



# The Sower

May 2024

[www.fbcmtown.org](http://www.fbcmtown.org)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Page	2
Counseling	2
Music	3
Senior Adults	3
Young Adults	3
Children & Youth Min.	4
Year-Long Preview	5-6
March Calendar	7
Acknowledgements	8

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## PARKING LOT *Summer Jam*

### FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERTS AND FLAVAVILLE FOOD TRUCK

#### *Atone Band, May 31*

The Atone Band brings Classic Motown and R&B Hits! Featuring Donna Wilson and Dorissa Hobbs.

#### *River Cities Band, June 21*

The River Cities Concert Band has been entertaining Louisvillians for 40+ years! This year's program is certain to delight folks of all ages!

#### *Gabe Close Band, July 19*

The Gabe Close Band features this young Louisville-based Singer/Songwriter and Friends! Need a little Dylan in your life? This is your band!

#### *Breakroom Microwave, August 16*

Breakroom Microwave is a Louisville band so new we can't even define it yet! Is it a cover band? A pop band? Country/folk/reggae/funk? Come and find out!

## DETAILS

**Parking Lot Summer Jam** calls 11721 Main Street home in Historic Middletown. **FLAVAVILLE FOOD TRUCK** will be serving their specialties at reduced prices for these events **ONLY**. Playground for the kids. Bring a chair. Family friendly. No cover charge! Food truck: 6-7:30; Band: 7-9. **FREE** water bottles! Rain moves into Celebration Hall, 11711 Main Street. More details? Email [jacobban@fbcmtown.org](mailto:jacobban@fbcmtown.org).



## Pastor's Page

### Dr. Jim Cobban

May is finally here and great things are coming for us!

We have to say "farewell" to Tammy at the end of this month. See the Music Ministry column for all the details. But, we are also saying "welcome" to Julie Halitzka as our next Interim Director of Music and Worship! Details on page 3.

Friday, May 31, will be our FIRST PARKING LOT SUMMER JAM! We have been planning this event since January! Join me in praying for great weather – but we will just move into Celebration Hall if we need to. Here are the details . . .

© Flavaville Food Truck will be here at 6 p.m. to start serving. I don't yet know the menu, but the church is kicking in a little money to discount the price – so come and eat with your friends! The church will provide water bottles. The food truck will pull out about 7:30 so don't get here too late! I'm hoping we will have a bake sale table open! YUM!!

© Bring an outdoor chair. This is a casual, informal event! The playground will be open for the kids and we will bring some outdoor games to play! No tickets necessary! Restrooms will be open in Celebration Hall.

© The band for this first concert is ATONE! They bring Motown and R&B hits with singers Donna and Dorissa! The concert will start around 7:00 and go to about 9:00.

© Bring your friends. This event is scheduled for one major purpose: to get acquainted with new folks. Help us to make that dream a reality by inviting your friends and family.

Also in May . . .

Sunday, May 26, we will walk to the War Memorial in Wetherby Park following the morning service for a time of remembrance of all our veterans and those who died in military service. Plan to join us for this meaningful moment in our church's life.

The Mother's Day Service on May 12, will be a little different this year. We will celebrate the dedication of several new babies in our church family. And our own youth and children will be leading the service. I'm so proud of all our young people and they will bless us all with their ministries that day!

I'm loving having Wednesday night suppers back! So many folks have pitched in and the food is great! Please plan to join us on Wednesdays for a great meal and then stay for choir or Bible study. Our Bible study group is growing, too! As the commercial used to say, "Try it! You'll like it!"

On behalf of your whole church staff, we feel blessed to serve such a joyful congregation. If you miss a worship service, you are missing the best way to start your week. Come every chance you get and bring some folks with you.

## Counseling Ministry

### Rev. Jay Close, Pastoral Counselor

#### 5 Reasons to Meditate

You might say that your life is too busy to meditate! Being still is a waste of time, there's work to be done! Maybe you tried to meditate but couldn't do it. Consider these thoughts:

1. "Be Still and Know God" says that being still might be the way to know God.
2. Meditating is choosing something to focus on intentionally instead of letting the world jerk your attention around with shiny things and advertisements.
3. To meditate is to clear your mind, to let it settle. Like mud in water, when it gets still, it gets clearer.
4. Meditating while being still is good for your nervous system. It retrains your mind from being reactive to being calm and peaceful.
5. To meditate is to just be still for awhile. When you are still it can calm the mind and rest the body.

## Wednesday Dinner Re-Start!

### Christine Kimmel, Director Council Chair

#### Wednesday Dinners for May

**5/1**—Grilled Pork Chops, The Goose Eatery, Setup/Cleanup—Charles White and Emily King, Dessert—Linda Durkin and Emily King.

