

Weekly Summary	8/20/2023	8/27/2023	9/3/2023	9/10/2023
Chi Alpha Wed.	—	—	—	11
AWANA	—	—	—	32
Sunday Bible Studies	—	—	—	17
WOW Bible Study	—	—	—	16
Worship Attendance: 8:30AM	129	112	128	129
11:00AM	94	95	109	103
Worship Totals	223	207	237	232
Offering	\$11,430.00	\$8,862.00	\$11,344.00	\$9,270.70
E-Giving (8/5-9/5)	\$8,604.62	\$7,624.79	\$712.50	\$11,428.84

Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, October 1
8:00 a.m. Prayer Warriors Pre-Service Prayer
9:45 a.m. Business Meeting
9:45 a.m. I'm a Christian Now Class (Kids)
10:15 a.m. First Impressions Team meeting
2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
5:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting
Monday, October 2
1:30 p.m. History Committee Meeting(211)
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
7:15 p.m. Properties Committee Meeting(CR)
Tuesday, October 3
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Wednesday, October 4
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball
7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice
7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting(CR)
Thursday, October 5
10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café)
10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (R217)
1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time (B3)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Friday, October 6
10:00 a.m. Prime Time Rush Acres/Joey B's
Sunday, October 8
9:45 a.m. I'm a Christian Now Class (Kids)
2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
4:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal (R217)
5:00 p.m. Sunday Night Connection
Monday, October 9
10:00 a.m. Mobile Market
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Tuesday, October 10
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
11:30 a.m. May Clermont WOM (Bramsted)
6:30 a.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Wednesday, October 11
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball
7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice
7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting (CR)
Thursday, October 12
10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217)
2:15 p.m. Feed My Starving Children/PT
6:30 p.m. ESI Class (B1, B4)
Saturday, October 14
8:30 a.m. International Food Pantry
12:45 p.m. Feed My Starving Children

Sunday, October 15
9:45 a.m. I'm a Christian Now Class (Kids)
12:15 p.m. Children's Committee Meeting(CR)
2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
4:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
Monday, October 16
9:15 a.m. Wagner/Sherer WOM (FH)
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Tuesday, October 17
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes Ministry
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Wednesday, October 18
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball
5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner (DR)
7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice
Thursday, October 19
10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café)
10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217)
1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time (B3)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Friday October 20-21
6:30 p.m. Gems: Girls Experiencing Missions trip

Sunday, October 22
9:45 a.m. I'm a Christian Now Class (Kids)
11:00 a.m. One Service Mission Sunday
2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
4:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
Monday, October 23
10:00 a.m. PT First State Capital/Lewis &Clark
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Tuesday, October 24
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Wednesday, October 25
9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball
7:00 p.m. Contemp. Worship Practice
Thursday, October 26
5:00 p.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
Sunday, October 29
2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
4:00 p.m. Handball Rehearsal
Monday, October 30
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Tuesday, October 31
7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

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 KidsZone on 4th Sundays
Lord's Supper on 4th Sundays

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6:00 p.m.
AWANA
Youth Small Group
Women's Bible Study

Mobile Market

Our partnership with the St. Louis Area Foodbank has a few more months left of this year. Upcoming dates are:
• Nov 13
• Dec 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!

The International Pantry

The things we are collecting for all of October is chunky soup. Stew, and chili.

Sympathy

Our love through Christian sympathy is extended to:

... **Dorothy Cox** and family on the passing of **Ken Cox** on August 14th
... **Betsy Brisch** and **Becky Edwards** and family on the passing of their mother , **Peggy Totterer** on August 23rd
... **Karen Kupka** and family on the passing of Karen's mom, **Nancy Aehle** on August 28th
... The family and friend's on the passing of **Oline Albright** on Sept 11th

If you would like an updated directory please call the office.

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*
Kim Lewis, *FINANCIAL OFFICER*
Vance Stewart, *IT ADMINISTRATOR & OFFICE MANAGER*
Andrea Jennings, *ADMIN ASSISTANT*
Melissa Eberts, *WORSHIP LEADER*
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THE FORERUNNER
FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

A Word from Interim Pastor, Matt Easter

My daughter Evelyn's favorite song as a young toddler was "One Day" by the Hasidic Jewish reggae/hip-hop beatboxing artist Matisyahu (honestly). I take credit for this. (Oh, the joys of having exclusive control of the iPod in those days...) In this song Matisyahu offers a vision of "one day" when people will abandon violence for peace:

All my life I been waitin' for / I been prayin' for, for the people to say / That we don't want to fight no more /There'll be no more wars and our children will play / One day...

