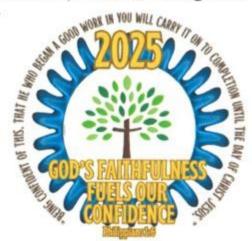
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"Our focus at First Baptist Church is to increase our commitment to Jesus Christ and introduce him to others."

September 2025

The 199th Annual Gathering of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio will be held October 7-8, 2025, at The Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark, Ohio. Dr. Robin Stoops, ABCUSA Associate General Secretary and former ABC Nebraska Executive Minister will serve as keynote speaker and workshop leader, along side

others. Featured workshops include: Enlarging Your Evangelism & Outreach Toolbox, Re-Missioning the Local Church, and Guidance on Preserving & Sharing Your Local Church History. Rev. Mark Click, ABC Ohio Executive Minister, will conclude the Gathering with a recognition of God's faithfulness and a view of the future as he introduces a new Strategic Vision for 2026 and beyond. If you are interested in attending the Annual Gathering, contact Pastor Andrew for more information.





This is our church's QR Code. Use your QR reader in your phone's camera to scan this. The link will take you to our website where you'll find recordings of our services, the weekly bulletin, the opportunity to give to our Church and missions, and more.

## MISSION SPOTLIGHT

## Church United Pantry (C.U.P.) Item for August: Deodorant



This month's World Mission Offering supports the work of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, also known as International Ministries or IM for short. IM focuses on inviting people to be disciples of Jesus Christ; proclaiming God's reign of justice, peace, and abundant life; and equipping the body of Christ to engage in God's mission. IM promotes mission from everywhere to everyone, introducing people across the world to Jesus and increasing their commitment to Him. You can support the work of IM by praying for their missionaries and projects, and by making a donation to missions with your offering this month. Thank you for supporting International Ministries!

### Pastor's Article

How Do Baptists Pray?

When a Baptist talks about prayer, what do they mean? If you grew up in a Baptist church you probably have some ideas, but what if someone without a Baptist background were to ask you? What would be some important points to mention? Here are a few:

- 1. Priesthood of All Believers: In some Christian backgrounds it is taught that priests or other Christian professionals have a special access to God that others don't. Baptists believe that anyone can pray directly to God, share needs, worship, and ask for forgiveness.
- 2. Communal Prayer: Baptists often share prayer requests, list prayer requests, or gather together to specifically pray. This is because praying together supports those who have prayer needs. When you are part of a church family, or are a brother or sister in Christ with someone, you care for their needs as much as your own.
- 3. Miracle: Baptists believe miracles can, and often do happen. The spiritual gift of healing exists, but all believers should be willing to go to God in prayer to share the needs of others. Whether a miracle is a person accepting Christ, or having cancer healed, these are needs that we accept that God can do, if it is His will and way.
- 4. Prayer as Service or as a Witness: We Baptists can pray for those who do not have anything to do with the church, and have no faith of their own (yet). If people know that you will pray for them, it is often a way to share our faith, and to care for those who do not yet know the Lord.
- 5. Time Well Spent With God: Baptists know that time spent with God in prayer, sharing, listening, worshipping, and more, is time well spent. This can include a quiet time with God that is also reading the bible. By spending time with God, literally, we can keep our focus on God's will and way, and not become preoccupied with the world. Someday Christians will spend eternity with God. We can learn more about God through prayer.
- 6. Following an Example: Jesus, the prophets, the patriarchs, and even those we know now, all prayed. It is a solid biblical directive and recommendation. If Jesus benefited from times and nights of prayer, if prayer and fasting has worked, then prayer is a good thing to do. Following the example of those who have prayed is a great reason to pray and definitely an important part of what prayer means to a Baptist.

This list could continue, what would you add? What questions do these points raise? Let's talk more about prayer and why we pray, and what we mean when we say prayer.

Philippians 4:6-7 (New Living Translation)

<sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as vou live in Christ Jesus.

Sincerely, Rev. Andrew Shields (Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Lima)

## FIRST BAPTIST DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL



My name is Dascha Muston. I am the Assistant

Teacher in the Wobbler classroom. I have only been here since March, but I love my job with a passion! It can be very hard at times, but I wouldn't trade it for the world. Not only do I get to watch them learn and grow and learn; but I learn new things along with them.

September birthdays... 26<sup>th</sup> - Miss Michelle -Pre-K Lead Teacher

Upcoming events...

September 1<sup>st</sup> - CLOSED for Labor Day

First day of Fall Session - September 2nd

#### DIRECTOR SHOUTOUT!

I would like to take this space to recognize Miss Candy! She has been with First Baptist Daycare & Preschool since January 15, 2002. Not only is she dedicated; but she's a hard worker, too! She sets a good example for fellow coworkers and the coworkers she mentors as well. Much of her career with us has been spent leading the infant room. She builds and maintains relationship with her coworkers, children and their families, too. When she's not rocking her awesome in the classroom: she's rocking it in the office keeping up with endless paperwork and is a great person to bounce ideas and thoughts off of. I couldn't do what I do without the children in our care, the families that trust us to do so, or all

of our great employees; but
I'd truly be lost without
her support! If you see her
around, please give her a
BIG thank you for ALL that
she has done and continues
to do for our preschool!!!