**5/8**—Blair Close making the dinner, Setup/Cleanup—Jenny Mullins and Kelle Sorrell, Dessert—Jenny Mullins and Susan Bowles

**5/15**—Chicken and Pork BBQ, Mark's Feed Store, Setup/Cleanup—Terry Hildreth, Christine Kimmel, Dessert—Terry Hildreth

**5/22**—John Bloomer making the dinner, Setup/Cleanup—Justine Rostel and Wanda Lambdin, Dessert—Nancy Boyd and Blair Close

**5/29**—Cristi and Jim Cobban making the dinner, Setup/Cleanup—Terry Hildreth and Donna Strader, Dessert—Terry Hildreth

**If you are unable to do the cooking, Setup/Cleanup, or bring a dessert, please call the church office and let Mary know.**

## The Music Ministry

Tammy Gibson, Interim Music Director

### From the Pastor . . .

*I have commandeered the Music column this month to share with you some really good news.*

*First, I know we are all grateful to have had Tammy Gibson with us since the first of February. She has been a great blessing to just step right in and guide through the first few months of this transition. Fortunately for her (and unfortunately for us!) she is retiring from JCPS at the end of the school year. She wants to REALLY retire so she is leaving us, too, after the Memorial Day Weekend service. Tammy has been just what we needed and I am beyond grateful for her. Please join me in wishing her "Happy Retirement" and a hearty "Thank You" from First Baptist.*

*Knowing Tammy's retirement was coming, your personnel committee has been working many hours on securing our next Interim Director of Music and Worship. We are happy to announce we have hired Mrs. Julie Halitzka to fill this very important role. Julie heard about us through Susan Bowles, her work colleague, and sent us a resume some months ago.*

*Julie is a native of New Jersey, but she ended up in Iowa at Cornell College, where she majored in music and minored in psychology. From there, she landed at Parkview Church in Iowa City, a very large multi-campus church near the University of Iowa. She was responsible for the Thursday night college worship service and worked with many volunteers and staff members. There she met her husband, George, who was also on the staff. Julie started an online Master of Divinity in Worship from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and eventually, she and George moved to Louisville to complete the degree in-person at the seminary. She graduated in May, 2011.*

*For the past twelve years, Julie was on the music staff of St. John United Methodist Church in Prospect. She led the contemporary worship services, the handbell choir, sang in the Sanctuary Choir, and did much of the technical work related to worship. The church downsized their staff in January of this year, just about the time Susan told her of Leslie's imminent retirement.*

*While in Louisville, Julie did a lot of work in early childhood education, and completed a Master of Science degree in Early Childhood Studies, Administration, Management, and Leadership. She works full-time for the University of Kentucky Child Care Aware program where she helps families and centers in quality improvement.*

*She is married to George who is a professional actor and acting coach with schools and camps. His company's website is DramabyGeorge.com.*

*Julie has been hired for an average of seventeen hours per week and her responsibilities will include all worship services, coordination of all ensembles, working with the youth and children in music programs, and choir rehearsal.*

*I feel so blessed that we have been led to Julie and she to us. Her first day on the job will be Tuesday, May 28. Her work as Interim Director will continue into the foreseeable future. Please help me welcome Julie and George to First Baptist Church!*



## Senior Adult Ministry

Lisa Harvey & Justine Rostel

*~JoyRide - for the Joy of Christian Fellowship!!~*

Ladies Bible Study will resume Thursday, May 2nd, at 10am. We will be studying the Gospel of Mark. Just bring your Bible no other books are needed. Please contact Lisa Harvey if you have any questions. 502-439-0609.



— Live Longer and Love It!

Last month we went west. This month we are heading east. On Tuesday, May 14, our destination is Little Mount Lavender, located at 6905 Shelbyville Road in Simpsonville, KY. They started their spring/summer menu in April, and depending on the weather, we could eat inside or outside. We will need to call for table reservations the day before, so please be sure you sign up early. After lunch, we will have some time to browse through the gift areas. The van will be leaving church at 10:30 a.m. \$3 donation requested. The sign up sheet is on the table outside the church office. If you have any questions, please see Lisa Harvey or Justine Rostel. We are looking forward to you joining us!



## Children's Ministry

Susan Bowles, Minister of Children

**May 11-** Join us for a First Baptist Workday, 9-12 Hot, Fresh Doughnuts provided. Just like at home, there is always work that needs to be done. Work, eat, serve, and fellowship all at the same time. What a great opportunity. I'll be looking for you.

**May 12** is a very special day for us:

-Our Preschoolers and Children will honor our Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, or other significant females with a light breakfast in Fellowship Hall before Sunday School. Come join us beginning at 9:15-9:45. Then we are off to Bible Study. -Also, we will participate as a church family in a Baby and Family Dedication during our Worship service.

If your family would like to participate please let me know ASAP. You may email me or call me at 502-594-5078.

