



Fox River Life



September 2023 Newsletter Article

This month's Newsletter article is written by Marshall Segal who is a writer and managing editor at desiringGod.org. He's the author of "Not Yet Married: The Pursuit of Joy in Singleness & Dating." He graduated from Bethlehem College & Seminary. He and his wife, Faye, have three children and live in Minneapolis.

Five Back-to-School Basics

The beginning of August signals the beginning of back-to-school shopping, or at least back-to-school shopping commercials. You may not know it, but whether you are a freshman or senior, you're going to need more than notebooks, pencils, and a strong book bag.

You need truth. Sure, you are going to school, willingly or unwillingly, to learn, but there are truths you need before algebra, literature, and biology. While you should develop good study habits for the new semester, here are some real keys to the classroom you probably will not find in your syllabus.

1. Thinking may be the most critical thing you ever do.

You are going to school to learn how to think, not to pass tests. Whatever Christians do with their lives, whether we eat or drink or run a company or teach second grade or develop software or change diapers, we aim to do it to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). If you have tried it, you know it is rarely simple or obvious how that happens. It requires careful thought and discernment.

Inside this issue

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)1,2,3,
St. Joseph Food bank..	3
Special prayer for CEBU 4	
Children's Church Update5
Deaconess Ministry	
Update...	5
Intentional Discipleship	
Update	6
Schedules	7
Mission Update.....	8
Young at Heart Update	8
Single Women's	
Ministry	8
Birthdays and	
Anniversaries...	9

John Piper writes, “The well-educated person is the person who has the habits of mind and heart to go on learning what he needs to learn to live in a Christ-exalting way for the rest of his life — and that would apply to whatever sphere of life he pursues” (Think, 191–192).

If we are going to apply God’s word to the world, we need to know our world. Every chapter in a history book, every science experiment in the lab, every interaction between classmates is an opportunity to learn about the world God created — the place he especially put us to see him, enjoy him, and help others do the same.

2. The most important book you will read this fall is your Bible.

Because of all the assigned pages, you will be tempted to sideline your Bible reading until the next test has passed, the next paper is done, or the next break is here. Instead, treat your time in the Bible like you treat your meal plan.

Your time soaking in Scripture will be the most fruitful and shaping time of your education. Nothing can replace the wealth you will find there, and nothing will prepare you better for life, family, vocation, or even your next class.

Again, Piper pleads, “Let us labor to memorize the Word of God — for worship and for warfare. If we do not wear it, we cannot wield it. If we do not carry it in our heads, we cannot savor it in our hearts or wield it in the Spirit” (Desiring God, 154).

3. Someone younger than you needs you.

As a teenager, it took me several years to appreciate the influence I had over those younger than me. Sixth graders cannot wait to be eighth graders, who cannot wait to be freshmen, who can’t wait to be juniors, who can’t wait to be in college. So, someone younger than you is watching you, and probably wants to be like you. Whether you choose to be or not, you will be a role model. Why not model Christ-like faith, joy, generosity, and service?

If you were under the impression (2 Timothy 2:2) stops with elder types in the church, remember that Jesus calls all his disciples, without distinction, to be making more disciples (Matthew 28:19).

Keep your eyes open for the guy (if you are a guy) or girl (if you are a girl) trying to find someone to look up to and spend some time and energy to consistently point them even further up to Christ. Think creatively about ways you could invest the gospel and your life into them, and eventually show them how they can do the same for others.

4. Comparison in the classroom can be the birthplace of pride.

God opposes the proud (James 4:6). That is enough to know pride is dangerous, really dangerous. No one opposes God and survives, much less wins. Your pride will defile you (Matthew 7:20-23) and keep you out of the kingdom. Your humility, however, testifies to God’s forgiveness of your sin and his grace at work in you.

The classroom naturally nurtures a culture of comparison. Pride can certainly begin before our education, but school’s grades, awards, and social dynamics seem to breed the wrong kind of competition — a self-seeking kind. And this pride clashes with our Savior’s sacrifice like your dad’s white socks and his favorite sandals.

Your younger years are fertile ground for big dreams. Piper recently encouraged a group of young ambitious dreamers to distinguish between influence and fame. He said it is a good and honorable thing to want to change the world, but it is wicked to want to be known for it.

Let us try and be quick to celebrate others (Romans 12:10), slow to speak, especially about our own successes, and slow to think more highly of ourselves than we ought (Romans 12:3). Remember you are a sinner bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:9-10), and that in all your good papers, projects, and tests, it is God working through

5. Only the gospel saves anyone, even A-students.

Whatever the grades may say, none of us really measures up — no, not one (Romans 3:11-12). Regardless of how hard you work this year, you will fail. You may fail to serve your roommate patiently or steward your time effectively or respect your parents humbly or do your schoolwork faithfully.

Fortunately, every student who trusts in Christ has an advocate before the one with infinitely more power and authority than any teacher, dean, principal, or president (1 John 2:1). God loves you and promises to be with you and help you because his Son died for you, not because of how well you do in school or how many friends you have or how happy your parents are with your performance.

You might have a new computer or a new study partner or an improved living situation or some new resolve to do better, but ultimately your only hope this fall or any fall is the gospel. And that is a really, really strong place to stand and study.

So, whether you are going to walk, drive, or take the bus for the first day of classes, as you pack up, prepare your heart and mind for work. By God's merciful, student-loving grace, this year could be a breakthrough in your personal passion for him, your ministry to others on campus, and your readiness for a long life lived with and for Jesus.

