

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GIVING: You can give online through our website, or you can simply mail a check to the church (P.O. Box 157 - Lowell, MI 49331).

FBC READING PLAN: Monthly reading plans are available at the Welcome Center and online. We also publish the FBC Reading Plan Podcast weekly that follows our reading plan. You can access that on our website or any popular podcasting platform.

YOUTH GROUP: Monday's 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Upper Room.

D-GROUPS: We are encouraging D-Groups to meet. Please email or call Pastor Jon or Pastor Andrew if you are interested in joining a D-Group.

BRIDAL SHOWER: Bridal shower for Hailey Hutchinson. Hailey and Tyler Ritchie will be married in August. They are registered at Amazon; Bed, Bath & Beyond; and Crate & Barrel. Ladies, please join us on Thursday, July 29 at 6:00 p.m. to shower blessings on this wonderful couple.

AWANA: There will be a brief meeting on August 22 for anyone who is interested in knowing more about Awana and what it looks like to be a volunteer in the Awana program.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: August 7 @ 8:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Room in the basement of the main building. After breakfast, there will be a devotional and a time for prayer.

OUTDOOR SERVICES: We will be having outdoor services on August 15 and August 29, bring your lawn chair and join us at the outdoor stage.

CHURCH PICNIC: We will be having a church picnic following the service on August 29.

Did you know that we have a weekly podcast that provides some teaching to help you as you read through our Bible Reading Plan? You can access it through our website or watch your email. If you are not receiving emails from the church, please let us know so we can fix the problem.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

July 25, 2021

"Planting Plentiful Gospel Seed"

Pastor Andrew Bolkcom
Matthew 13:1-23

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Thank you for joining us for worship today. We desire to be as helpful as possible during your visit.

Children's programming, birth through 3rd grade is provided during the worship service. Please visit one of the Child Check-In Stations for more information.

We know that the past months have been somewhat of a challenge for everyone, including churches. We genuinely desire to honor the Biblical command to gather as a church, to respect the authorities over us that have been established by God, to love another through acts of kindness and sacrifice, and to be a community of love, joy, and hope for this world to know that Jesus Christ is indeed the eternal Son of God. As we navigate these times together, we want to do so with love, grace, and kindness. We look forward to worshipping our God together!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

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contact@fbclowell.org

www.fbclowell.org

Pastor Jon Pickens, Lead Pastor

Pastor Andrew Bolkcom, Pastor of Discipleship

Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries

FBC Prayer Page (July 25, 2021)

People Concerns:

- George Raimer: Pray for George and his family as they grieve the passing of Sue.
- Cheryl Haines as she recovers from shoulder surgery.
- Pray for Gloria Ossewaarde. Her health has declined over the years from Alzheimer's and now the family is faced with difficult decisions.
- Pray for Bob and Patty Copeland: Pray for Patty's sister, Linda-her blood work came back with concerns. Pray that she will be able to continue as Patty's donor and for her health concerns..
- Rudy Blattner had a couple of seizures and is currently hospitalized.
- Betty Deans rehab for a broken arm.
- Dave Pasquale was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, please be in prayer for his family as they have many decisions to make.
- Dale Reed has lung disease and has difficulty sleeping and breathing.
- Pray for those who are feeling isolated and lonely during this time.
- Pray for hurting families and struggling marriages.
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Community Concerns:

- Pray for those in our community that have been impacted by COVID.
- Pray for peace in our nation now that the election has taken place.
- Pray that God's people will show grace, peace, and patience as we continue to navigate a pandemic that affects most aspects of our life.

Church Concerns:

- Pray for our church to continue to weather this storm. Pray that our response to all that is happening around us would honor God and demonstrate a God-inspired love for one another.
- Pray for the elders as they discuss and make decisions about the immediate and long-term ministry strategies we will implement.
- Pray for God's provision financially as we continue to face more and more challenges.

Missionary Concerns:

- Seth and Becca Mallay: Irene has been diagnosed with inflammatory bowel disease. Pray that she will improve and not require long-term

steroid treatment and that they can be with the rest of the family for Irene's birthday at the end of this month.

- Mike and Monica Pasquale: Pray for Alex and Daniel and their spiritual growth and maturity and wisdom. And pray as the family continues to try to develop relationships with their neighbors. There are three neighbors in particular that they are earnestly praying for.
- Roy and Joanne Schwartz: Pray for the outreach of Beth Sar Shalom at Moody Church which is designed to bring together Jews and non-Jews to proclaim the Good News of Israel's promised Messiah.
- Marilyn VandenAkker: Praise: Both Pastor Vaye's wife and Thomas' wife seem to be doing well. Please continue to pray for their physical and monetary needs. "Living in Liberia is very difficult at this time, not only due to COVID, but other health concerns including Malaria, and then financial needs."
- Bill and Sue Green: Sue is home from the hospital now with several antibiotics. Pray that her body will begin to respond to the diuretic treatments as her biggest challenge is fluid retention. Praise: Camp is going well with volunteers covering their roles.
- John and Paula Dannenberg: Praise: Thirty-two people were baptized on July 10! Pray for wisdom for John as he designs a new member class that will be a practical foundation for their spiritual growth.
- Shirley Hossack: Pray for her as she seeks God's direction after Eric's death.
- Ron and Chris Self: Pray for those who govern Argentina as they make important decisions that affect many lives. The COVID situation there continues to be critical.
- Rich and Karyn Visser: Praise: Covid restrictions are lifting in France and they've attended their church's worship service in person. Rich preached and they were able to connect with folks they hadn't seen in a while.
- Steve and Sue Mayo: Currently in the states. Pray for safety in their travels.
- Jasson and Kim Farmer: Pray for safe travels as they visit their supporting churches in the western part of the U.S.
- Wolfgang and Kelly Grotendiek: Pray for Wolfgang as he works to ferry aircraft down to Missouri with the help of pilot friend John Redmond, and that John and his wife Julie will join! Aeroplanes and become official co-workers.
- Andrew and Leah Postema: Praise: The container made it to the campsite and has been unloaded!
- Timothy and Laura Compton: Their original flights were canceled and have been rescheduled for August 5. They are still waiting for visa approval. Their passports are currently in a DC office. Pray that their visas are approved and back to them in time for them to leave on the 5th.