

First Baptist Church of Oakville
 6741 Telegraph Road,
 St. Louis, MO, 63129



The Southern Baptist Convention meets in Nashville Tennessee, June 14th & 15th. Please pray for the work of our Convention as messengers meet to fellowship, worship, and discern God's for the missionary endeavors of our Southern Baptist Convention.



JOHN'S JOTS

May has given us a time to **CELEBRATE**. After 15 months of unimaginable restrictions, cancellations, and closures, there was an opportunity to honor our Mothers and to observe Pentecost Sunday. We conclude the month by observing Memorial Day. The Memorial Day tradition is much more than the doorway to Summer. We are reminded of people in our lives, people we have loved and lost, and how precious life itself is. I hope you will do more than just have a family bar-b-que to celebrate this Memorial Day. Pause to thank God for the lives that have touched yours, and to pray for the lives your life is touching. Of course, every Sunday worship service should be a celebration—of God's love, our fellowship, and His grace. But some Sundays are special. And those May Sundays were!

Speaking of Pentecost Sunday—That day marks the inauguration of the Holy Spirit's empowerment of the New Testament Church. Jesus enlisted His disciples to share the Gospel, and the Holy Spirit empowered them to accomplish it. His work still empowers our Church today. Pentecost marks the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to His disciples in the Upper Room, and to the New Testament Church today. I am both pleased and grateful we celebrated Pentecost!

Sunday, June 6th, we will continue the celebration as we recognize our High School and College graduates. Please call Nancy if you have students you would like to honor that Sunday.


Our Quarterly Business Meeting is Sunday evening, June 13th. Plan to join us as we consider several issues, such as when to resume Sunday School and a revised schedule, whether to have a children's Soccer Camp/VBS, and an update from the Vision Committee. We will meet in the Worship Center once again.

Sunday, June 20th, we will celebrate **Fathers Day**, and we will honor our fathers, present and remembered, that day. Like Mothers Day, Fathers Day stirs up different emotions, based on your own relationship with your father, and whether he is still alive or not. But it is important to recall that **Father** is the way Jesus chose to explain our relationship with God. We will honor our Fathers or their memory that Sunday as we worship **Our Father who art in Heaven**.

Katie Brumbaugh and Sean McGinnis are our Summer interns. We welcome Katie in her third year and Sean in his first year in that valuable role this Summer. They will work with children and youth, as well as assist with several mission projects. Please pray for Katie and Sean—they have some busy Summer days ahead.

On a personal note, I am grateful that my house sold, and we sealed the deal this week. That helps me bring closure to a long and wonderful, but ultimately painful, chapter in my life. I will always love and remember Brenda. But as I focus on the future, with Barb in my heart and by my side, I am reminded again that life is a precious gift, and it should be celebrated while we can. Life also is sweeter when it is shared. I have much to celebrate in my life, and I pray there is cause to celebrate in yours. Lets rejoice together—come next Sunday!

Gratefully, Pastor John

June Birthdays 

Angela McManus.....	4
Jubilee Emmons.....	6
Becky Berghold.....	7
Paul Muser.....	9
Diane Borghesi.....	11
Andrew Hoffman.....	11
Darrell Stack.....	11
Rachel Sullivan.....	13
Tony Pezzo.....	23
Terry Emmons.....	30

God Bless You on Your Birthday!

Coming In June

Building and Grounds Meeting (8-11 AM)	5
Church Council Meeting(Noon).....	6
Graduate Recognition.....(AM).....	6
Deacons Meeting.....(5:00 pm).....	13
Business Meeting.....(6:00 pm).....	13
Flag Day.....	14
Father's Day.....	20
Rich Townsend preaching	
Ladies Luncheon.....(Date to be determined)...	

GWEN'S Gallery

Active Defense by Lynette Eason

When former field surgeon Heather Fontaine returns from a party to find that someone has broken into her house—and threatened her friends—she assumes it is the stalker who has been creeping her out. She hopes to find safety and peace of mind by leaving the city and hiding out in a small town. But trouble follows her even there.

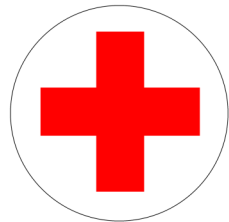
Luckily, a stalker isn't the one observing Heather. Travis Walker has been secretly watching out for her for weeks. As owner of his own security agency, it's what he does. Together, Travis and Heather must figure out who wants her dead—and why—before it's too late.

From This Moment by Kim Vogel Sawyer

As someone who spent his entire childhood adrift in the foster-care system, Jase Edgar always dreamed of one day putting down roots and starting his own family. But when his fiancée is killed in a tragic accident, his plans and sense of purpose are shattered. An opportunity to serve as a youth pastor in Kansas might be his chance for a fresh start, but he can't seem to set aside his doubts long enough to fully embrace his new life. After all, how can a God who's supposed to be good allow such terrible things to happen?

