Weekly Summary	3/26/2023	4/2/2023	4/9/2023	4/16/2023
Chi Alpha Wed.	19	21	15	17
AWANA	58	54	46	43
Sunday Bible Studies		_		_
WOW Bible Study	24	21	21	23
Worship Attendance: 8:30AM	96	146	225	130
11:00AM	90	89	121	115
Worship Totals	189	235	346	245
Offering	\$6,983.00	\$14,069.00	\$13,466.13	\$9,321.00
E-Giving (3/26-4-16)	\$33,536.41			\$13,465.50

Ministry Opportunities

Tuesday, May 2

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (B3- Bramstedt)

6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4) 7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, May 3

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice 7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee

Thursday, May 4

10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group 1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time

6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Sunday, May 7 12:00 p.m. Security Team meeting (ConfR)

5:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting (C112)

Monday, May 8 10:00 a.m. Mobile Market

10:00 a.m. Mobile Market

6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, May 9

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels

10:00 a.m. Bible Study (B3- Bramstedt) 11:30 a.m. May Clermont WOM (FH)

2:00 p.m. Prime Time Council (B1) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, May 10

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice

7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee

Thursday, May 11

6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Saturday May 13

6:00 p.m. Prime Time Banquet (DR) Sunday, May 14 — Mother's Day

11:00 a.m. Baby Dedication

Monday, May 15

9:15 a.m. Wagner/Sherer WOM (FH) 6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, May 16

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (B3- Bramstedt)

4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes Ministry 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4) 7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, May 17
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)
6:00 p.m. LAST Awana night

5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner (DR)

5:30 p.m. Missions Committee
7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice

7:30 p.m. Strategic Planning Committee **Thursday, May 18**

10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group 1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Sunday, May 21

12:15 p.m. Children's Committee

Monday, May 22

6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee

6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Co 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, May 23

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 p.m. Bible Study (B3- Bramstedt)

6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4) 7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, May 24

8:00 a.m. Prime Time Overnight Creation

Museum/Ark Encounter 9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion

10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice

Thursday, May 25

11:00 a.m. Blood Drive (Gym) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Sunday, May 28

12:00 p.m. Business Meeting (DR)

Monday, May 29— Memorial Day
OFFICE/BUILDING CLOSED

Tuesday, May 30

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (B3- Bramstedt)

6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4) 7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, May 31

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAYS

8:30 a.m.—Traditional Worship 9:45 a.m.—Bible Studies (All Ages) 11:00 a.m.—Contemporary Worship 11:00 a.m.—KidsZone No Kidzone on 4th Sundays Lord's Supper on 4th Sundays

WEDNESDAYS

6:00 p.m. AWANA Youth Small Groups Women's Bible Study Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting (Reminder: May 17 will be the last Wednesday till Fall)

Sympathy

Our love through Christian sympathy is extended to

... The family and friends on the passing of **Richard (Dick) Huber** on March 17

... **Gary Brashears** and family on the passing of **Lana Brashears** on March 15

... **Rhonda Owens** and family on the passing of **Ed Pilkington** on March 20

... The family and friends on the passing of **Sally Smith** on April 5

Mobile Market

Our partnership with the St. Louis Area Foodbank will continue into 2023 with more Mobile Markets. Upcoming dates are:

- May 8
- June 12
- July 10

Anyone is welcome to come get groceries on the second Monday of each month, at 10:00 a.m. (until the food runs out).

If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, talk to Kathy Webber and she will make sure you have a spot to serve!

Church Office Staff

Dr. Matt Easter, INTERIM PASTOR

Derald Harris, INTERIM PASTOR

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

Kathy Scott, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN

& FAMILY MINISTRIES

Ronna Paden, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Kyle Baldwin, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES

Kim Lewis, FINANCIAL OFFICER

Vance Stewart, IT ADMINISTRATOR & OFFICE MANAGER

Andrea Jennings, ADMIN ASSISTANT

Melissa Eberts, WORSHIP LEADER

Ty Meacham, College Outreach & Ministry Intern Emily Koenegstein, Ministry Assistant

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

THE FORERUNNER is published Monthly , 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

Vol. 63, No. 5

THE FORERUNNER

May 2023

FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

A Word from Interim Pastor Derald Harris

We have been studying the book of Acts on Wednesday evenings. One of the things we have seen is that there is a pattern repeated throughout this book. The church is empowered by the Holy Spirit, the church shares the Gospel with boldness, people are saved, the church is united and prays together – then Satan attacks the church from the outside. But the church remains united and continues to pray together, they share the Gospel with boldness and people are saved. Satan then tries to attack the church through other external sources, but the people remain united and pray together and Satan's efforts are defeated.

