



JULY 2026



The Oak Leaf

NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST AURORA

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated items for or supported VBS in any way! The kids had a great time learning about God this week!





A huge thank-you to all who helped with this year's Snowball Mountain Challenge Vacation Bible School.

We ministered to 7 children. We had 21 different helpers. We collected an offering of \$545.94 for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse. And then there were some in our church who heard that leaders were going to get a pie in the face if a specific amount was raised. To make sure this happened, some of our church family also contributed. In total, we raised \$765.94 for this wonderful project. This is our "Look at what God can do" moment; when 7 children were able to raise this much money. Thanks to our church family for continued support for this important ministry. Special thanks to our dedicated VBS Staff:

Charity Andersen
Lily Baxter
Logan Baxter
Kathy Gaddis
Jane Galey
Gary Gates
Lorraine Green
Carricia Green
Don Hanson
Mikayla Hanson
Morgan Hanson
Rebecca Hanson
Cindy Hall
Stephanie Lodor
Melissa Lundberg
Henry McGraw
Allisandra Molina
Yanet Perez
Blanca Rodriguez
Luis Sanchez
Emily Stevens

5th Sunday Potluck

Starting on Sunday, August 30th we will have our first FBCA 5th Sunday Potluck. A sign up sheet will be available on the bulletin board 2 weeks prior. We look forward to starting a new tradition of fellowship, food and fun!



Classes & Fellowship

Everyone is invited to join us for **Sunday School**, at 9:15, before the service Sunday morning. We offer three adult classes, and classes for children and youth. Join us during the Sunday School hour of our Evangelism Series that aims to equip us in sharing the gospel in everyday life. Together, we'll learn how to speak about Jesus naturally and faithfully, trusting God to use our church in bringing many more sons and daughters into glory.

Come join us for a **coffee social** in The Gathering Place, at 10 am every Sunday. We have specialty coffee, brewed coffee, iced coffee, and tea.

Please join us for **worship** at 10:30 Sunday mornings. Childcare is provided for infants and toddlers. Kids Ministry is offered for ages 4 years through 3rd grade.

Want to learn how to study the Bible and grow in your knowledge of God's word? Want to make some new friends and enjoy the fellowship of God's people? Join us for one of our two **Bible Studies**.

Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 Want to learn how to study the Bible and grow in your knowledge of God's Word? Want to make some new friends and enjoy the fellowship of God's people? Join us Wednesday nights as we study the longest, uninterrupted teaching of Jesus ever recorded in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). All are welcome, and you can jump in anytime.

Saturday afternoons at 1:00 we are studying "The Bible Recap" (Route 66 road map through the Bible). We will be reading through the Bible together over the course of the year chronologically. All are welcome and you can jump in anytime. You may purchase the book for the Bible Study at www.thebiblerecap.com

Youth Group

All students 6th-12th grade can join us for youth group at the church every Sunday evening from 6:00-8:00. Bring a friend and join us for games, a lesson, and snacks. See any of the youth leaders for more info.

Stewardship report

Weekly Giving Update (averages)

	April 2026	May 2026
Required to meet budget:	\$5800	\$5800
Weekly Received:	\$6234	\$6142
Percent Received:	107%	106%

Giving

If you have a financial need or concern, please contact Jeff Sutphin at jeffsutphin@yahoo.com or at 708-299-1364. There are 4 ways you can give to the ministry of First Baptist Church. If you would like to give an extra offering to the Fellowship Offering, please indicate that on your envelope or check.

1. You can give during offering on Sunday morning or place in the box at the back of the sanctuary.
2. You can place your offering in the locked box outside the office, or the locked mailbox on the outside of the church.
3. You can mail your offering to First Baptist Church, 15 Oak Ave. Aurora, IL 60506.
4. You can also give through Subsplash using the QR code. You can also find a link to Subsplash under the "Give" tab on our website www.firstbaptistaurora.org



Prayer

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the Prayer Chain at dbrun10589@aol.com or 630-292-0601.



Celebrating with our *church family!*

Happy Birthday!