Lori Fowler is battling her own challenges. Due to a strained relationship with her father and a hidden eating disorder, she's never been sure she is worthy of love. She conceals her insecurities beneath her spunky personality, and even her best friend, Kenzie Stetler, a former Amish woman living apart from her family in the English world, doesn't realize how desperate Lori is for change.

When a donation to Kenzie's weaving project leads to a puzzling mystery, the lives of these three people will intersect in ways no one ever expected. The journey will require courage . . . if they ever hope to release the past and move forward into a joyful future.



WMU Reports Blood Drive Success

On May 24th, our WMU ladies hosted another Red Cross Blood Drive. In all, 42 people offered to donate blood. A few had to be turned away for medical reasons, but the Red Cross workers were able to collect 38 pints of blood.

That is almost FIVE gallons of donated blood! That blood will be used to save countless lives of people suffering injuries or going through dangerous surgeries. Among those donating were several neighbors and friends, but I am very grateful for the number of our own members who *rolled up their sleeves* to help a stranger in need.

Thank you to our WMU volunteers who led in this ministry effort, and those who worked during the blood drive. Well done!!

Kidz Praise . . .

During the last school year, we focused on Bible basics. Now that the summer has come, we are going to take a more emotional look at the Bible.

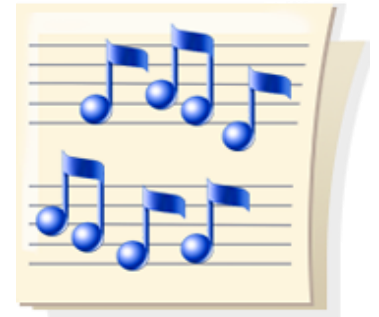
We will be learning about what God says about emotions such as joy, bitterness, envy, and sorrow. Please say a prayer for these kids as we hit some hard feelings.

We praise God by loving one another and we show that love through RESPECT.

Cyndi Harmon



A Note from John Minister of Worship John Gorse



Greetings Everyone,

FBCO Building History as I know it:

It is a very exciting time at FBCO as for the first time in many years we are entering a building program as approved in our last special business meeting. As I look back it is great to see how God has blessed FBCO from its inception. My understanding as the story is told that FBCO was meeting in the Clendenins home and some members went out to look for some ground and came upon a farm that was located on a hill at 6741 Telegraph Rd and they knocked on the door and asked if the farmer would consider selling ground for a church. He and his wife thought about it and eventually agreed that a church would be a good thing for the area and FBCO had a farmhouse and a garage and I believe 17 acres. The farmhouse was used for services and Sunday School and Training Union and RA's and GA's along with the garage for many years and they were both used for a Halloween Spook House annually that included a surgery scene and a casket that was very convincing and scary and witnessed by a very young Johnny Gorse. But I digress.

Soon after acquiring the farm and land, I believe plans were drawn up for our sanctuary building and in 1960/61 the building was started. I believe a great part of the construction costs were provided by bonds that were sold out in one afternoon. Much of the building was built by men in the church as the ladies would provide meals. A deacon by the name of Virgil Mossberger borrowed a crane from where he worked and the men of the church installed all the trusses and the steeple over a weekend for the roof. Dr Don Wideman was our pastor during this exciting time and other names that come to mind are Warren Nicely who was the architect, Millard Sadler, Norm Partney, Grayden White, my father John Gorse, Gene Crites, Mel Novell, Bob Renner, Lou Clemons, Doyne Bailey, Mr Schaffer, Bill Smith, The Nappiers, The Parkers, The Pogues, The Landes, The Lynns, The Gobles, The Sanders, The Fears, The Alexanders and the Clendenins along with many many others that I'm not remembering or not aware of. Feel free to remind me. My point being that God was providing and preparing FBCO to be the light on the hill to the surrounding Oakville area that was mostly farms of cattle and crops and open areas and 2 lane roads and probably under 5,000 people that would grow to over 36,100 as reported in the 2010 census.

It is told that these early years of the church were very harmonious and a strong sense of a working together as everyone strived to do their part in building a church building that would house the "True Church" which is God's people as they worship and teach to equip each other to be able to reach the growing community. I thank those that had the faith to seek Gods Will and step out on faith to purchase the land that FBCO sits on today. I thank all the families and men and women that worked tirelessly to build our sanctuary, many of whom have gone on to be with the Lord. Through their giving of money and sweat and toil our sanctuary has been the place where countless souls that have become Christians and followed the Lord in baptism of which I am one and my son Justin to make it personal, along with others in my family. For that I am eternally grateful to God and FBCO.

Feel free to let me know of other memories you may have of these early years of our church as I think it is always good to remember how God has provided and sustained us through the years. Next month, Building History PHASE II: *We Need A Building Addition*. It is so good to see both services increasing in numbers and getting to see some folks that haven't been able to attend in person in over a year. Welcome back, and hopefully the light at the end of the tunnel is that we will be resuming all of the church ministries at the end of the summer.

May God Continue to Bless Abundantly and I LOVE YOU ALL,

John Gorse