



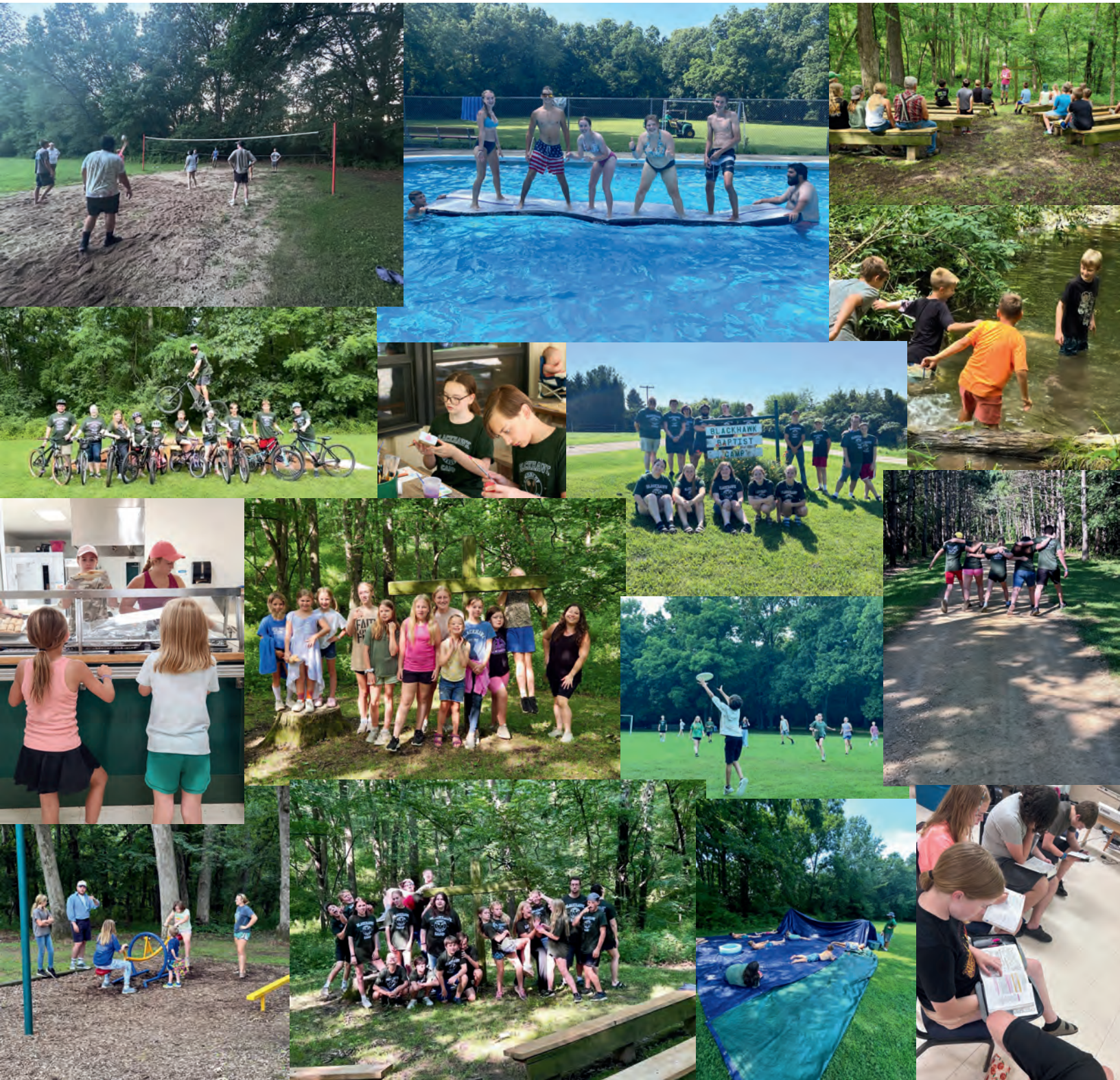
AUGUST 2026



The Oak Leaf

NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST AURORA

That's a wrap for Blackhawk Baptist Camp 2026!
We'll see you in 2027!





