

Weekly Summary	7/23/2023	7/30/2023	8/6/2023	8/13/2023
Chi Alpha Wed.	—	—	—	—
AWANA	—	—	—	—
Sunday Bible Studies	134 Business Meeting	142	162	156
WOW Bible Study	—	—	—	—
Worship Attendance: 8:30AM	129	122	102	135
11:00AM	125	96	108	120
Worship Totals	254	218	210	255
Offering	\$6,919.00	\$7,809.00	\$13,723.00	\$10,473.36
E-Giving(7/8 - 8/4)	\$15,752.32	\$5,233.92	\$4,917.29	\$5,486.11

Ministry Opportunities	
<b>Sunday, Sept. 3</b> 8:00 a.m. Prayer Warriors Pre-Service Prayer	<b>Monday, Sept 18 IMPACT WEEK</b> 9:15 a.m. Wager/Sherer WOM (FH) 6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (CR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (WC)
<b>Monday, Sept 4 Building/Office Closed</b>	<b>Tuesday, Sept 19 IMPACT WEEK</b> 7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Linda Bramstedt (B3) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4) 7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee
<b>Tuesday, Sept 5</b> 7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Linda Bramstedt (B3) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4) 7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee	<b>Wednesday, Sept 20 IMPACT WEEK</b> 9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym) 9:00 a.m. Prime Time Sikeston Depot/ Lamberts
<b>Wednesday, Sept 6</b> 9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym) 9:00 a.m. Prime Time Sikeston Depot/ Lamberts	<b>Thursday, Sept 21 IMPACT WEEK</b> 10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café) 1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time (B3) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4)
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (C112) 7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee (CR)	<b>Friday, Sept 22 IMPACT WEEK</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept 7</b> 10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café) 1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time (B3) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1;B4)	<b>Saturday, Sept 23 IMPACT WEEK</b>
<b>Sunday, Sept 10</b> 2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. By-Laws Committee (CR) 5:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting (C112)	<b>Sunday, Sept 24</b> 11:00 a.m. Redemption Ranch 4:30 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
<b>Monday, Sept 11</b> 10:00 a.m. Mobile Market 6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (CR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>Monday, Sept 25</b> 10:00 a.m. Prime Time Missouri Botanical Garden/ Zia's 6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (CR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (WC)
<b>Tuesday, Sept 12</b> 7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Linda Bramstedt (B3) 11:30 a.m. May Clermont WOM (FH) 2:00 p.m. Prime Time Council (B1) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4)	<b>Tuesday, Sept 26</b> 7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Linda Bramstedt (B3) 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4)
<b>Wednesday, Sept 13</b> 9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB) 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym) 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner (DR) 7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice	<b>Wednesday, Sept 27</b> 9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB) 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice
<b>Thursday, Sept 14</b> 10:00 a.m. The Remnants 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4)	<b>Thursday, Sept 28</b> 11:00 a.m. Blood Drive 5:00 p.m. The Remnants 6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1; B4)
<b>Sunday, Sept 17 IMPACT WEEK</b> 12:15 p.m. Children's Committee (CR) 2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal	
	<b>If you would like an updated directory please call the office.</b>

WEEKLY EVENTS
<b>SUNDAYS</b> 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 KidsZone on 4th Sundays Lord’s Supper on 4th Sundays
<b>WEDNESDAY NIGHTS</b> <b>Starts back up Sept. 13th 6:00 p.m.</b> AWANA Youth Small Group Women’s Bible Study Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Mobile Market

Our partnership with the St. Louis Area Foodbank has a few more months left of this year. Upcoming dates are:

- Sept 11
- Oct 9
- Nov 13

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!

The International Pantry
The things we are collecting for all of September is after-school healthy snacks and dinner side dishes like rice mixes, hamburger or tuna helper and canned vegetables.

The Remnants Revived
If you like to work with fabric, please join us in <b>Room 217</b> beginning <b>September 14</b> . We will be meet every month on the <b>2nd Thursday</b> from <b>10:00 am - 2:00 pm</b> . Also, the <b>4th Thursday</b> each month from <b>5:00 pm to 8:00 pm</b> .

