

Pelham Vision



First Baptist Church Pelham

Making Disciples for Global Impact

From Pastor Daven Watkins

Dear FBC Faith Family,

For the last thirteen months we have done our best to faithfully, safely, and aggressively navigate a global pandemic together. You have demonstrated great patience and trust throughout the entire process. On behalf of the entire church staff, I want to say THANK YOU.

It is with great joy that today I remind you that starting Sunday, May 2, we will resume our pre-COVID Sunday morning schedule with Sunday School classes for all ages meeting in-person and on-campus at 8:00, 9:15, and 10:45 alongside two identical worship services at 9:15 and 10:45. COVID helped us as a church to see the immediate need for livestreaming and I am confident that ministry is here to stay, so please note that we will continue to livestream the 10:45 worship service each week. Our Sunday evening and Wednesday evening activities will continue as scheduled throughout the summer months.

On Sunday, May 2 and beyond, we ask for you to use personal responsibility so, if you are not feeling well, please refrain from attending and tune in to the livestream. Continue to wash your hands frequently, use the

hand sanitizing stations throughout the campus, and masks will be utilized by individual choice only.

Throughout the pandemic, the priorities that helped shape and influence our decisions as a church staff were two-fold. First, we wanted to do our best to help keep the flock healthy and safe. Second, we wanted to encourage and foster opportunities for as many people as possible to return to in-person gatherings because we are convinced that face-to-face and life-on-life interactions are the most conducive for spiritual growth. We did our very best to navigate those priorities faithfully. I am encouraged by the number of people I see returning to on-campus activities. Our Easter attendance in April was 79% of our pre-pandemic Easter attendance in 2019. In talking to other pastors and reading various articles, I believe that percentage is strong. The last couple of Sundays have been at approximately 75% of the same Sunday two years ago (2019).

Over the next few weeks and months, I am confident that we will continue to rebound, reboot, and rebuild to greater

heights as we continue to stay focused on making disciples for a global impact. I am looking forward to the day when our numbers are greater than 100% of what they were two years ago. Our best days are ahead of us and not behind us.

God bless you. I love you. I will certainly see you soon.

Your Pastor and Friend,

Daven



Volume II, Issue 5

May 2021

Upcoming Events

- May 2 Pre-COVID Schedule
- May 2 Senior Adult Day
- May 3 Senior Adult Conf.
- May 9 Baby Dedication & Mother's Day
- May 12 Kids Choir Musical, Annex
- May 16 Notary Rodeo
- May 16 Man Up event
- May 19 What About Wednesday Kickoff
- May 23 Beach Camp Deadline
- June 14-17 VBS

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Senior Adult Ministry- Dr. Randy Atkinson

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY NEWS AND MORE!

I have been using the book of **ISAIAH** for a lot of study, meditation and sharing lately. I shared several sections in Facebook devotions and when I write a card to someone I have tried lately to let the Lord give me a verse or two from ISAIAH to share with them. I don't know how much it has helped others, but the study and searching has blessed my life tremendously. Here is the one the Lord gave me for you in this paragraph today: "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord." - ISAIAH 66:22-23. In these verses I find at least these truths: As a

child of God I have a secure, eternal future; God is in charge and victorious; because of my faith in Him, I have hope, peace and joy! Best of all, God loves me, He loves you and His love reaches to the entire world. Child of God, be encouraged today!!!!

In Senior Adult Ministry, we are ramping up activity and ministry and I am so glad. In April, we shared notes for totes, collected used biblical material to encourage others, shared flowers with some to remind them of our love and appreciation, set a record for participation in Wednesday Night Bible Study and had a good time at a fish fry/picnic. I am sure I should mention more, but it won't come to mind just now.

For May, we will recognize our ministry together on May 2nd for Senior Adult Day, have the opportunity to attend a Senior

Adult Evangelism Conference on May 3rd, gather for a covered dish luncheon on May 11th and just see what other doors the Lord may open for this month. When the summer unfolds, we are planning at least one special event each month with a celebration banquet on August 6th. Be watching for more information and specific details. Pray for this ministry as we seek to serve others and glorify our Great, Good and Glorious God in all we do.

Bro. Randy



Kids Ministry—Jonathan Williams

What About Wednesday? Our Summer program for 3K-5th Grade kicks off on May 19th. This year you can Register and pay online for both 3K-5K and 1st-5th Grades. Just click on this link to register:

[WAW Click Here](#)

VBS is coming! June 14th-17th, from 6:30-8:30 PM for 5K-5th Grade. You can register for VBS online! Share this link with your family and friends who would like to join us.