**May 17-** Church Wide Movie Night, our first of the year. Our start time will be about 7 pm depending upon the Sun. We will gather in the parking lot, on the side near the portico. We will block off the main entrance from Main Street nearest the church building for safety purposes. The movie is to be announced. If you have a suggestion for the movie, let me know. Bring your chair and snacks. Popcorn and ice cream will be provided. Don't miss out.

**May 19-** Vacation Bible School Leadership Mtg., immediately following worship. Light lunch will be provided. Our VBS is June 9-13. Dinner at 5:30, VBS, 6-8 pm. I am still recruiting for a Recreation Leader, Preschool Teachers, and Decorators (in advance of VBS). If asked, are you willing to say YES? If you can't assist during VBS, then you can still participate. How you may be asking, PRAY, PRAY, PRAY. Beginning now, pray for leaders, families, as well as, for the boys and girls God sends our way.

**May 31-** Our first Summer Concert and Food Truck event from 5-7. Don't miss out the playground will be open for kiddos and other fun things to do.

**June 2-** There will be an outdoor worship service and a picnic to follow. There will be yummy food and plenty of games and fun. I hope to see YOU there.

**A HUGE SHOUT OUT AND THANK YOU TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT IN WORDS, ACTIONS, AND FINANCIALS FOR OUR CHILDREN'S CAMP FUNDRAISERS. YOU ARE AWESOME!**

Our children, youth, and their families greatly appreciate you.

In Christ's love and joy,

Susan

## Youth Ministries

Directors of Student Ministries

Hello Church Family,

Thank you church family for making our annual casserole brunch and dessert auction a huge success. We had a great crowd and lots of yummy treats to share with you! We raised over \$2,900! We are also preparing a very special Mother's Day Service spotlighting our youth. We hope to see you there to support their efforts in preparing for that special day.

Youth Families—mark your calendars for May 19th! We will meet after the service to enjoy a day of fun before a meal at Tim and Kelle Sorrell's home. More information to come. That day will be our last weekly U-Connect gathering before we break to allow our youth and families to enjoy the summer. We will have more information in the coming months about our August Kick-Off event to welcome our new youth members!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for our ministry. We couldn't do it without your love, prayers and support.

Blessings,

The CLT Team, Jenny, Emily, Jaxon, Tim

## Young Adults Ministry

Rev. Gabe Close, Minister of Young Adults

**Parking Lot Summer Jam:** We'll be starting our Parking Lot Summer Jam series on May 31st at 6:00PM. The Atone Band will be playing Motown & R/B Hits from 7-9PM and we'll have a food truck from 6-7:30PM. There will also be games in the parking lot and the event is FREE! Bring a friend and join us on May 31st!

# 2024



# CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

## May

6 Monday, Widows and Widowers Night Out, 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall

12 Sunday, Mother's Day and Baby Dedication, Children and Youth Led Service



14 Tuesday, Joy Ride going to Little Mount Lavendar

17 Friday, Family Movie Night on our parking lot

31 Friday, Parking Lot Summer Jam and Flavaville Food Truck: 6:00-9:00, Featuring the Atone Band with Donna Wilson and Dorissa Hobbs

## June



2 Sunday, Worship in the Park and Annual Picnic: 11:00 Wetherby Park, Bring a dish to share

9-13 Sunday—Thursday, Vacation Bible School, Dinner at 5:30, VBS 6:00—8:00

16 Sunday, Father's Day

21 Friday, Parking Lot Summer Jam and Flavaville Food Truck: 6:00-9:00, Featuring the River City Concert Band

29 Saturday, Middletown Unique Bazaar: 10:00-4:00, a new expanded Market with the Middletown Chamber of Commerce, Indoor and Outdoor

30 Sunday, Freedom Sunday in Worship: 11:00

## July

4 Thursday, Independence Day, 4th of July—Church office will be closed

19 Friday, Parking Lot Summer Jam and Flavaville Food Truck: 6:00-9:00 Featuring the Gabe Close Band



## August

16 Friday, Parking Lot Jam and Flavaville Food Truck: 6:00-9:00, Featuring Breakroom Microwave Band

## September

6-7 Friday and Saturday, Middletown Family Fun Festival

15 Sunday, Worship in the Park: 11:00

20-29 Friday-Sunday, Mission Trip to Macedonia

## October—Missions Month

5 Saturday, Middletown Unique Boutique: 9:00-4:00, a new expanded Market with the Middletown Chamber of Commerce, Indoor and Outdoor

13 Sunday, Miller Coffee Offering for Re-Center

26 Saturday: 10:00-12:00, Pumpkin Patch Pancake Party and Trick-or-Treat



## November

3 Sunday, Daylight Saving Time Ends



24 Sunday: 11:00, Thanksgiving Celebration

## December

1 Sunday: First Sunday of Advent, "Hope"

8 Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent, "Peace," Holiday Banquet

15 Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent, "Joy"

22 Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent, "Love," 6:00 Mary & Joseph Supper

24 Tuesday: 5:00, Christmas Eve Worship

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

11721 Main Street, Middletown, KY 40243

Phone: 502-245-7889; Email: [jacobban@fbcmtown.org](mailto:jcobban@fbcmtown.org)

[www.fbcmtown.org](http://www.fbcmtown.org)

*For more information on these events, email [mrumsey@fbcmtown.org](mailto:mrumsey@fbcmtown.org).*

A VERY MERRY  
**CHRISTMAS**  
and Happy New Year!

# MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Wednesday, May 1**—5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Children’s Activities, Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 2**—10:00 Ladies’ Bible Study

**Sunday, May 5**—9:45 Sunday School, 11:00 Worship Service, 5:00 U-Connect

**Monday, May 6**—6:00 Widows and Widowers Night Out

**Tuesday, May 7**—8:00 Men’s Breakfast

**Wednesday, May 8**—5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Children’s Activities, Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 9**—10:00 Ladies’ Bible Study



**Saturday, May 11**—9:00—4:00 Church Work Day, 12:00 Outreach Council Meeting



**Sunday, May 12**—9:45 Sunday School, 11:00 Worship Service—Mother’s Day and Children and Youth Service, 5:00 U-Connect

**Tuesday, May 14**—8:00 Men’s Breakfast, 11:00 Joy Ride to Little Mount Lavender

**Wednesday, May 15**—5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Children’s Activities, Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 16**—10:00 Ladies’ Bible Study



**Friday, May 17**—Family Movie Night

**Saturday, May 18**—10:00 Missions Council Meeting

**Sunday, May 19**—Pentecost Sunday, 9:45 Sunday School, 11:00 Worship Service with The Lord’s Supper, 12:00 VBS Workers Lunch, 5:00 U-Connect (the last one for this school year)

**Monday, May 20**—7:00 Trustee Meeting

**Tuesday, May 21**—8:00 Men’s Breakfast

**Wednesday, May 22**—5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Children’s Activities, Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 23**—10:00 Ladies’ Bible Study

**Sunday, May 26**—Tammy’s Last Day, 9:45 Sunday School, 11:00 Worship Service

**Monday, May 27**—Church Office Closed for the holiday

**Tuesday, May 28**—8:00 Men’s Breakfast, 12:00 LLL Lunch

**Wednesday, May 29**—5:30 Dinner, 6:30 Children’s Activities, Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, 7:45 Deacons’ Meeting

**Thursday, May 30**—10:00 Ladies’ Bible Study

**Friday, May 31**—Summer Jam 6:00 Food Truck, 7:00 Concert Atone Band



**First Baptist Church**  
**11721 Main Street**  
**Middletown, KY 40243**

Address Correction Requested

**Sundays**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship

**Wednesdays**

5:30 p.m. Dinner Served  
6:30 p.m. Children's Activities  
Adult, Children's Missions  
study; Adult Choir.

**Office Hours:**

**M-Th, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
**Office Phone: 245-7889**  
**www.fbcmtown.org**



**Future Without Walls**  
**Sanctuary and**  
**Building Renovation**

**Balance to-date less expenses:**  
**\$82,000**

**In-Person Voting**

May 8,9,10, 13, 14, and 15, 2024

8:30 am —4:30 pm

At the Jefferson County Clerk's Office Election Center

1000 E. Liberty Street

Louisville, Ky. 40204

**In-person No-excuse Absentee Voting:**

May 16, 17, and 18, 2024 8:00 am—6:00 pm

The Arterburn	210 Ten Pin Lane, 40207
Berrytown Recreation Ctr.	1300 Heaffer Rd., 40223
Bowman Field	2815 Taylorsville Rd., 40205
Armstrong Recreation Ctr.	3015 Bluebird Ln., 40299
The Heritage—Shively Park	1901 Park Rd., 40216
Jefferson County Clerk's Office	228 Amy Ave., 40212
Kentucky Center for African Amer. Heritage	1701 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., 40203
Kentucky Fair and Expo Center	937 Phillips Lane, 40209
Lyndon Elks Lodge	904 Ormsby Ln., 40242
New Zion Baptist Church	1501 Louis Coleman Jr. Dr., 40211
Old Forester's Paristown Hall	724 Brent St., 40204
St. Andrew United Church of Christ	2608 Browns Ln., 40220
Sun Valley Comm. Ctr.	6505 Bethany Lane, 40272
Teamster's Local	7711 Beulah Church Rd., 40228
Triple Crown Pavilion	1708 Plantside Dr., 40299
UofL, Shelby Campus, Founders Bld	450 N. Whittington Pkwy., 40222

**Election Day: May 21, 2024 6:00 am—6:00 pm**