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

Church Office Staff
<b>Dr. Matt Easter</b> , <i>INTERIM PASTOR</i> <b>Derald Harris</b> , <i>INTERIM PASTOR</i> <b>Gloria Fox</b> , <i>DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULTS &amp; BIBLE STUDY</i> <b>Kathy Scott</b> , <i>DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN &amp; FAMILY MINISTRIES</i> <b>Ronna Paden</b> , <i>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</i> <b>Kim Lewis</b> , <i>FINANCIAL OFFICER</i> <b>Vance Stewart</b> , <i>IT ADMINISTRATOR &amp; OFFICE MANAGER</i> <b>Andrea Jennings</b> , <i>ADMIN ASSISTANT</i> <b>Melissa Eberts</b> , <i>WORSHIP LEADER</i> <b>Emily Koenegstein</b> , <i>MINISTRY ASSISTANT</i>
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PERIODICAL

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THE FORERUNNER	
FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH	
BUILD & PURSUE	

A Word from Interim Pastor, Derald Harris

The Old Testament book of Haggai tells part of the story of rebuilding the Temple after the people returned to Jerusalem from exile. In Haggai’s day, the people were discouraged because things were not going as well as they expected. They saw the Temple that was currently being built and believed that it could never be as great and glorious as the Temple Solomon built.

So, God spoke to His people through Haggai to bring them the courage they needed to complete God’s work. He opened their eyes to the reality of His glory which was to come.

Haggai 2: 6-9 “For this is what the LORD of Heaven’s Armies says: In just a little while I will again shake the heavens and the earth, the oceans, and the dry land. I will shake all the nations, and the treasures of all the nations will be brought to this Temple. I will fill this place with glory, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ... The future glory of this Temple will be greater than its past glory... And in this place I will bring peace. I, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, have spoken!”

What was God telling His people? THE BEST IS YET TO COME!  
God promises that the glory of this second Temple will eclipse the glory of Solomon’s Temple. How could that be? Very simple. This Temple would be visited some 500 years later by Jesus Himself. This would be the place God Himself would visit in the person of Jesus Christ. Solomon’s temple, for all its grandeur and glory, couldn’t make that claim.

So, even though this small beginning of a temple didn’t look like much to the people, God has big plans for it in the future. God sees what Israel can’t see, so He gives them a glimpse of what’s to come.

This glimpse was just enough to encourage them, just enough to fuel their faith to persevere.

Too often, we compare Fee Fee Baptist Church today with the Fee Fee Baptist Church of yesterday (and this church has a LOT of yesterdays!). The enemy tempts us to think that the best days of this church are behind us. But as I look at FFBC through the perspective of what God is doing and can do here, I see children and young people coming to know Christ and being baptized. I see our people ministering to the community around us in ways we would never have imagined just a few years ago. I see our people going around the world to share the Gospel. I see a growing ethnic diversity in our congregation. I see sparks of what God wants to do through us.

God is telling us, “The best days for this church are ahead of us!” The Best Is Yet to Come!

Blessings,  
Pastor Derald

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Well, summer is coming to an end...SIGH...but we are getting ready to jump into FALL! That means some very exciting things will be happening.

**AWANA** starts back up for our **3 years ago to 5th graders, Wednesday, September 13** at **6:00pm**. We start off the first Wednesday night with BEACH THEME NIGHT with water games so wear your swim attire and bring a towel. On **Wednesday, September 20th**, we will be powering up for our **Food Pantry** by bringing non-perishable items to help. This is our group’s participation the week of Impact Week.

