Community Resources

During this time, people may struggle with many different needs. Here are some helpful resources provided by our community.

Food Assistance:

- Breakfast and lunch for Pattonville School District kids Monday-Friday.
- Ritenour School District Co-Care Food Pantry Food pickup Monday-
- St. Louis County Library Drive-Thru Meals for kids Monday, Wednesday, and
- Hunger Hotline (314) 726-5355

Rent Assistance:

- United Way: (800) 427-4626
- Urban League: (314) 615-3640
- Salvation Army: (314) 646-3000

Utility Assistance:

- Heat Up STL: (314) 241-0001
- Urban League: (314) 615-3640
- Salvation Army: (314) 646-3000
- Community Action Agency: (314) 863-0015

Emergency Diapers

St. Louis County Library Drive-Thru - Emergency Diapers every Friday.

Continued from front page...

After reading Acts 1 on Monday, I was encouraged by the power of God's Word. Let's unite in prayer like the disciples did. Instead of being impatient and lamenting how things were, let's embrace the fact that God has placed us in this season for a reason. Honestly, we will all go through different struggles during this time. Things have drastically changed and it is completely natural to feel discombobulated. However, I believe that if we take those feelings to God in prayer, we will be strengthened and encouraged. We cast our cares on him because he cares for us.

I believe that we are called to unite in prayer. I also believe we are called to be filled with the Holy Spirit and be digital missionaries. Let's read God's Word together and unite in prayer during this time. And let's share the hope that is found only in Jesus.

Pastor Zach



Sympathy

Our love through Christian sympathy is extended to

- ...Dann (Kathy) Webber on the passing of his cousin, Kristi Krusen, on April 3.
- ...Brenda (Tom) Compas on the passing of her mother, Ilene Rigg, on April 4.
- ...Scott (Vicki) Knepper on the passing of his father, William "Randy" Knepper, on April 5.

Thank You

The church has received Thank You cards from The Nicholson family, Kerry & Kit Koepke, and Carl & Donna Schaffner.

OUR MISSION:

Fee Fee Baptist Church exists to make disciples who **build** their lives on Jesus and **pursue** the good of our community for the glory of God.

Ministry **Opportunities**

Sunday, April 26 - The Lord's Supper

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Stream on our website or Facebook page

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Live Stream on website or Facebook

Monday, April 27

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Tuesday, April 28

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Wednesday, April 29

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Thursday, April 30

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Friday, May 1

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Saturday, May 2

Sunday, May 3

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Stream on our website or Facebook page

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Live Stream on website or Facebook

Monday, May 4

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Tuesday, May 5

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Wednesday, May 6

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Thursday, May 7 7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Friday, May 8

7:00 p.m. Daily Prayer Live on our

Saturday, May 9

Due to COVID-19, the church building will be closed to all events and services until further

To stay up-to-date on all calendar updates, please check our website. Download our new app on Google Play Store or Apple App Store for more news; just search for "Fee Fee Baptist

Church Office Staff

Rev. Zach Crook, SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Andrew Yakel, Associate Pastor

Ms. Gloria Fox, DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULTS

& BIBLE STUDY

Mrs. Kathy Scott, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN

& FAMILY MINISTRIES

Mrs. Ronna Paden, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. Kyle Baldwin, INTERIM YOUTH DIRECTOR

Mr. Steve Middendorf, FINANCIAL OFFICER

Ms. Ruth Thoma, PASTOR'S SECRETARY

Mr. Vance Stewart, IT ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Tara Smith, RECEPTIONIST & MUSIC SECRETARY

OFFICE ♦ (314) 739-1525 FAX ♦ (314) 739-1302 www.feefeebc.org

THE FORERUNNER is published Bi-weekly, by

FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

11330 St. Charles Rock Road Bridgeton, MO 63044-2792

Periodicals Postage rates paid at Hazelwood, MO 63042-9998

USPS 016957

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

THE FORERUNNER

Fee Fee Baptist Church 11330 St. Charles Rock Road Bridgeton, MO 63044-2792

PERIODICAL

And then, by God's grace, I read Acts 1 on Monday morning. As a church, we launched a church-wide reading initiative as a follow-up to Easter. We are reading through the book of Acts together, from April 13-May 10, one chapter a day. The Spirit made verses 12-14 just jump off the page to me.

What happened in those verses? Jesus had just ascended, and He had promised that the Spirit would come "in a few days." Scholars say that there were 10 days between His ascension and Pentecost. The disciples had just had their Resurrected Messiah leave. and they were waiting on the Spirit. They weren't sure exactly what that meant, but I am sure they were anxiously waiting. So, what did they do as they waited? Verse 14 says,

"They were all continually united in

Just like the disciples, we are in a

period of waiting. We aren't sure

when this pandemic will end. I'm

optimistic that we will get to meet

together physically again soon, but

we honestly don't know right now. As

a people designed by God for

community, social distancing is

difficult. Maybe you, like me, have had

a time like I had on Easter evening. A

longing for things to "return to

That is why Acts 1:14 hit me like a ton

of bricks. It reminded me of what our

priority should be during this time.

