



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

January 8, 2023

"A Church Devoted to Scripture"

Pastor Jon Pickens

Acts 2:42

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GIVING: You can give online through our website, drop your offering in one of the two offering boxes in the lobby, or you can simply mail a check to the church (P.O. Box 157 - Lowell, MI 49331).

LIFE GROUPS: A Life Group is a hospitable environment where we connect with God and with one another by sharing life together. You can view open groups and sign up at fbclowell.churchcenter.com.

FAITH AT HOME CENTER: At the Faith at Home Center, there are resources to help build your family's faith. We believe parents have the primary responsibility of growing their child's faith. We want to provide you with useful resources to help. Resources are updated monthly so that you can build a family rhythm.

ANNUAL MEETING: January 15 at 11:00 am in the auditorium.

EVANGELISM TRAINING: We want to equip our people to be disciple-makers, which means we must share the gospel regularly with others. So we will have an evangelism training on January 28th from 9 am-2 pm with lunch provided.

NEW ADDRESS: Bill and Sue Green have moved! Their new address is 355 Cherry St., Freeport, MI 49325

MISSIONS TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING: Today after the service there will be an informational meeting for a missions trip to Brazil this summer. The purpose of the meeting is to go into more detail about the trip and to gauge interest.

Past messages are available online at www.fbclowell.org

This Week @ FBC

MONDAY (Church Office Closed)

6:30 pm Youth Group
5:00 pm Missions Team Meeting

TUESDAY

6:00 pm Tae Kwon Do (Gym)

WEDNESDAY

6:15 pm Awana (Nickel Night)

THURSDAY

7:00 pm Administrative Deacon Meeting
7:00 pm Mercy Deacon Meeting
7:00 pm Volleyball (Gym)

ELECTIVE SERIES (Starting January 22)

Christian Sexuality-Andrew Bolkcom Fellowship Room

"Should I live with my boyfriend?" "What are your pronouns?" "Why doesn't your church have women pastors?" "Is it ok to be single?" These are the sorts of questions that are common in our world today. They also seem to be of the utmost importance and urgency in our world. Most of all, they are all rooted in one's understanding of the human body, sexuality, and gender. In this class, we give a Christian framework for understanding the human body and human relationships. Then we explore the many different questions surrounding these topics today.

10 Commandments-Mike Sullivan Room 13

What does it look like to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself? The 10 commandments give us a practical foundation to follow the greatest commandment. As well, the 10 commandments are a stark reminder that we cannot keep God's law in our own strength, yet we are invited to a life of wisdom and peace by the power of the Holy Spirit. Join us as we learn together!

Membership Class- Pastor Jon Pickens Family Room (February 12-March 12)

FBC Prayer Page

People Concerns:

- Pray for the family of Nancy McGill as they grieve.
- Pray for the family of Geri Conner as they grieve.
- Pray for the Beach family as they grieve the passing of Eileen.
- Sue Green has been transferred to Detroit. She has not received a transplant yet, and her sodium levels need to be higher and be sustained before they will even offer her a liver. Pray that her sodium levels come up and stay up.
- Pray for Randy and the Ossewaarde's. They have started discussions with Hospice (not life-ending discussions) concerning Gloria. Overall, Gloria remains in fair health. Randy has been diagnosed with a type of slow-growing cancer in his gum area. He will be having surgery to remove cancer and repair his gums on January 12th. Pray for a successful surgery and recovery.
- Myrtis Thut had surgery and everything went well. They were able to remove the cancerous tumor. Pray for her as she recovers.

Community Concerns:

- Pray for a spiritual awakening for those within our community.
- Pray that FBC would be obedient to God's mission to reach others with the Gospel of Jesus and to genuinely love our neighbors.
- Pray for peace in our nation.

Church Concerns:

- Pray for a group from our church who are planning an outreach opportunity for this winter. It will involve inviting people to a neutral spot to talk about worldview and faith.
- Pray for God's provision of our financial needs and wisdom for the leadership as we plan for the new year.

Missionary Concerns:

- Seth and Becca Mallay: Continue to **Pray** for the Mallay family as they minister among the people of Togo, West Africa.
- Mike and Monica Pasquale: **Pray** for much wisdom in parenting, juggling responsibilities, and in caring for their families. **Pray** that God would cause them to find their ultimate joy, satisfaction, and fulfillment in Him, and help them rest in Him as they seek His plan and timing.
- Roy and Joanne Schwartz: **Pray** for an elderly couple who are aging and causing them to be more tender to the things of God as He continues to soften their hearts and open their eyes to His love and grace in their lives.
- Marilyn VandenAkker: **Pray**: She is thankful for fellowship with other women at church every Tuesday. It is her desire that others will be encouraged to pray for the Liberian people.
- John and Paula Dannenberg: **Pray** for stability and true peace since there are rumors of unrest and military threats. Also, even though the Seminary has gone through all the proper steps to get electricity connected to the campus, they are still without power.

- Shirley Hossack: **Pray** for her as she continues to live in France and minister as she is able to.
- Ron and Chris Self: They are thankful for the many visitors who attended the Christmas Musical last week. **Pray** that the Holy Spirit would continue to use the gospel in the hearts of those who heard, bringing them to repentance and conversion.
- Rich and Karyn Visser: **Praise**: Two members of one of the national churches are considering training to serve the Lord in full-time Christian work. The end of the year is always the time they give gifts of gospel calendars to neighbors and acquaintances. **Pray** that they will be receptive and that some would come to Christ.
- Steve and Sue Mayo: **Praise**: Church members are answering the call into missions-whether short or long-term missionaries. **Pray** for several who are preparing to serve in different countries. Also, **pray** for Sue as she fights cancer and recovers from surgery.
- Jasson and Kim Farmer: **Praise**: Nathan is getting closer to being trained for ministry flights, and Kaleb is able to visit for three weeks over Christmas and New Year's. **Pray** they will be able to make one of the airstrips that has been closed for a couple of years usable again.
- Wolfgang and Kelly Grotendiek: **Praise**: Wolfgang's repairs on the main hangar facility have kept out critters and rain over the past year. **Pray: Due to changing regulations, Missionary Aeroplanes needs to restructure and streamline its fleet.**
- Andrew and Leah Postema: **Praise**: Daughter Rose will be visiting them on her Christmas break from Moody. **Pray** that Andrew will be able to find a trusted person to stay at the land so they can get some relief from that task this winter.
- Timothy and Laura Compton: Tim and two others have identified 19 districts in Chiang Rai that are void of a church presence. They have started meeting with some of the leaders from the Northern Thailand Pastor and Leader Conference to brainstorm on how to reach these people and have a plan to focus on one district in 2023. **Pray** as they pool resources and talents and focus on one village for one year.