**GEM: Girls Experiencing Missions** is a new state-wide event for **girls, 1st through 6th grades**. This overnight event will be at **Laclede Association Camp** in **Richland, MO, October 20-21**. The theme is Shine Like Diamonds: Where is Your Mission Field. The girls will experience hands-on mission projects. Girls may enter 3-color designs that are theme-related, the deadline is **by August 31**. Winners of this contest will have their art displayed on the t-shirt, program cover, bookmark and banner. If your daughter is interested in going, the cost is \$20 plus \$10 for the t-shirt and T-shirt orders are due to me by **Sunday, September 10**. Registration includes 2 meals and all activities and the deadline is **Sunday, October 1**. They will also need money for a meal on the way there and on the way back as well as money to spend in the store. See me for more details.

Our **Trunk or Treat** event is Sunday, **October 29, 3:30-5pm** on the parking lot. Be thinking how you want to be involved and how to decorate your ‘trunk’ as a bible story.

If you are waiting for a sign from God that you are to be serving in Children’s Ministry, here is your sign: **Become a Children’s Ministry volunteer!**

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

Impact Week

Impact week will be here **September 17-23**.

For the past several years our music ministry has gone out "hymn caroling" for our homebound members and to nursing facilities. These people really appreciate hearing the familiar traditional hymns they have enjoyed throughout their lives. You will be blessed to participate in this activity. It is rewarding to bring so much joy to our lonely homebound members. You may sign up in the connection center to participate in this activity.

The Singing Tree

As you know we are making every effort to revive our long time tradition of our **"Singing Christmas Tree."**

The thing is - we need singers to populate the tree! You do not need to be a regular member of our choir to participate. We need singers of all ages. We need singers who are not afraid of heights and who can climb steep steps. Of course we will always accommodate those singers who need to remain seated or to sing from a lower "branch."

Our **rehearsals** will begin on **Sunday, Sept. 10** from **2:00 - 3:30 p.m.** You will be provided with hard copies of the music as well as rehearsal recordings.

**Dress rehearsal** will be **Wednesday, Dec. 13** from **6:00 - 8:00 PM**.

**Performances dates:** **Dec. 15th - 7:00 PM**

**Dec. 16th and 17th - 3:00 PM**

Please join us to present the **Nativity Story** from the spectacular **"Singing Tree"**

Heart of Worship

Melissa Eberts, Worship Leader

What are we looking at? Today, we’re going to talk about what we choose to focus on. Let’s look at **Matthew 14:22-33**.

**Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. After dismissing the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Well into the night, He was there alone. Meanwhile, the boat was already some distance from land, battered by the waves, because the wind was against them. Jesus came toward them walking on the sea very early in the morning.**

**When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost!” they said, and they cried out in fear. Immediately Jesus spoke to them. “Have courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter answered him, “command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” And climbing out of the boat, Peter started walking on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus reached out his hand, caught hold of him, and said to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those in the boat worshiped Him and said, “Truly you are the Son of God.”**

Peter was ready to walk out on the water, and did what Jesus said to do. However, the Bible says, “when he (Peter) saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid, and began to sink...” How often do we believe in faith that the Lord will do something in our lives, only to look at our circumstances and then shrink back? The Bible continues and says, “Then those in the boat worshiped Him and said, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’”

**Our worship breaks through unbelief.** When we take our eyes off of who we are and focus on who God is, THAT’S when our faith breaks through!

Redemption Ranch Celebration

Our church has had so much fun with our yearly trip to **Redemption Ranch** in Winfield, MO that we are heading back! On **Sunday, September 24th** we will celebrate with worship, lunch, and fun activities the whole family will enjoy!

**Worship** will start at **11 AM** on the amphitheater stage, so don’t be late! There will be no Sunday morning activities in the Fee Fee building that day. We will have **28 spots on the church shuttles** if a ride is needed, and **sign-ups** are in the **connection center**. Seats are available on a first come first served basis.

The church will provide the meat for lunch, but we are asking every family to bring a **side dish (last name beginning with A-L), or dessert (last name beginning M-Z)**. Please sign up in the connection center so we can accurately plan for those who will be attending. There are **no chairs in the amphitheater area**, so bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on for the worship service. Be prepared for the weather that day and bring hats or umbrellas if needed. Lunch will be under a pavilion with table and chairs

available. After lunch there will be swimming, games, and lots of fun fellowship time to enjoy this beautiful place! More information can be found at **feefeebc.org/theranch** or on our **Fee Fee App**. We hope you’ll join us!