Matisyahu's vision recalls the Old Testament prophets' hope: "God shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Micah 4:3; Isaiah 2:4).

Like the prophets in the Old Testament, Matisyahu is unhappy with the present state of the world. In his song "King without a Crown," Matisyahu longs for a Messiah:

What's this feeling? / My love will rip a hole through the ceiling / I give myself to you from the essence of my being / And I sing to my God all these songs of love and healing / I want Moshiaich (Messiah) now

Of course, those of us who confess Jesus as Messiah believe the Messiah has already come. By the death and resurrection of Jesus, God the Father through the Holy Spirit frees us from slavery to sin and death. We should give thanks to God for this deliverance. However, at the same time, I think we also need to embrace Matisyahu's angst. He's right: the world isn't as it should be.

In this series on 1-2 Thessalonians, we've seen how central the second coming of Jesus is to Paul's theology. Nearly every chapter in 1-2 Thessalonians mentions the second coming. Jesus is coming back, and this gives us hope! Still, though, even as we anxiously hope for the second coming of our Messiah, I sometimes feel the same angst as Matisyahu and the prophets. The world is unjust. Life isn't fair. Our society is founded by and sustained by violence and injustice. Sin has corrupted everything. Things aren't the way they should be. Stuff ain't right. This makes me "want Moshiaich now." But, thanks be to God, I know that "One Day" is coming when God will make all things right.

Blessings,
Matt Easter

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Fall is in the air! That brings multiple opportunities for families to be involved!

October 1st, I will be starting **my 4-week class for kids** that have recently received Christ as Savior. This will be during the bible study hour at **9:45 on Sundays**. Please let me know ahead of time if you and your child will be attending so I can have appropriate materials.

On **Saturday, October 14**, is our annual packing of food for **Feed My Starving Children**. It is from **12:45 p.m. - 2 p.m.** at **Gateway Christian Church**. There is only **17 slots** open for this time frame so we will need you to sign up. If you haven't done this before, here is where you can find out more information at **https://www.fmssc.org**. This is a great family mission project. Watch out for **sign-ups** in the **Connection Center** and more information to come.

There will be **no Trunk-or-Treat this year at the church** but I would like to encourage you to lead an event in your neighborhood. Each year, on Halloween night, we have set out a fire pit with stuff to make S'Mores and invited neighbors to join. I have candy ready for the few trick-or-treaters that come and we have gotten better acquainted with our neighbors. This has been fun and an easy way to get to know our neighbors. Maybe you can think of other ideas for your neighborhood. You may get to be a 'light' on your street.

The kids will be doing a **Christmas story video** for the **Christmas presentation** again this year. We will take children that are **4 years old and up** to play the different roles of the Christmas account. There is a **signup list** in the **Connection Center**. We will record **Saturday and Sunday afternoon, October 28-29**. Sign up soon so we can begin assigning parts. Thanks!

Chi Alpha

Scott Knepper, Youth Leader

School is back in session and we are resuming our normal **Wednesday Night activities** for Chi Alpha that started back up on **September 13th**. Paul Baugher will be leading those Bible Study sessions with a focus on how to study the Bible, importance of daily prayer and devotion time as well as how to share Christ with others.

Paul and I are working on the **Youth Calendar** and planning upcoming events. One being an **"After Football Game" party** coming in **October**. This will be a focused effort on attracting students from Pattonville so we can introduce them to the Rafters on the 3rd floor with the hope that they would be interested in future Youth events and lead to them joining Chi Alpha. Stay tuned for more details.

Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God! ..." This verse would lead some to believe that we need to remain still which means not to move forward. However, if we as followers of Christ do not move then how can we follow? In the case of the servant who was given only one talent and buried it, the returning master was furious and called the servant wicked and lazy. To follow Christ is to MOVE forward in the activities Jesus is calling us to join Him. This is how we demonstrate that we trust Him. What activity is Jesus asking you to move forward to?

Heart of Worship

Melissa Eberts, Worship Leader

What do you think about when you think of worship? In my mind, I think of something I adore. I place that something or someone on a pedestal. It gets all my attention!