[VBS Click Here](#)

Notary Rodeo! Please remember that our 1st-5th graders need signed, notarized Medical Release Forms for our WAW outings and for Kamps. We will have our annual Notary Rodeo on Sunday, May 16th for all your notarizing needs. Come see us in the Children's Wing! You can find the form to download and print by clicking on "Register Now" below or going to: <https://fbcpelham.org/wp-content/uploads/Participation-Agreement-Form-2021.pdf>



Counselor's Corner—Linda Story & Melanie Howard

A SIMPLE COMMAND

Several years ago the phrase “What would Jesus do?” became so popular that it inspired wristbands and t-shirts that sported the initials “WWJD”. I must admit that it can be helpful to attempt to live our life based on what Jesus would do. However, we are not Jesus and we would not be able to do many of the things that Jesus did. For example, we cannot create a world with its inhabitants and set it into motion. Many of us would not leave our wealth and the comfort of our home to live out our life in poor conditions in a world where most people hate us and want to kill us. We would not spend hours in prayer, praying so intensely that we sweat drops of blood. We would not choose to be born in a stable to a poor family. We would not choose to be beaten, persecuted or hung on a cross to die. No, we cannot do what Jesus did. So when we are in

those moments where we are unsure of what to do, where do we get our help? Well, our help comes from the Lord, right? Our help comes from God in us that is only limited by what we choose to do in our circumstances.

Several weeks ago I heard a verse that I have heard many times before. It is a simple verse. In fact, so simple that it is often overlooked. Scripture is like opening a gift and finding goodies inside but realizing there is another gift inside just waiting to reveal something new and delicious. When I hear this verse again for the umpteenth time, it resonated in my spirit. It is a simple command.

Remember the wedding feast in Cana where they ran out of wine? Mary went to Jesus and told him that they did not have any wine. Jesus told her that it

was not time to reveal his messiahship. Then Mary turned to the servants and said, **“Whatever he says to do, do it”.**

“Whatever he says to do, do it”. A simple command that when followed, can provide peace with decisions and peace and joy throughout life. This powerful command came from the mother of Jesus, based on pure faith and a belief that Jesus would take care of it if the servants chose to do what Jesus said to do. When faced with day to day tasks, decisions and problems, remember to ask Jesus. And then, whatever He says to do, do it. A simple command that guides those who are followers of Jesus.

Linda

Whatever He says to do, do it!

Worship Ministry— Brett Fuller

You don't want to miss our upcoming Kids Choir Musical “A Not So Terrible Parable!” on **Wednesday, May 12, at 6:15 PM, over in the Annex!** The author of the program describes the musical this way; “The well-known story that Jesus told, called The Parable of the Good Samaritan, comes to life as a fun, over-the-top whodunit (think the movie Clue) musical. Solving this mystery means discovering again just how far our Savior would go to rescue helpless sinners!”

The musical will begin immediately after the evening meal is served. As part of the event, we will be serving a very special dessert that you'll be able to

enjoy as you watch the kids perform. I want to encourage you to make this evening a priority in your family's schedule! Come and enjoy a wonderful dinner, then stay for dessert and an exciting musical!

Finally, I want to say how thankful I am for the faithfulness of our Worship & Media Ministry members. Their dedication and passion is on display on a weekly basis and it does not go unnoticed. It has been such a blessing to see familiar faces returning to the ministry, as vaccinations have taken place and folks are starting to feel more comfortable about returning to worship.

I continue to pray for a full platform of worship leaders on a weekly basis!

Cathy and I love you and look forward to seeing you in worship!

Blessings,

School of Fine Arts
first baptist church of pelham

Kindermusik

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ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS
Forrest & Minnie Oates Scholarship Application Deadline-May 31.

Recreation and Outreach- Donnie Sisk

Kidz Kamp Registration has begun! If you have a 1st-5th grader, we would love for them to join us. There will be a separate teaching and recreation tract for 1st-2nd graders this year. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center, Children's Wing and my office. If you would be willing to give a full or partial scholarship to help a child go to camp, let me know. **Kidz Kamp** is designed for 1st-5th grade boys and girls. It takes place at Shocco Springs Baptist Assembly in Talladega. The cost is \$250.00 and the dates are June 21-24, 2021.

KIDS KAMP REGISTRATION

Interested in being a Greeter? We have needs for door greeters to welcome members and visitors, and get a little information from visitors. If you are interested in this very important ministry, I'd love to talk with you.



greeters



Sign up sheet at Welcome Desk or request to attend via email to donniesisk@fbcpelham.org or mwalker@fbcpelham.org.

Donnie

Student Ministry- Matt Wright

* TO REGISTER ONLINE CLICK HERE *

KINDERGARTEN & MOTHER'S DAY OUT

Registration is Open
Ages: 6 weeks—K5
Call Sharon or Kathy
205-663-7455

