

Weekly Summary	4/23/2023	4/30/2023	5/7/2023	5/14/2023
Chi Alpha Wed.	17	21	13	16
AWANA	43	54	48	—
Sunday Bible Studies	—	—	—	—
WOW Bible Study	0	22	13	—
Worship Attendance: 8:30AM	151	130	103	125
11:00AM	99	73	84	114
Worship Totals	250	203	187	239
Offering	\$7,517.00	\$4,617.86	\$15,995.48	\$17,492.71
E-Giving (4/23/23-5/14/23)	—	\$3,882.00	—	\$9,821.38

Ministry Opportunities

**Thursday, June 1**  
10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group  
1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time  
**Sunday, June 4**  
5:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting (C112)  
**Monday, June 5**  
1:30 p.m. History Committee  
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee  
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
7:15 p.m. Properties Committee  
**Tuesday, June 6**  
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym  
**Wednesday, June 7**  
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion  
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)  
10:00 a.m. Prime Time Holocaust Museum and Grassis  
6:00 p.m. Chi Alpha Summers (Rafters)  
7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice  
7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee  
**Saturday, June 10**  
Alaska Mission Trip leaves  
**Monday, June 12**  
10:00 a.m. Mobile Market  
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee  
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
**Tuesday, June 13**  
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
11:30 a.m. May Clermont WOM (Bramstedt)  
2:00 p.m. Prime Time Council (B1)  
7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym  
**Wednesday, June 14**  
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, June 15**  
10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group  
1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time  
**Saturday, June 17**  
8:30 a.m. International Food Pantry

**Sunday, June 18 — Father’s Day**  
12:15 p.m. Children’s Committee  
5:30 p.m. Summer Concert Series: Timothy Noble  
**Monday, June 19**  
9:15 a.m. Wagner/Sherer WOM  
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee  
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
**Tuesday, June 20**  
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes Ministry  
7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym  
**Wednesday, June 21**  
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion  
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)  
7:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Practice  
**Thursday, June 22**  
9:00 a.m. Prime Time St. Genevieve Tour & Lunch at Brickhouse  
**Sunday, June 25**  
12:00 p.m. VBS Discovery Workshop (DR)  
**Monday, June 26**  
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee  
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
**Tuesday, June 27**  
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym  
**Wednesday, June 28**  
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

**Sympathy**  
Our love through Christian sympathy is extended to:  
  
**Bob Nowlin (Jean)** and family on the passing of **Karen Nowlin**, Bob’s sister-in-law, on May 15th

**REMEMBER**  
There is **NO** Wednesday night’s activities during the summer till we meet on September 13th again.

**Fee Fee Mailboxes**  
Don’t forget to stop by the Connection Center the next time you are at church and check your mail box.

**Mobile Market**  
Our partnership with the St. Louis Area Foodbank will continue into 2023 with more Mobile Markets. Upcoming dates are:  
• June 12  
• July 10  
• Aug 14  
• Sept 11  
  
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*  
**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. 6 June 2023

# THE FORERUNNER

## FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

*BUILD & PURSUE*

A Word from Interim Pastor Matt Easter

It’s that time of year again: the flowers are blooming, the bees are buzzing, the birds are nesting ... and the weeds are growing. Try as I may, I can’t seem to keep my lawn free of these unwanted dandelions, white clover, and ground ivy, or my woods from honeysuckle, Virginia creeper, and pokeweed. I’ve pulled them by hand, poisoned them, cut them down, and insulted their mothers, but they persist all the same.

Every time I pull weeds or cut down yet another invasive honeysuckle bush, I find myself thinking about the same thing: Sin. Now, this could be the manifestation of my subconscious regret of another wasted Saturday expending time, money, and energy on my losing battle against nature. (Indeed, this is likely partially the case.) But I also think there’s something theological at work. In a perfect world, our grass would remain the perfect length, our veggies and fruits would be bug-free, and our flowers would stand tall. In a perfect world, there would be no weeds.