When attacks from the outside are unsuccessful, Satan then attacks the church from the inside and tries to sow seeds of disunity and discouragement. But the people continue to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit to detect and defeat the internal attacks. They remain united and pray together, they continue to share the Gospel with boldness and people are saved.

Throughout the book of Acts, as long as the church relied on the Holy Spirit, remained united and prayed together, Satan's attacks were unsuccessful. It was only when the church began to rely on its own resources instead of the Spirit that the attacks on the church began to splinter the unity and power of the church.

In the last several weeks, we have seen God working in Fee Fee Baptist Church. We have celebrated the baptism of several of our children. (Thanks goes to Kathy Scott and our great children's workers who faithfully share the Gospel with the children.) We have seen some new families join the church. We have had a powerful and life-changing DNOW experience for our youth. (Thanks to Kyle Baldwin and the youth workers.) These are just a few of the wonderful things that God is doing in our midst.

We can gain strength and encouragement from seeing what happens when a church is focused on Kingdom work. This should cause us to pray together even more fervently and work together to spread the Gospel in our community.

But we also need to remember that Satan works the same way today that he did in the first century church. He does not like to see a church praying and working together. He does not like to see people responding to the Gospel. He does not like to see God's Kingdom advancing. His methods of trying to stop a church always include discouragement, division and tempting us to rely on our own resources and not on the Holy Spirit.

We need to be alert to Satan's attacks and remain united, praying together that God's Spirit will continue to empower us to be bold in building God's Kingdom.

Blessings, Derald Harris, Interim Pastor

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

We are having some exciting days in our Children's Ministry seeing many children excepting Jesus as Savior and following Him in baptism. If you would like to serve, there is always a place for people who love Jesus and love children. Contact me for more information if you would like to serve.

Our Awana year is almost at an end. On May 10, we will be having a parent/kid glow game night at 6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.. On Wednesday night, May 17, at 6 p.m. we will be having our Awana Awards Night and see what our kids have been up to all year. There is supper offered at 5 p.m. before. The signups are in the Connection Center.

SAVE THE DATES: VBS and Sports camp is July 17-21, 2023. STELLAR VBS is 9amnoon and Basketball Camp is from 1-4pm. Mark your calendar! Information and registration forms will be on our website feefeebc.org/freevbs.

There is something for everyone to do so if you are interested in serving that week, contact me. If you have crafty hands, workdays are scheduled on the first 3 Saturdays in May.

A few things we are collecting for VBS to help with decor: empty Cheese Ball and animal cracker/pretzel containers you find at Sams's Club or Costco; 2-liter soda bottles – empty – prefer the green, but we can use clear as well. Thanks for your donations of time and stuff!

For the sports camp I may need host homes to house the college students leading the basketball camp. We will also need meals for these Sport Crusaders for the week. Contact me if you could open your home to a student or 2. If your Sunday School class could help with gift cards or money to help the students with meals, contact me.

Thank you for your support!

Chi Alpha News

Kyle Baldwin, Director of Student Ministries

End of the Year Encouragement

The end of the school year is upon us, and that means summer is right around the corner! While that may sound exciting, and maybe that will give you the extra boost you need to make it to the end of the year, sometimes this last month of school seems to just drag on and never end. While we have lots of things to look forward to like prom, end of year parties, sports, and graduation, there also is the fear and worry that comes from finals, EOC's, projects, and presentations. The clock is ticking...how are you going to face it? When I was a student, one verse I would often turn to was Romans 5:3-4. There is glory in hard times, and that produces perseverance, which produces character, which produces hope! Students, you are so close to the finish line...keep digging! Parents, remember to check in on your students this month. You may get the standard "I'm okay" response when you check in on them, but just know that your intentionality means the world, even if your student is too cool to tell you now (trust me they will when they are older). Church, pray for our students! This is a huge time for them, and they need your support. It takes a village, and Fee Fee is faithful! Let's finish the race well!

Congratulations on this wonderful milestone as these 5 children were baptized last month. Pray that God's love shine down upon their families. Kibret Misgna, Abby Eberts, Eliana Easter, Brayden Muckerman, And Christian Muckerman

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

Summer Concert Series — SAVE THE DATES!

June 18 — **Timothy and Hosanna Noble** — Timothy Noble has been a mainstay in our concert series almost since the beginning. Timothy is a pianist and Hosanna plays violin. They make an awesome duo. If you have heard them in previous years you will agree.

July 9 — **Dr. Kristine Harris and Dr. Jerry Westenkuehler** — Kristine Harris played in our concert series a few years ago. She is an extraordinary trumpet player of international fame. Kristine will be joined by Jerry Westenkuehler. Jerry is a noted organist who holds a Doctorate in Organ Performance. He is also a well recognized composer of organ and handbell music.