Youth Mission Trip Recap and Testimonies

On behalf of the Youth Group, we would like to thank the church for the enormous amount of support we received on our recent work mission. None of what we do is possible without it! Our students had a wonderful time serving the Lord at Green Lake Conference Center. We accomplished so much work that staff could not believe it. They had to think of more tasks for us. While we did take some time for fun, such as tubing down the river, ziplining, and trips to the country store, our primary focus was serving each day to our fullest. Green Lake is such a great spot to see God working. It was a privilege, as leaders to see God working through our students while they worked to better a camp that has been such a source of joy to each of them. Please read testimonies that three of our students shared a few Sundays ago and be praying for our group. We are already in the early stages of planning next year's trip and have a few ideas we are discussing. These trips are not cheap. Food, lodging and supplies take an enormous amount of funds. If you feel called to give, donations can be placed in an envelope on Sunday morning and labeled "Youth Mission Fund". This trip we received one large anonymous donation that was a huge help and allowed us to focus on the serving and not fundraising. Besides our mission trip, our group completes a monthly service project and has helped a few members with smaller projects at their home. Our fundraising goal is \$5000 for each trip. This year that allowed us to bring 17 people up to Green Lake to serve. Thank you again for all you do to show our students love and support. It really does take a whole church to help us complete our mission and if you know anyone who is in the 6th - 12th grades let them know we meet every Sunday from 6-8 here at the church for lessons, snacks, games and a time of prayer. If you have any questions about our trip or what Sunday nights look like please talk to one of the leaders.

Sincerely the Youth Leadership Team,
Don and Rebecca Hanson
James Johnson
Jeremy Andersen

P.S. If you know anyone who wants to build a carpetball table for the youth room send them my way. The students are clamoring for one.

Good morning Family,

Firstly I wanted to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to be part of this mission trip. It's been a blessing to spend the time serving alongside one another, growing in faith, and seeing what can happen when we work together with a shared purpose. It has been a blessing to work with such an amazing group of people, and to use our time and energy to help clean up Quest. When we arrived, we saw more than just a place that needed cleaning, we saw an opportunity to serve others in a meaningful way. Every branch we cleared and hauled into a truck, every piece of trash we picked up, and every trail we helped make safer was an act of love for the people who will come after us. It's humbling to know that because of our efforts, future Christian youth groups have a clean, and safe place where they can explore God's creation, build friendships, worship together, and grow closer to Him. This experience has reminded me that serving God isn't always about doing something that gets noticed. Sometimes it's about quietly doing the work that makes life better for someone else. Even if the people who enjoy this park never know our names, they'll experience the benefits of what we accomplished together.

I'm also incredibly grateful for everyone who came along on this trip. Thank you guys for your hard work, your encouragement, the positive attitudes you brought each day, and the many funny moments we had tubing or in the dorms. Serving alongside all of you has been just as meaningful as the work itself and I truly know the memories we've made will stay with us long after this trip is over. Finally, thank you to everyone who made this mission trip possible-our leaders, supporters, and everyone who prayed for us. Your guidance and generosity gave us the chance to make a difference, and we're truly thankful for that.

Carricia Munoz-Green

Cleared dangerous overgrowth along roadways and got more than they thought we would get done the whole week in the first two days. Took brush and tree limbs to a dump, about 14 truck and trailer loads. Took two dump truck loads of mulch and spread with pitchforks and wheelbarrows. Cleared trails of brush and downed trees. Built fire boxes or as Jackson and Isaac call them she sheds. We had a lesson most every night about shining God's light by sharing our gifts God blessed us with. We got to use the zipline and encouraged everyone. God gave me courage to step off that platform to help one of my friends that was more afraid than I even though I was equally afraid. We went tubing and got "lost" used watch phone to contact leaders Jeremy and Rebecca had a real life squeegee hunt to get an injured student off the river. We only lost one camper which is 50% better than last year. Jeremy and my dad have promised carpet ball. There was a carpetball tournament that Jeremy "won". Very aggressive games of Egyptian Rat Screw. We very safely rode around in the gator with Greg. We have many inside jokes now. Thanks to Greg, Sam, Jeremy, James, my parents and the church for their support and encouraging us to find new ways to get closer to God.

Morgan Hanson and Henry 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!

Promotion/Graduation Sunday

Please join us during the service on August 30th for Promotion Sunday.



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)

	May 2026	June 2026
Required to meet budget:	\$5800	\$5800
Weekly Received:	\$6142	\$4830
Percent Received:	106%	83%

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.

Garage sale Giveaway

September 25-26 two days 10:00-6:00

Any large items, please contact Odessa or Brian Davenport,
Nancy Broucek, or Huk Banwell

Start collecting
your items for
the church
Garage
Giveaway





Celebrating with our *church family!*

Happy Birthday!

1st Rudy Rodriguez
1st Jean Bliss
4th Emma Finstrom
6th Don Hanson
7th Charity Andersen
8th Mackenzie Leathers
11th Rebecca Hanson
11th A.J. Moncrief
15th Theodore Lee
17th Delilah Andersen
17th Tim Hiscox
17th Brandon Rees
28th Sharon McCray

Happy Anniversary!

5th Kurt & Cindy Hall
16th Jeremy & Charity Andersen
16th Tim & Shelley Baltz
19th Steve & Becca Hall
28th Bob & Diane Moncrief
29th Brian & Odessa Davenport