- Miss Kassi

## **General Fund Update**

Actual expenses through July continued to be close to the budget. July offerings showed some improvement over June and August giving appears to be slightly better still. For the year, however, giving continues to run about 7.5% less than the budget. Using the carryover balance (as planned for 2025), we can cover about half of the shortfall but, we still need positive trends to continue for the balance of the second half to move closer to "break even" for the year. *Still*, **God continues to bless!** 



	june	July	YID
*Giving:	\$18,188	\$18,777	\$134,960
Budget:	\$20,950	\$20,950	\$146,650
Difference:	-\$ 2,762	-\$ 2,173	-\$ 11,960

<sup>\*</sup>Giving includes Day Care reimbursements and is adjusted for prepaid offerings.

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 451 N. CABLE ROAD LIMA, OHIO 45805

Pastor Andrew Shields awshields1975@icloud.com

Office Phone: 419-224-4921

Fax: 419-224-4824

Website: firstbaptistlima.org

E-Mail: firstbaptistlima@gmail.com

#### **Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday 10am - 1pm

#### **Sunday Worship Schedule**

- ♦ 9:30 am Adult Bible Review
- ♦ 10:30 am Morning Worship
- ◆ After Children's Parable: B.L.A.S.T. (Not every class meets every week)

Age 0-2 In Cuddle Cove

Age 2-4 in The Big Room

Age 5-10 in Class Room # 12

Age 11-14 in Youth Room

## Wednesday Bible Study 6:15 pm

- ♦ Adults meet in the Fellowship Hall
- ♦ Youth and Kids meet in the Youth Room

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Sun 31	Mon 1	Tue 2 5pm - Diaconate	Wed 3 6:15pm - Bible Study 6:15pm - EPIC Kids 6:15pm - EPIC Youth	Thu 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:45am - Adult Bible 10:30am - B.L.A.S.T		5:30pm - DayCare 6:15pm - CE Board	6:15pm - Bible Study 6:15pm - EPIC Kids 6:15pm - EPIC Youth	1pm - Primetimers	10am - Crochet	
9:45am - Adult Bible 10:30am - B.L.A.S.T 11:45am - Trustees	15	5:30pm - Official Board	4:30pm - Lima Rescue 6:15pm - Bible Study 6:15pm - EPIC Kids 6:15pm - EPIC Youth	18 1pm - Primetimers	19 10am - Crochet	20.
9:45am - Adult Bible 10:30am - B.L.A.S.T 1pm - FH Rental	22	23	6:15pm - Bible Study 6:15pm - EPIC Kids 6:15pm - EPIC Youth	25 1pm - Primetimers	26 10am - Crochet	27
9:45am - Adult Bible 10:30am - B.L.A.S.T	29	30	1	2	3	4

## **Birthdays**

Shelly Fenton	September 2
Shola Gbadegeshin	September 3
Ruth Laman	September 4
Jason Farmer	September 5
James Honegger	September 6
Devon Alsept	September 8
Xander Noble	September 8
Darcy Entinghe	September 10
Brandon Patrick	September 13
Nancy VonAlmen	September 13
Scott Fetzer	September 14
Heather Patrick	September 20
Sally Goodwin	September 20
Jerry Siesel	September 20
Sue Honegger	September 25
Dan Whitaker	September 25
Michelle Baumgardner	September 26
Tim Willoughby	September 30

# **Anniversaries**

Herb & Karlyn Lauer	September 4
Rebecca & Tom Dickinson	September 6
David & Peggy Cockerell	September 8
Brent & Kelsey Jones	September 9
Seth & Ashlee Mathewson	September 10
Jacob & Emily Ball	September 19
Dan & Pat Mills	September 26
Scott & Chris Fetzer	September 29
Robert & Janet Hutchinson	September 30

If your special day is not listed, please let the church office know.

# Bible Reading Plan

September 1	Ezekiel 23-24
September 2	Ezekiel 25-27
September 3	Ezekiel 28-30
September 4	Ezekiel 31-32
September 5	Ezekiel 33-35
September 6	Ezekiel 36-38
September 7	Ezekiel 39-40
September 8	Ezekiel 41-43
September 9	Ezekiel 44-46
September 10	Ezekiel 47-48
September 11	Daniel 1-3
September 12	Daniel 4-5
September 13	Daniel 6-8
September 14	Daniel 9-12
September 15	Hosea 1-4
September 16	Hosea 5-9
September 17	Hosea 10-14
September 18	Joel 1-3
September 19	Amos 1-4
September 20	Amos 5-9
September 21	Obadiah & Jonah
September 22	Micah 1-4
September 23	Micah 5-7
September 24	Nahum 1-3
September 25	Habakkuk 1-3
September 26	Zephaniah 1-3
September 27	Haggai
September 28	Zechariah 1-5
September 29	Zechariah 6-10
September 30	Zechariah 11-14