July 18 — **The Harris Trio** — John and Lee Harris along with their friend Kathy have been singing together since they were teenagers. You will love the tightly blended harmonies of this trio.

July 23 — **Doug Mickan** — Doug is a comic ventriloquist. His program is appreciated by audiences of all ages. Don't miss seeing Doug and his friends! They were a part of are concert series last year and were extremely well received.

July 30 — The Lesters — The Lester family has been serving God through Gospel music since 1925 when the group was formed by their great grandparents. They have continued this ministry with various members of their family and with younger singers being added from time to time - this family will keep on keeping on! We are so glad they come back each year to participate in our concert series! These concerts are on Sunday evenings beginning at 6:00 p.m. and we always have a time of fellowship following each concert where we gather and enjoy ice cream treats. There is no charge for these concerts, but attendees are given the opportunity to contribute to the ministries of each group. Invite you friends and neighbors for a delightful evening of entertainment and music.

Heart of Worship

Melissa Eberts, Worship Leader

Let's talk about humility. One of the ways we can worship our King is through a heart of humility towards Him and others.

What does it mean to be humble? Humility comes from throwing away any sense of pride and instead embracing a heart of service and gratitude. It's realizing without God, we are nothing. (John 15:4-5) It's recognizing that God knows better than we do, and embracing His ways over our own. (Isaiah 55:8-9)

Let's explore a few verses in the Bible that speak about humility:

1 Peter 5:5-6 says, "...all of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your cares on Him, because He cares for you."

In Ephesians 4, Paul urges us to, "live worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Lastly, Proverbs 16:5 says, "Everyone with a proud heart is detestable to the Lord."

The Bible is clear: God is looking for us to be humble in heart. He is right there, ready to give us grace when we submit ourselves to Him. He even encourages us to give all our worries and anxiety over to Him, because He deeply loves us.

If you're ready to recommit to the Lord with a heart of humility, go ahead and pray this prayer with me:

Continued on next page ...

Heavenly Father, as an act of worship, I submit myself to you with a humble heart. Please forgive me for thinking my ways are better than Yours. I choose today to cast all my cares on You, as your Word says, because You tenderly love me. I recommit myself to seeking Your face and listening to your Holy Spirit to lead me and guide me in all truth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

Wow. I can't believe it is already May. May has lots of adventures for the Prime Timers. First and foremost is the Banquet on Saturday night, May 13, at 6 p.m. Just like the restaurants, we have had to raise our price a little to cover the expenses, but it is still a very good deal for good food, good fellowship, and great entertainment.

The cost this year is \$15/person and includes salad, main course, and dessert. Our entertainment will include 50's and 60's songs and Ronna assures me that we won't be disappointed. There will also be a brief devotional and an opportunity for photos. The sign-up sheet are in the Connection Center, and you must sign up by Sunday, May 7 so we can order the food!

The second event is a 2-nights/3-day trip to the Creation Museum and Noah's Ark in Kentucky. I have not booked a hotel, but rooms range between \$130-\$150. Since we will be there 2 nights, your room would be a maximum of \$150 for 2 nights if you have a roommate to share the cost. If you want your own room, your hotel for 2 nights would be a maximum of \$300.

We will get a combo ticket for the Ark and Creation Museum and that cost is \$84.95 but if we have enough people, that might be discounted. Your transportation cost is \$40/person.

So, if you have a roommate, your maximum cost will be about \$275. If you want your own room, the cost is \$425. Breakfast is included at all the hotels I am looking at so that is 2 less meals to buy.

We will leave at 8 am on Wednesday, May 24 and be home by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 26. You will need to turn in a \$100 deposit by Sunday, May 7 but you need to sign up by April 30 so I can get our reservations. Hope you will plan to join me to have Genesis come to life.

Bible Study Corner

Join us each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. for Bible study. We have a place for everyone. Each of us should not only be doing personal Bible study but should be learning with others. We have women's classes, men's classes, couples' classes and multigenerational groups. Contact Gloria to find you a place to join in. We also have Transformation Groups and small groups so join us in Bible Study.

International Food Pantry

We are collecting these items for the pantry: Cereal, peanut butter, (any size), and breakfast/lunch type of foods. Please avoid any Bran or Shredded Wheat. Our church will be serving the pantry on May 20th. Thank you for your contributions. Contact Cathy Wallace for more information if needed.

Ty Meacham, our College Outreach and Ministry Intern, had his last day with us on April 30th. He has accepted an Associate Pastor position in his hometown in Kentucky. We thank him for the asset he was to the staff and his great ideas. His leadership in Kidszone and the Youth were a blessing to us. Best of luck to him in his continued ministry.