce of my power comes from the One to whom I'm singing, God himself.

Vacation Bible School and hymn singing are both vision training. They help put the right things in front of our eyes, and help us bring into focus the things of God. May this week with the children sharpen their (and our) vision, and may we see more clearly than ever with God himself as our vision.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord:
Thou my soul's shelter, and Thou my high tower,
raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Thou my inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

In Christ, *Tim*

Thank You

To our Church family: Thanks to all for caring, praying, cards, food, expressions of love, etc. during this time of great sadness at the passing of Brenda. I, along with Brian, Wanda, Jeremy, Ethan, Cade and Allison, continue to ask for prayers as we enter the next phase of our lives without our beloved Brenda, Mom. Grandmama and Grandmom.

Lynn Edd Story, Brian, Wanda, Ethan, Cade and Allison

Youth News!

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



Meetings: Council & Committee

DEACONS' MEETING

Sunday, June 9, at 3:30 p.m./RM. 105

TRUSTEE MEETING

Monday, June 10, at 7:00 p.m./RM. 105

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, June 23, at 2:00 p.m./RM. 105

PERSONNEL MEETING

Thursday, June 27, at 5:00 p.m./RM. 105

AGAPE Needs

The AGAPE is in need of children's clothing for boys and girls. All sizes - infant through school age.

Egg Cartons Needed -The Agape Help Center still needs egg cartons. You can bring by the office or leave in our Agape boxes located in the Narthex or downstairs near the automatic doors.



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 p.m. 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).

JUNE FBCFBC

RESCHEDULED: Please join us in the library at 12:30 on **Monday, June 17**, 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.



We will be hosting another free community meal at our church on Friday, June 21, at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We aim to provide a sit down dinner to those who need one in Oak Ridge. All church family is invited to come sit and eat with our guest. If you plan on attending call the church office to sign up.

Regular Business Meeting & Special Business Meeting

Wednesday, June 26, 6:00 p.m.

(Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m.)

There will be a potluck dinner on June 26, at 5:30 p.m., followed by a regular business meeting and special business meeting to vote on the new 2024-2025 fiscal year budget. Yummy fried chicken and drinks will be provided. Please bring side dishes and desserts. Copies of the budget and absentee ballots will be available in the church office in the coming weeks.



Sunday, June 9, 2024

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

Sunday, June 16, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. Tedi Newman & Angie Walls
Children's Church Lela Moore & Susan Williams

Sunday, June 23

Nursery 11:00 a.m. Ginny Bowers & Meghan Bowers
Children's Church Jodie Johnson & Debbie Johnson

Sunday, June 30

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

Prayer Requests

SYMPATHY: Please be in prayer for the family of Debbie Barker, a lifelong member of FBC. Debbie passed away May 27, 2024. The family will receive friends from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, with a memorial service to follow at Weatherford Mortuary.

IMMEDIATE: Kay Smith. Ginny Bowers. Carol O'Shaughnessy. Robbie Laney. Sue Ann Gross (Bill Stephenson's sister). April West (friend of Diana Giles). Katie Emmerson (Ellin Ward's daughter). 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 Pruet (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). Michael Turnbull (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).

LONG TERM: Peggy Scott. Darla Sutton. Virginia Griffith (Lisa Bowers' mother). Bobby Cline (Mark Belvin's brother-in-law). Adrienne & Gary Giles' son, Travis. Larry Fields. Scott Ethridge. Rick Nation. Jo Ann Tunstall. Nadine Bush. Theresa Bowers.



fbc
Oak Ridge

Loving God, Loving Others

Our services are streamed live and recorded at:

www.fbcoakridge.org/live-streaming



NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING

ALEXANDER GUEST HOUSE:

Katie Landis, RM. 217.

BEN ATCHLEY STATE VETERANS' HOME:

Norval Ziegler, RM. 204-A.

CANTERFIELD OF OAK RIDGE:

Frank Janous, RM. 216.

Jean Webster, RM. 303.

COURTYARDS SENIOR LIVING:

Dot Senn, RM. 105.

SHANNONDALE OF MARYVILLE:

Shirlene Dale, RM. 114.

Our Ministry Continues Throughout the Week

Church Office: 483-4615 /483-4657

OUR STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rory Naeve
Minister of Music: Rev. Tim Bounds
Children's Director: Hannah Simic
Minister of Youth: Rev. Shawn Simic
Church Secretary: Lola Murray
Facilities Manager: Chris Peterson

Wednesday Services

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday Services

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
5:30 p.m. Feast (Youth)