Weeds are the constant reminder that we live in a fallen world. It goes back to God’s words to Adam in Genesis 3:17-19, where God curses the ground: “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” What a pain. It’s all Sin’s fault. That dandelion that magically reappears overnight ... blame Sin. That bush honeysuckle that returns even after I cut it down three times before ... blame Sin. That poison ivy lurking behind the fence ... blame Sin.

Indeed, the results of Sin are everywhere. (Don’t even get me started on mosquitos!) Still, there is hope. Every time we pull weeds, we are reminded of how the whole Earth is moaning for God’s redemption. But we know that the day is coming when we will toil no longer. God in his timing will usher in the new heavens and new Earth when all of creation will be redeemed. We can look forward to the tree of life whose leaves are for the healing of the nations (Revelation 22:2). No more weeds. And, even better, no more pulling weeds – no more toil over the ground. That day is coming. In the meantime, I will keep raising my pokeweed-stained gardening gloves and cry out once again, “Lord Jesus, come quickly!”

Blessings,

Pastor Matt

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

We are having some exciting days in Children’s Ministry seeing many children excepting Jesus as their 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 if you would like to serve.

Don’t forget to mark your calendars: **VBS and Sports camp** is from July 17-21. **STELLAR VBS** is from 9 A.M. -NOON; Basketball Camp is from 1 A.M. – 4 P.M. If your child is attending both **VBS** and **Basketball Camp** each day don’t forget to pack them a lunch. Information and registration forms are on our website [feeclub.org/freevbs](http://feeclub.org/freevbs). There is something for everyone to do so if you are interested in serving that week, contact me. A few things we are still collecting for VBS to help with decor: empty Cheese Ball and animal cracker/pretzel containers you find at Sam’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 **Basketball 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

We have a WILD summer planned for the students this year, with many fun events on the calendar, and some great memories ahead. But before I go in to those, I would love to introduce our new Summer Intern for the Youth Ministry...Mr. Joey Stewart!! Joey is a recent graduate of Pattonville High School and will be heading to UCM in Warrensburg, MO in the fall to study Music Education. Joey has been an active member of the youth since I have been here, and was a founding member of our Youth Council. He has had a hand in many of our events, mission trips, and has already had many teaching opportunities as a student. He is a natural born leader, and I am so proud of the young man he has grown to be. I can’t wait to serve with him this summer!

Now, here is a quick snapshot of some fun things we have going on this summer:

- June 7 – Chi Alpha Summers
- June 10-16 – Alaska Mission Trip
- June 21 – Movie Night
- June 23 – Mini Golf in the Church!
- July 6 – Chi Alpha Summers
- July 10-14 – MFUGE Camp
- July 19 – Board Game Night
- July 28 – Underground Church
- August 2 – Chi Alpha Summers
- August 16 – Polish Ping Pong/Spoons Tournament
- August 27 – Youth & Family BBQ

There are more events to come as well! Check back to our social media for more info!



Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

A Note of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks for all the kind wishes expressed on the occasion of my 20 years in the music ministry here at Fee Fee.

How blessed am I to serve along side of some of the most talented individuals I know as they share their gifts in His service.

You all have received my leadership with such warm acceptance. It has been a joy to serve here at Fee Fee. Thanks again for all your kindness.

Concert Reminder

On June 18 we will be hosting Timothy Noble as he and his wife Hosanna will again be presenting a concert - the first in our Summer Concert Series. Timothy is no stranger to our congregation as he began playing concerts here as a 15 year old.

Timothy and Hosanna are billed as a Singing Pianist and Violinist Duo. They often present a theme inspired program that is very honoring of the God they serve.

This will be a concert of virtuoso proportion - one you will not want to miss. Invite your friends and neighbors. There is no charge, but a love offering will be taken.

We will end the evening with a time for refreshment and fellowship.

Summer Concert Information

We have flyers listing all our concerts for the summer series. You will find them in our Connection Center and they are available to share with those outside our congregation.

