



AUGUST 2019



"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common.-Acts 2:42-44"

About two weeks ago, Becky and I returned from a very busy quasi vacation/wedding trip. As we were traveling some back home, many were letting us know of the severe weather that was pummeling the area. We arrived home to find no damage and no power outages, we were very blessed. The next day was Sunday and I started receiving calls and texts concerning whether or not the church had electric and if church was still on for that week. I informed those who had contacted me that I was not sure if there was power at the church, but that we were going ahead with service no matter what. I half-jokingly said that "we would just pretend that we were 1st century Christians." As I thought more and more about that, the above passage came to my mind. Along with the passage, came a question..."What do we truly need to have church?" There were some churches in the Valley that cancelled services that day due to power outages and downed trees. I do not criticize or judge those pastors who made that difficult decision, I have had to make that decision in the past and it is never an easy one. However once again it brought up the question again. If we do not have power, air conditioning, projector, electronic equipment, etc.; does that mean we can't have church? I believe that in the culture/world that we live in we have become so spoiled that we can only go to church when conditions are just right. We attend church when it is convenient, not because we are committed. So, over the next few months in the Newsletter I am going to look back at the 1st century Church and determine what is really needed for "church" to take place.

Let me begin this foray into my question: "What do we truly need to have church?" by defining what the church is and what we do not need. First of all, let us take

a look at the definition of the church. The church is a community made up of people who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ and now are members of a spiritual family. The main purpose of the church is to be witnesses for the Gospel and to build up the members in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. We are to be God's ambassadors and representatives here on earth and we are to be good stewards of all that God has given us. We are to be light, salt, and a city on a hill to the culture and world that we live in; we have been called to be a blessing to the world. Here are some things that we do not need to be a Biblically functioning and God honoring church, that is not to say that these things are not nice to have or that they are wrong to have, but the reality is these things are not necessary to have church. First of all we do not need a children's program or youth program. It is nice to have such things if you are able, but the Word of God tells us in Deuteronomy 6 that the teaching of children and youth in the faith is to be done in the home. It is the responsibility of the parents to teach the children and to raise them in "fear and admonition of the Lord." Secondly, we do not need a bunch of technology and or fancy lights and fog machines to have worship. I am grateful for what we do have at Fox River, it just is not necessary. Thirdly, we do not need fancy buildings and the enormous debt that goes along with it to attract people to our church. I want more than anyone else, a new Kitchen/Fellowship Hall. However, if to have one it would require us to go in debt and possibly have to cut back on some ministries then my answer would be that we need to be satisfied with what we have. Finally, we do not need fancy preaching that is more about entertainment than it is about content. We will never be challenged and changed by weak preaching that only serves to tickle ears and keep the money rolling in. The same can be said of the music as well. We need songs that have right theology and are easy for a congregation to sing, versus sappy dribble that stirs my flesh rather than my spirit, heart, and mind. I believe that our music is well done at Fox River and I hope that the Lord finds the preaching to be to His liking. That being said we always need to be diligent to not give in to the consumerism tendency of the Evangelical Church in America.

So, those are just a few of the things that we do not need; so what do we need? Well, I plan to begin in September to answer that question by looking at four things that the early church had that was essential to its functionality and growth. Those four things are: the Word, fellowship, the Lord's Table, and prayer. I look forward to exploring this with you over the next few months.

*In His Name & For His Glory,
Pastor Tim*

Nursery

7 reasons to work in
the Church Nursery

Reason #1

God is in the church nursery. This may come as a shock, but the Bible has specific promises about God's presence when children are welcomed and loved in Jesus' name.

Reason #2

Your service in the church nursery allows churchgoers to focus on worship, rather than worrying about their children. In a very real sense your ministry makes it possible for the pastor to fulfill his ministry.

Reason #3

The first (and sometimes lasting) feelings a child will have toward church is formed in the nursery department. While not everyone agrees, I believe that a positive experience in the church nursery is essential.

Reason #4

When you serve in the nursery, you are being entrusted with the most important (and vulnerable) members of the church family. There is no greater treasure on this side of heaven than the little ones God has given us. You must be someone special to have a job that is so important.

Reason #5

Your service is essential for your own spiritual growth. You may have never looked at it this way, but a *growing* Christian is always a *serving* Christian. Jesus was known for putting others first, when you serve in the church nursery you are walking in his example.

Reason #6

The church nursery is the first contact young families will have with your church. Your friendly greeting and exceptional care for their children can make a great first impression for your church. If they don't feel like their children are safe, they will not return – and rightly so.

Reason #7

Your service in the church nursery is a powerful opportunity for prayer. If every nursery worker would spend several minutes praying over the children in their care, imagine how God might begin to change this coming generation. There is no better way to create an environment of spiritual nurture than to pray while you serve in the nursery.

Will you consider caring for our little ones on Sunday mornings? If so contact Jeff Middlestead.

Birthdays:

5—Doris Schimke
9--Ray Rudzinski
10-Kyle Tubbs
11-Becky Godfrey
18-Jeff Middlestead
21-Cindy Kempen
23-Morgan Dohms
26-Chris Wynkoop
29-Ron Kempen
29-Carl Swerg
31-Diane Van Loo



Happy Anniversary

5—Scott & Carol Smith
12-Jerry & Gail Kroehler
17-Ray & Ellen Rudzinski
31-Pastor Tim & Becky

St Joseph's Food Pantry

Each month we will collect non-perishable food items. Place your food items on the table provided in the foyer.



Evening Service

*August 4, 5 pm
Ask PT*

August 18, 5 pm

August 11, 5 pm

August 25, 5 pm



Fox River Baptist Vision Statement

We desire that everyone who enters Fox River Baptist Church grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and grow in authentic, loving, familial relationships to make the name of Christ known in our community and world, all for the glory of God and joy of all.

Nursery Schedule



August 4
Jeff Middlestead & Ian Dohms
August 11
August 18
Linda & Hannah Hoffmann
August 25
Rhonda & Anna Dohms

Usher Schedule



August 4
Bob Abitz & Gene Pogreba
August 11
Rob & Sam Mlodzik
August 18
Scott Smith & Ray Rudzinski
August 25
Ron Van Asten & Keith Brown

Financial Update

July 7-28, 2019
Budget needed weekly: \$ 2606.00
Received: \$
Contact Rob Mlodzik with questions.



Online giving is available on the website:
www.foxriverbaptist.com. Contact Bill Olson if you have any questions.

Deaconess of the Month:

Shari Middlestead

Communion is Sunday, August 4

***Fox River Baptist Church
2600 E. Henry Street
Appleton, WI 54915
920-734-6162***

***Website: foxriverbaptist.com
Email: office@foxriverbaptist.com
Office Hours:***

Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon



Backyard Bible & Basketball
Fox River Baptist Church
2700 E Henry Street Appleton, WI 54915
920-734-6162
www.foxriverbaptist.com



Last day: August 9



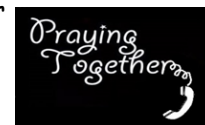
**Operation Christmas Child
Shoebboxes**
BOLO (be on the lookout)



More information to follow in weekly bulletins.

Praises & Prayers

Here at FRBC, we have a prayer chain meant for the sharing of prayer request needs and for sharing praise for the awesome & mighty work God does in our lives. Please feel free to share any praise or request at our new prayer request email address:
prayer@foxriverbaptist.com



Care to be part of the prayer chain? Email or call Shari Middlestead: shari@middlestead.com (920)209-1989 or
Renee Brown: eenner654@gmail.com (920)428-5306