Instead of impatiently wondering

when this time will end, God

reminded me of the thing that will

I have been so encouraged by our

daily prayer times on Facebook live. I

have been encouraged by many of

you who have shared ways that you

are praying for others. I have been

unite us during this time: prayer!

prayer..." (CSB).

normalcy."

April 20, 2020

THE FORERUNNER

FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

A Word From Pastor Zach

Vol. 60, No. 08

ow did you celebrate Easter this year? For me, it was honestly the strangest Resurrection Sunday that I can remember. Don't get me wrong, I am thankful for the common grace of modern technology. As of April 13, we have had nearly 2,000 views on our Easter service videos! However, I reached a point of longing at some point that evening.

My longing had to do with my desire for things to "go back to normal." I am a people person and I am getting tired of not seeing my church family and friends. I'm getting tired of not playing basketball and coaching my boys' teams. If I'm honest, I've never been great with patience. The uncertainty of when this pandemic will end put a cloud over my Easter Sunday. Honestly, I went to bed on Easter evening guite conflicted. I was so thankful that we could celebrate virtually, but it left me wanting more.

encouraged by the privilege of praying with many of you over the phone. Acts 1:14 was a reminder to me of the most crucial thing our church can do during our time of waiting. We can unite in prayer! God reminded me that in this season of waiting, our calling hasn't changed. We are still going to build and pursue. We are still called to love God and others. It is true that we have to practice social distancing, but we still

are called to be missionaries. We are just called to be digital missionaries during this time period.

Continued on inside page...

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

We are praying each of you are well and experiencing the goodness of God even during this pandemic. Many of us are finding ourselves with more time on our hands. How are you using that time? Are you spending more time in prayer, reading God's Word, connecting to others through social media or a good, old-fashioned phone call? I encourage you to let the Holy Spirit guide you by listening to that still small voice as He suggests how you might minister to others during these uncertain times.

I hope you are following along in our <u>reading plan</u> through the book of Acts. As I was writing this it was the second day of the plan, and therefore Chapter 2. Jesus has ascended into heaven in Chapter 1 and in Chapter 2, the Holy Spirit was sent. On that day alone, 3,000 repented and believed and were added to the church. And so, the church began, and the last verses of the chapter give a small glimpse into the early church in action. They practiced unity and generous giving, sharing with those who were in need. They shared the gospel, met together to worship, to partake of the Lord's Supper, and served the Lord with gladness.

Nothing has changed. We can still do these very same things even though we must do some of them virtually. We are still the church. Ask God to show you ways to be His hands and feet during this pandemic. This just might be the revival we have been praying for – both in our own hearts as we spend more time with Him and learn to trust Him more – and in the hearts of those who will come to Him through our sharing of the Gospel and showing them His love.

Finally, if you have a need or know of someone who has a need, please notify me at <u>gloria@feefeebc.org</u> or contact the church office and we will help however we can.

Bible Study Corner

Many in the church are finding creative ways to stay connected and still have Bible study. Whether you are using Zoom meetings, the Marco Polo app, email, or any other method, we are still studying the Word together.

If you are not connected to a Bible Study, all you need is a computer, smart phone, or tablet. Let <u>Gloria</u> know you are interested and we will get you connected somewhere.

We also are providing our services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. each Sunday on our website or Facebook, as well as live prayer on Facebook each weeknight at 7:00 p.m. Please join us and invite others. If you do not have a way to connect, please call the church office at (314) 739-1525 and we will deliver a CD or DVD to your house.

Chi Alpha News

Kyle Baldwin, Interim Youth Director

Youth Online Bible Study – During this time that we are apart from each other, let's be sure to be diligent to connect the best that we can. Each Sunday and Wednesday, we will still be having Bible Study together. I will be recording a lesson from a RightNow Media series and posting it to our Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube pages. You can find us on all those platforms at Fee Fee Youth. Additionally, I will be posting Daily Devotionals on Facebook and Instagram to give you some encouragement throughout the week. Please reach out to me if you need anything, kyle@feefeebc.org. I am praying for each of you!

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

Easter Reflections - Easter this year was unique to say the least. We gathered online to celebrate Christ's victory over the grave. While it may have been different let us remember:

Some Easter celebrations may be rescheduled... But we still worship our Risen King!

Easter egg hunts may be postponed... But the Resurrection did not delay!

