

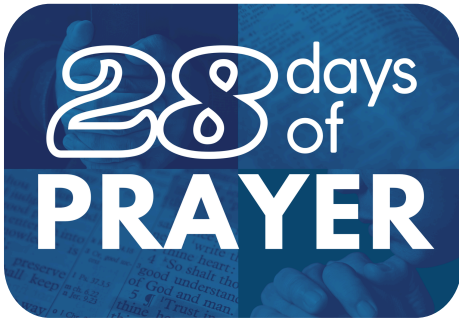


NEWSLETTER

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CHILLICOTHE, MO

PRAYER EMPHASIS BEGINNING

This February, we are hosting an emphasis on prayer entitled 28 Days of Prayer. The desire is to encourage our church family to seek the heart of God together in prayer. Beginning Sunday, February 1, and over the following 28 Days in the month, would you consider adding the following to your daily prayer list:



- That God's glory be praised and will be done in our church (Mt 6:9-10).
- That God would open the ears and hearts of the lost to receive the gospel (Acts 16:14).
- The Lord would raise up workers for the harvest of souls (Luke 10:2).
- That the body will serve and care for each other as gifted by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.12:12-27).
- That in our Worship Service, Sunday School classes, and Small Groups, Jesus will be proclaimed clearly as He ought (Col. 4:4).

Thank you for adding these items to your prayer list and joining together in a concert of prayer.

To encourage us in our focused season of prayer, we have created a 28 Days of Prayer devotion written by various members of our church. Copies of this devotional will be available online, with a few printed copies available in the Church Office.

Also, would pray at 12:12 pm every day for the list above. The time 12:12 pm comes from 1 Corinthians 12:12, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." At 12:12 pm, February 1st through the 28th, no matter where you are, let's pray together as one body.

Thank you for adding these items to your prayer list and committing to pray daily in February at 12:12 pm.

SWEETHEARTS'S BANQUET

Celebrate Valentine's Day with an evening designed especially for couples—a chance to slow down, enjoy a delicious meal, and share meaningful time together. Make plans to attend on Saturday, February 14th, from 6:00–8:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Dinner will be catered by Hollie's Hometown Kitchen, followed by cheesecake provided by Pam Miller.

Tickets:

- \$15 per person (\$30 per couple)

Tickets will be available for purchase at the church office.

Make plans now for a special night to connect, celebrate, and enjoy one another's company. We'd love to share the evening with you.

NEAR

4.3.26 | 6PM | FBC

Our Good Friday service is just around the corner! Stay tuned for more information, including ways to participate. The service will include an adult choir and "casting" opportunities. Choir practices will begin on February 18th at 6:15 pm.



A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

I heard this quote from Martin Luther in a sermon a few years ago that has stuck with me ever since. The quote is: "To progress is always to begin, always to begin again."

The progress he is referring to is living the Christian life. Progressing includes growing in Christ, obedience to Christ, and battling temptation. Progress also implies a forward motion. Growing towards something. In the case of the Christian life growing towards someone, Jesus.

Temptation is the greatest danger impeding our progress. The enemy's temptations are a double-edged sword of pleasure and guilt. The temptation of pleasure is whatever is before your eyes that is not of the Lord, will bring great satisfaction, even if but for a moment. "Sin is pleasurable for a season (Heb. 11:25). The back blow of temptation is, however, guilt.

The enemy's strategy is to lure you with pleasure. Then, when you give in to the temptation, pound you with guilt. "You want this," he says with a sultry tone. Then, when you take the object of your desires, he condemns, "How could you do that and call yourself a Christian?" The guilt piled upon us by the enemy and ourselves then feeds the beast of discouragement. Discouragement, when fully engulfed, leaves us complacent, compelling us to reason, "Why resist temptation if I have already failed?" Our progress then slows and perhaps comes to a complete stop.

Luther's encouragement is plain. The Christian life is beginning and beginning again. Proverbs 24:16a (NLT) says, "The godly may trip seven times, but they will get up again." The Christian life is not about doing life perfectly, for none of us can. The Christian life is falling upon the grace of the Lord again and again. As Rich Mullins wrote,

*So if I stand, let me stand on the promise
That You will pull me through
And if I can't, let me fall on the grace
That first brought me to You.*

February is a perfect month to remind us to begin again. The forgotten resolutions of January are behind us; begin again. The seeds of a prosperous baseball season are sown when pitchers and catchers report so they can begin again. Despite the cold and snow of February and March, spring will begin again.

Let me encourage you to begin in your progress in Christ. And when you fail, know the same grace that saved you is the same grace that empowers you to begin again.

UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES

February 1st

Missions Committee Meeting

February 3rd

Monthly Staff Meeting

February 7th

Men's Breakfast

February 8th

Church & Youth Council Meeting
Nominating Committee Meeting

February 10th

Trustee Meeting
Deacon Meeting

February 11th

Business Meeting

February 18th

Second Harvest Food Pantry

February 27th-March 1st

Weekend to Remember-KC

March 1st

Missions Committee Meeting

March 3rd

Monthly Staff Meeting

March 7th

Men's Breakfast

March 8th

Daylight Saving Time
SPRING FORWARD!

March 10th

Trustee Meeting
Deacon Meeting

March 11th

Business Meeting

March 16th

Golden Heirs Carry-In

April 3

Good Friday Service