9th Tess Sison
11th Rachel Leathers
15th Tiffany Lee
18th Jacob Aguinaga
19th Devin Andersen
19th Heidi Bliss
20th Allison Jager
23rd Jill Misukanis
23rd Robert Moncrief
25th Deanna Walker
25th Tom Juline
30th Mike Leonard Sr.

Happy Anniversary!

14th Chris & Karen Griffin
26th Jordan & Kele Fisher





BLACKHAWK CAMP 2026

4491 W Henry Rd., Oregon, IL 815-496-0732 61061

Deadline to register June 1. Several camps last year were close to capacity! Because the numbers of campers are

growing, we can no longer guarantee last-minute registrations. Please register online and send a non-refundable \$50 deposit or the fee for the camp if lower. Please note new time changes/dates

Camp	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time	Cost
NEW Bike Camp (6 th -12 th) Directors Greg & Jessica Henson All the regular fun camp staff BUT bring your bike to camp and ride the trails and try some jumps (electric, BMX or regular bikes)	June 26 @ 7pm Friday	June 28 @ 10 am Sunday	\$150
Elementary Camp June Director Maggie Spring (2 nd -5 th)	June 28 @ 5pm Sunday	July 1 @ 3pm Wednesday	\$220
Sr. High Camp (9 th -12 th) Director Rev. Bob Edwards	July 5 th @ 5 pm Sunday	July 9 th @ 1pm Thursday	\$300
Slumber Party July (K-5 th) Director Maggie Spring	July 10 th @ 7 pm Friday	July 11 th @ 10 am Saturday	\$30
Day Camp July (K-5 th) Director Maggie Spring	July 11 th @ 9:30 am Saturday	July 11 th @ 3:30 pm Saturday	\$30
Junior High Camp (6 th -8 th) Directors Bob and Stacy Gorbald	July 12 th @ 5 pm Sunday	July 16 th @ 1 pm Thursday	\$300
Little's Camp (Infants to 5) Director Jessica Myers	July 18 th @ 9 am Saturday	July 18 th @ 3 pm Saturday	\$40
Elementary Camp (2 nd -5 th) Directors Bruce and Bobbie Rose	July 19 th @ 5 pm Sunday	July 22 nd @ 3 pm Wednesday	\$220
Twilight Camp (6 th -12 th) Director James Johnson	July 23 th @ 8 pm Thursday	July 25 th @ 11 am Saturday	\$150
Slumber Party 2 (K-5 th) Director TBD	July 26 @ 7pm Sunday	July 27 @ 10 am Monday	\$30
Day Camp 2 (K-5 th) Director TBD	July 27 @ 9:30 am Monday	July 27 @ 3:30 pm Monday	\$30

Campers may attend the camp according to the grade they will be in school in fall of 2026 OR may attend for the grade they just finished.

Register for camp online at www.blackhawkcamp.org



BLACKHAWK CAMP 2025

4491 W Henry Rd.

Oregon, IL 61061

815-496-0732

What to Bring

Woohoo! You're signed up for camp! Now what? Here's a little guide to help you know what to bring (and what not to bring) when you come to camp.

TO BRING

- Bible/Notebook/Pen
- Sleeping Bag or Twin Sized Bedding and Pillow
- A Sweatshirt
- At least 2 pairs of shoes
- Towels (for swimming and showering)
- Toiletries
- Bug Spray
- Flashlight
- Sunscreen
- Money for Canteen (\$20 or less)
- Camera
- Water Bottle
- Prescription Meds (Must be kept with staff in the DC)

NOT TO BRING

- Phones (we mean it)*
- Air Pods
- Other Electronic Devices
- Pocket Knives/Weapons
- Inappropriate Clothing
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Bad Attitudes
- Closed Minds

*** We don't come to camp to be on our phones. Phones should be kept at home or put in a container in the DC we'll have available to be stored for the week. Bring a camera if you want to take pictures. Parents and guardians, if there is an emergency and you need to reach your student, call the number at the top of this page. Help us help them unplug!**

NOTE: We know signing beds/surfaces with permanent markers is nearly a rite of passage at Blackhawk, but if the surface is new/freshly painted students should NOT write in those spaces. Anyone who does will be responsible for fixing/paying to fix the damage caused. Our volunteers work hard to paint and keep up the cabins and we want to honor the work they do!