2023 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**June 18th - 6:00 p.m.**  
**THE NOBLES**  
SINGING PIANIST & VIOLIST DUO

**JULY 9th - 6:00 p.m.**  
**KRISTINE HARRIS**  
TRUMPET PERFORMANCE

**JULY 16th - 6:00 p.m.**  
**THE HARRIS TRIO**  
GOSPEL TRIO

**JULY 23rd - 6:00 p.m.**  
**DOUG MICKAN**  
VENTRILOQUIST

**JULY 30th - 6:00 p.m.**  
**THE LESTERS**  
SINGING GOSPEL MUSIC SINCE 1925



Bible Study Corner

During the summer, we will greatly abbreviate our Bible Study opportunities. We will not have Women’s Bible study, prayer meeting, Tuesday morning Bible study, or Awanas. We will still have Sunday morning Bible Study from 9:45- 10:45. I encourage you to make Bible study a priority.

If you are missing Bible Study, let me encourage you to join or start your own T-group or small group. I can provide you materials and help you get started.

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

Summertime, summertime, sum, sum, summertime! Time for trips, pool parties, graduations, BBQ. I love the summer and we have one packed with adventure for our prime timers!

We finally were able to arrange to go to the newly renovated Holocaust Museum but had to adjust the schedule a little.

We will leave church at 10:45 on Wednesday, June 7 to have lunch at Grassis which opens at 11. We need to make our lunch somewhat quick as we should arrive at the museum by 12:15 for check in. We will listen to a Holocaust survivor from 12:30-1:30 and then go on a guided tour from 1:30-3:00pm. The cost of the tour is \$10 each and I must pay this in advance. If you sign up and don’t come, you will still have to pay for your ticket.

On Thursday, June 22, we will leave for a tour of historic homes in St. Genevieve. We will eat first at the Brickhouse. We do not yet have a price for the homes we are going to tour but it appears that admission is generally \$3-\$5 with some places being free. The Brick House Restaurant is the oldest brick building west of the Mississippi River. It was built in 1780. According to their website, they have a lunch buffet for \$11.75. They feature American food.

Below are upcoming events for the next quarter so mark your calendar:

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Friday, July 7       | Miniature Museum and Hodak's for lunch                |
| Monday July 24       | Sandwiches /movie. Joseph produced by Sight and Sound |
| Monday August 7      | Old St. Ferdinand Shrine and Cugino's for lunch       |
| Mon-Thur., Aug 21-24 | Adult VBS   |
| Wednesday, Sept 6    | Sikeston Depot and Lamberts for lunch                 |
| Monday Sept 25       | Chihuly at the MO Botanical Garden and lunch at Zia's |

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for these events and sign up.

Heart of Worship

Melissa Eberts, Worship Leader

Hi Church! I awakened with this verse in my spirit, and I wanted to share it with you all: Psalm 118:24, “This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.”

Each day is such a precious gift from God! Today is a wonderful opportunity to thank Him for who He is and what He’s done for us.

I will be honest and say that sometimes it’s hard to rejoice. Life’s circumstances can be overwhelming and the first thing on our minds is to worry instead of pray. To complain instead of rejoice.

But my Bible says He heals the brokenhearted. He heals the sick. His mercies are new every morning. He loved us before we were even born. He clothed us in righteousness because of what Jesus did on the cross. He is a friend that sticks closer than a brother. He is faithful, even when we are not. He is my ever-present help in time of trouble. He restores my soul. He sets captives free. His forgiveness is boundless. His glory is matchless. He is the Prince of Peace. My provider. My strong tower. And my King. The beginning and the end. He defeated sin, hell and the grave. And He prepared a place for us to be with him one day and forevermore.

We have so many reasons to worship Him today! We have so many reasons to rejoice! Will you purpose with me today to rejoice in God our Savior? Let who He is flood your mind. Meditate on His goodness. Talk about Him with your friends and family. Give Him credit where credit is due. He is worthy of all our worship. Lord, we are thankful that you made this day. We will rejoice and be glad in it.