In His Name & For His Glory,

Pastor Tim

Food of the Month Forecast

Jelly

Food is what drives us, and it's no surprise that much of our food supply comes from donations. We welcome nonperishable food items all year long, but sometimes our generous supporters do not know exactly what we need. In order to remove the guesswork around food donations, we are focusing on a specific need each month.

The Goal For this month is 1,000 jars
of Jelly





SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST & PRAISE - Jerame

(She turned 16 years old a few weeks ago!)

Recently, Jerame achieved a remarkable milestone by graduating from Grade 6 at Children of Hope School. Her academic excellence was highlighted as she proudly claimed the title of valedictorian. During the graduation ceremony, she not only delivered an exceptional speech, but also showcased her musical talent by performing a self-composed song with her fellow classmates.

Jerame's journey has been a testament to her unwavering dedication and hard work, as evidenced by her numerous accomplishments. However, it's not just her achievements that define her character. Her infectious smile and laughter have served as beacons of positivity, guiding her through challenges and hardships.

Her playful nature shines through as she enjoys sharing jokes and light-hearted moments. Even during volleyball practice over the summer, she found joy in laughter, whether it was in response to mistakes or miscommunications on her team or the opposing side. What's truly inspiring is her ability to swiftly transition from laughter to focus, using every point as a learning opportunity to improve.

As we observe Jerame's growth, it's evident that she is maturing into a young adult. She approaches challenges with a determined spirit, facing them head-on without hesitation. Her resilience, hard work, and joyful spirit are a source of inspiration to us all.

Please continue to praise God for Jerame's growth and pray for her future, as she embarks on this transition to high school.

Psalms 34: 17-18

“The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Children's Church and Nursery

We are in need of volunteers in the Nursery.

Nursery workers make a huge difference in parent's lives as they make it possible for them to worship and hear God's word with focused attention.

God is in the church nursery. You could be holding the next Moses.

Our FRBC babies are Gilbert Bressler, Ruthann Bressler and Jack Smith

Sign up at the front desk and if you like you can sign up with a buddy too.

Any questions please talk or text Carol Smith 920-475-8727 and Angela Groff 920-659-1932.

Women's Ministry and Deaconess Ministry

In the following months we have many fellowship opportunities and scheduled events planned. We will be posting soon.



DISCIPLESHIP



Intentional Discipleship

As we begin the month of September we are heading back to “School” after a short summer hiatus. On the weekend following Labor Day our Bible Studies and Sunday School will be starting back up. Listed below are the groups and their start up date and topic:

Men & Women’s Saturday Morning Bible Study:

Both of these studies are currently working through books of the Bible. The Men are finishing up Revelation and will be kicking it off with Chapter 21. Even though we are at the end, I would encourage the men to attend so that you can get into the routine of attendance for the next book. For more Information contact either Scott or Ryan Smith. As the men are finishing up a book the ladies have just recently started one before the break, 1 Corinthians. For more Information contact Becky Godfrey, Ellen Rudzinski, or Carol Smith. They are currently in chapter three and so joining now would not be an issue and you would be more than able to catch up. Both studies will begin September 9th at 8:00 am.

Women’s Thursday Afternoon Bible Study:

The Thursday Women’s study will begin on September 14th at 1:00. They will be starting their study on 1 Peter. For more information on this study and the content, please contact Nancy Wildenberg.

Sunday School:

We will be continuing our Sunday School Curriculum this fall as we are in Unit 18 The Church Begins. We are picking up where we left off this summer in Lesson 173. The books are available in the Fellowship Hall and if you are able put \$5 in the offering plate per book. For more information contact Scott Smith.



Sunday Evening Services Schedule

September 3—Ask Pastor Tim @ 5:00pm

September 10—Prayer @ 5:00pm

September 17—Solus Christus @ 5:00pm

September 24—Prayer @ 5:00 pm



Financial Update 2023
Budget needed weekly: \$ 2836.35
Received: \$ 2,289.25 per week
Contact Mark Wildenberg with questions.



Women's Prayer
Wednesdays at 9:30am

Women's Bible Study
Thursdays at 1:00pm

Men's & Women's
Bible Study
Saturdays at 8am

Connect
WITH OUR
CHURCH FAMILY



September 3

Ryan Smith

September 10

Pat Groff

September 17

Christopher Smith

September 24

Ray Rudzinski



Please contact Carol Smith at
(920) 788-9795
to volunteer for Nursery

Missions

“Go Ye into all the World, and preach
the Gospel to every creature.”

Mark 16:15

MISSIONS BOARD

Missions Board will meet August 28th at 6:30 to review the Yearly Update forms, which have been returned by each of our missionaries. We hope to have good highlights for you in the upcoming Missions Spotlights.

Young at Heart will be providing our monthly service at Care Partners on Thursday September 7th at 1030 am. If you would be interested in joining us, please see Lynn Abitz at 920-788-9482



Single Women's Ministry

The **Single Women's Ministry** will be meeting on August 13 after church Service, meet at Game Day at 11:30am

Any questions please contact Gail Kroehler at 920-731-7739.

FRBC 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.



01—Rob Mlodzik

01—Rhonda Dohms

10—RuthAnn Bressler

15—Mindy Porier

29—Laura Bressler

25— Dan And Judy Waggoner

Fox River Baptist Church

**2700 East Henry Street
Appleton, WI 54915**

Phone: 920-734-6162

E-mail: office@foxriverbaptist.com

Website: foxriverbaptist.com

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday
& Thursday - 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm**



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 Becky Godfrey at
becl.godfrey@gmail.com —
(920) 277-1526