Saturate USA

During Impact week, we are participating in a God-sized nationwide vision to put evangelistic materials into the hands of every household in the U.S.

Every person can help in some way. We need to stuff bags with information about our church, a Jesus DVD, and all kinds of evangelistic materials. We will also need people to go door to door to hang them on the doors of every house in Bridgeton. Hope you will plan on helping in some way from September 17th through 23rd.

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

We have 2 events this month. On **Wednesday, September 6**, we will head **to Sikeston, MO** for a stop at the **Sikeston Depot** lunch after at **Lambert’s Café**. Get ready to catch a throwed roll! The bus will leave at **9 a.m.** (Note that this time is earlier than usual). This is a permanent historical exhibit that combines history, art, and special exhibits. The museum is free but donations are accepted. Lambert’s café is an unique experience if you have never eaten there. They throw you a homemade roll, you order off the menu and there are lots of pass arounds including fried okra and fried potatoes. Expect to get filled up. The **bus ride is \$5** and you will buy your own lunch!

On **Monday, September 25**, we will go to the **Missouri Botanical Gardens** to view the **Chihuly exhibit**. There are thousands of pieces of blown glass forms in 20 dramatic installations throughout the garden’s grounds. Because we are going during the day, admission is included in garden admission. Garden **admission is \$6** if you are a STL county resident. **Lunch** will be at **Joey B’s**. To see all of the Chihuly glass is a long walk but you can choose to see as little or as much as you want. The bus will leave at **10 a.m.**

September also includes **Impact Week**. I hope that you will participate in some of that week’s projects and attend the celebration at **Redemption ranch** on **Sunday, September 24**. It is always a good time with great worship, good food and great fellowship with the entire church family. There will not be services at the Fee Fee building on that day.

Loaves and Fishes

We need to start the **sign-up cycle** for this ministry again. If your small group, Bible study class, or any other group would like to provide a meal, please let Gloria know. We provide a meal for the residents each **3rd Tuesday of the month**. This meal should feed approximately 29 residents which includes children and families. Thanks in advance for your help!

Chi Alpha

Scott Knepper, Youth Leader

First off, I want to thank Joey Stewart for stepping up as our Summer Intern after the Youth Director departed. Joey filled the leadership void with maturity and fearlessness. Next, I’d like to do a shout out for Matt Easter as he has been leading the Sunday morning Bible Study by sharing in-depth knowledge of the 7 churches in Revelation.

Paul Baugher has volunteered to lead the Wednesday night Chi Alpha activities with a focus on discipleship and how youth can develop their daily walk with Christ. This will include how to study the Bible, importance of daily prayer and devotion time as well as how to share Christ with others.

As the Interim to the Interim Youth Leader, I will be leading the Sunday morning Bible Study time now that Matt has concluded his series in Revelation. My plan is to lead Chi Alpha with studying different books/characters of the Bible and play off what Paul Baugher is teaching on Wednesday nights. I plan to be in this role until we find our new Interim Youth Leader.

Update on Interim Youth Leader search, as a member of the Personnel Committee I can tell you that this is our committee’s number 1 priority. We have contacted a few area church leaders who are now on the lookout for helping us find our new Interim Youth Leader. We also will be leveraging Matt Easter’s connections to the MoBap student body as we continue to search. However, that help will come once sometime after college classes begins.

Bible Study

All **Bible studies** will resume on **September 13**. Small groups for the youth, and prayer/Bible study in the dining room. The women will be doing a study called **When You Pray**. This is a **7 week study** with video sessions by Kelly Minter, Jackie Hill Perry, Jen Wilkin, Jennifer Rothschild, Jada Edwards and Kristi Mclelland. All **Wednesday night activities** are from **6 – 7:30 pm** Of course we will continue our regularly scheduled **Bible studies** from **9:45-10:45 a.m. each Sunday**