Easter baskets may be hard to come by...
But Jesus' love and grace are in abundance!

Places of worship were empty... But so is the tomb!

Though times are difficult right now, JOY comes in the morning. And what greater JOY than the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries **KidsZone** - I miss you in KidsZone and AWANA, kids and parents! If you need anything, (and that includes prayer), don't hesitate to let us know. Parents, you have a lot on your plate: homeschooling, your own work at home, keeping family happy and healthy. Know that I am praying for you daily.

On our website each week, you will find a weekly KidsZone for preschoolers and children. I hope you will worship with your children. There is also a worship bulletin that kids can use to follow along with worship services as they sit with you.

Free Family Resources – If you need additional resources, you can find many of them through Right Now Media. Just give us permission to put your email into our account and you can access Right Now Media for FREE! It is a great resource for kids' videos and Bible Studies covering all topics and ages. I especially enjoy "What's in the Bible" series by Phil Vischer. What an opportunity you have right now to lead your kids to know Jesus better!

Daily Prayer – We invite you to involve your kids during our Daily Prayer on Facebook Live every weekday at 7:00 p.m., by having them share prayer requests. What a precious time this has been!

Summer Fun Week is coming and will be here before we know it! Vacation Bible School and Sports Crusaders Basketball Camp will be June 22-26. "Wilderness Escape" is our theme for VBS this year, and will be from 9:00 a.m. to noon; Basketball Camp will be from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. These plans are all rather tentative at the moment so pray with me that we will make wise decisions if rescheduling our events is required.

"For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth," (Job 19:25). What a promise to give us hope to stand on!



Community Connection

Andrew Yakel, Associate Pastor

A Missionary Story – As I was trying to think of creative ways to show the love of God during this quarantine, I came across this story from the International Mission Board about a missionary family in Colombia. I hope it's encouraging to you and challenges you to think about how you can reach those around you:

Sarah McNeill sensed a city-wide quarantine coming. Her preparatory grocery run included school supplies since her kids would transition to learning at home. She put printer paper and poster board in her cart and, with an idea blooming, added yellow, blue and red tissue paper. The McNeills live on the 11th floor of a 13-story residential building. Like many in Bogotá, Colombia, their neighbors are fearful of COVID-19. As Sarah conversed with one concerned neighbor, she was able to show the difference knowing Christ Jesus personally makes in times of crisis. "There were tears in her eyes. It was like she didn't think I understood," Sarah explains. "We do understand, and we are trying to take precautions, but we also just have hope and we trust that God is in all those details." With neighbors in fear, Sarah resolved to spread hope.

The three youngest McNeills made homemade cards for each household in the building. They included Philippians 4:6-7 and signed their family's name with their apartment number. They also used the tissue paper Sarah purchased to make thirteen flowers in Colombia's national colors. Using fishing wire, they hung them in each floor's stairwell with a message of hope. Five-year-old Holly said, "We want to help others not be so afraid and not be so sad about the coronavirus." The McNeills' joy grew when they heard neighbors' delighted exclamations at the surprise flowers or saw their cards displayed on doors. Some neighbors even wrote back. "I was sad, and I felt strange all day," one wrote. "But I arrived home and I saw your card. Thank you, neighbors, for this. Thank you for hope and the happiness of my heart."

Two months ago, the McNeills started a small group in their home. It usually takes a long time to build rapport to the point that a neighbor will join in Bible study. Through Sarah's response to COVID-19, "we took a step forward with all of our neighbors."

Featured Article

Jill Crook, Licensed Professional Counselor

God's Constancy and Our Humanity - God is still God, in the midst of this pandemic. He is who He has always been. He is love and peace and hope and mercy. Likewise, we are still who He created us to be, in the midst of this pandemic. God created us as human beings with the full range of human emotions. If a Christian were gifted a million dollars, they would likely feel excited. If a Christian lost a loved one, they would likely feel sad. If a Christian's child were mistreated, they would likely feel angry.

Our world has been turned upside down in recent weeks by the Coronavirus. Believers may be asking themselves, "Why do I feel the way I do?" or "Is my faith failing me?" We need not question our faith if, in the light of a global pandemic that has completely changed life as we know it, we, as Christians, feel scared or anxious or even depressed. This is normal. God created us to feel. Having emotions that reflect the situation you find yourself in means that you are sane. You are not disconnected from reality. You are not in denial. This is a good and healthy thing.

HOWEVER, we need not be ruled by our feelings. We can't get stuck in our feelings and neglect our faith. Don't let the way you FEEL cause you to forget what you KNOW. The One in whom we have placed our trust is GREATER than the things that scare us. He is all-powerful and He has not forgotten us. 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you." Run to God in this time, and He will sustain you.