What comes to mind when you think of worshipping God? For me, I submit my will to His. In my heart of hearts, He is God and I am not. What He says goes. He is the boss!

When we gather together to worship on Sunday mornings, our singing is an act of worship. We're praising God for who He is and what He has done. But we shouldn't worship once a week and then think our worship is over until the following Sunday. Our act of worship on Sunday mornings should be a reflection of our outward expression of worshipping Him throughout the week with our lives!

Romans 12:1 says, "I urge you brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, that you present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true worship."

Paul didn't say, "Meh, once a week for a couple hours is good enough worship for God." He says to lay down your lives as a sacrifice. If you are sacrificing yourself, that tells me that worship may not be easy all the time. To be holy and pleasing to God and living our lives accordingly, might take some sacrifice and giving of ourselves. To give of our time when we're busy. To give of our money when we already had it budgeted out. To give of ourselves for the Gospel when we'd rather do our own thing.

How do we do this when it's hard? We read on to verse two: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. So that you may know and discern the good, pleasing and perfect will of God." (**Rom. 12:2**)

When we renew our minds to God's Word, our minds change from what we want - to what He wants! Let's worship God with everything that we are – including our minds – and be a living sacrifice for Him!

You will get the opportunity to hear this month about our **2023 Mission Trips** that happened in greater detail at our **"One Church One Mission One Service"**, on **October 22nd** at **11:00 a.m.** to hear reports from our different missions teams and their members who spent time serving the Lord this summer.

IMPACT WEEK

As of Saturday 9/23, our church has given 431.5 hours of service to our community. We sugared up the police and first responders, saturated 63044 with the good news of Jesus, served at Loaves and Fishes, cleaned parks, sang at area nursing facilities, did yard work and home repairs and filled our Food Pantry. Thank for all your hard work.

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

As I am writing this, it is technically not fall yet but I love it so much, I start early. I love everything pumpkin spice food created and the beauty of the changing leaves. Are you ready to have some fun in the last quarter of this year? The senior council has come up with some excellent events.

October 6, we will travel to **Foristell to Rush Acres**. This is a **small family farm** with **23 acres** of cozy woods, pasture, a beautiful lake, a rustic farmhouse, a unique family store and a whole bunch of critters! We will eat **lunch** that day at the **Wentzville Family Diner**. The bus will leave at **10:00 am**.

I need **8 of my prime timers** to help pack meals for Feed My Starving Children from **3- 5 pm** on **Thursday, October 12**. The bus will leave at **2:15 p.m.** Please sign up.

On **Monday, October 23**, we will visit the **First State Capital** in St. Charles and then walk across the street for **lunch** at **Lewis and Clark**. The **cost** for the Capital museum tour is **\$5**. There might be a little time for shopping! The bus will leave at **10:00 am**.

Other events to look forward to and mark your calendars include:

Wednesday, November 8, the **Sight and Sound stage production of David** with **lunch** at **11:00 a.m.**

Wednesday – Friday, November 29-December 1, trip to **Branson** including **Thursday night** at **Silver Dollar City** to see the lights. **Cost TBD**

Bible Study

We are back in full swing for all of our **Bible Studies**. We have **Sunday morning Bible study** for all ages at **9:45 a.m.**

On **Wednesday nights**, there is something for everyone from **6 – 7:30 pm**:

AWANA for children on the second floor

Bible Study for youth in the Rafters (3rd floor)

Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall (under the old chapel)

Prayer and Bible study in the Dining Room

During the week, **Bob Foster Small Group** that meets **every other Thursday** at **10:00 a.m.** in the Café and Gloria will be doing an **online Facebook live Bible study every Wednesday** at **9:00 am**.

Hope you will get involved in corporate Bible study. Ask Gloria if you need help choosing with an email or in person!

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

One **very important need** for our Christmas presentation this year is for a tiny baby to be our baby Jesus. It is always our preference to have a real live baby.

So if you know of someone expecting a baby to be born in the next couple of months, please give us contact information as we seek to find a tiny baby for this important role. We need a baby to be available on our **rehearsal and performance dates of Dec. 13 (evening), Dec. 15 (evening), and Dec. 16 & 17 (late afternoon)**.

So you see there are other opportunities to service as we prepare for this event in an effort to bring back a long standing cherished tradition of our church.