



The Shepherd's Voice with Pastor Daniel

A QUARTARLY NEWSLETTER

The Gospel changes everything, and we'd love to share it with you! If you want to know more about the life-changing hope found in Jesus, we're here to talk. You can also visit our website to learn how you can go from death to life by trusting in Him.

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9:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:40 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP
6 PM THURSDAY



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Mission Spotlight: Wone Baptist Church Pohnpei, Micronesia

Wone Baptist Church in Kolonia, Pohnpei is faithfully serving the people of Micronesia under the leadership of missionaries Clayton and Linda Eliam. Sent through World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions, the Eliams are committed to preaching the Gospel, discipling believers, and strengthening the local church so that the message of Christ continues to reach the island and surrounding communities.

In addition to pastoring Wone Baptist Church, Clayton and Linda also serve the community by teaching in the local Christian school on the island, investing in the next generation through both education and the truth of God's Word. Through their ministry, the Gospel is being shared with families, children, and individuals across Pohnpei. Outreach efforts, Bible teaching, and church ministries are helping people hear the Gospel and grow in their faith in Jesus Christ.

Pastor Daniel and Stephanie have had the privilege of personally visiting Wone Baptist Church on two mission trips and have seen firsthand the work God is doing among the people of Pohnpei. This church also holds a special place in their hearts as it was the first church to give Daniel the opportunity to preach.

This region of the world currently has little presence from larger mission organizations such as the International Mission Board (IMB), making the work of faithful missionaries like the Eliams especially important.

Please pray for Clayton and Linda Eliam, for Wone Baptist Church, and for the people of Pohnpei to come to know Christ. Would you prayerfully consider supporting this mission to the people of Pohnpei for the mission of the Gospel?



From the Desk of the Pastor

Dear Church Family,
As we begin to feel hints of warmer weather and look toward the months ahead, I want to take a moment to simply say thank you. Serving as your pastor is a joy, and I am continually encouraged by the love, faithfulness, and servant hearts I see in our church family.

Even though it still feels like winter outside, spring and summer ministry is already underway. Plans for VBS, our Memorial Day parade outreach and hotdog giveaway, and teen camp are coming together. These are some of my favorite opportunities to connect with our community and share the love of Christ in practical ways.

I'm especially excited for the warmer weather because it allows us to get back out into our neighborhoods. We look forward to going door to door, inviting people to church and offering to pray with and for our neighbors. It's a simple way to show the compassion of Christ and remind people that the church cares.

Like many churches, our attendance has been lower through the winter months. This is normal, but it reminds us how much we miss being together. I want to encourage you to be praying that the Lord brings everyone back and renews our unity and encouragement as we worship and serve together.

I also want to say how encouraged I have been by the number of people who are serving. It has been such a blessing to see so many faithful volunteers and also several new faces jumping in and finding ways to serve. The church truly functions best when each person uses their gifts to build up the body, and I see that happening in so many wonderful ways.

Thank you for loving one another, serving faithfully, and continuing to be a church that desires to reach our community with the gospel. I am grateful for each of you, and I am excited to see what the Lord will continue to do through our church family in the months ahead.

With gratitude and love,
Pastor Daniel Fessler



First Baptist Church of Bellevue Lit Up

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March, 29 5th Sunday Fellowship 12 PM
at FBCB following the morning service

April, 7 Men's Bible Study 7 PM
at FBCB

April, 5 Donut Fellowship 9:30 AM
at FBCB

April, 6 Ladies Bible Study 6 PM
at FBCB

April, 18 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9 AM
at FBCB

May, 3 Mother Daughter Lunch 12 PM
at FBCB following the morning service

May, 4 Ladies Bible Study 6 PM
at FBCB

May, 6 Men's Bible Study 7 PM
at FBCB

May, 7 Church Council Meeting 4:30 PM
at FBCB

May, 17 Business Meeting
at FBCB following the morning service

May, 24 Promotion Sunday 10:40 AM
at FBCB

May, 24 5th Sunday Fellowship 12 PM
at FBCB following the morning service

May, 25 Memorial Day Parade & Cookout 9 AM
at FBCB

June, 1 Ladies Bible Study 6 PM
at FBCB

June, 3 Men's Bible Study 7 PM
at FBCB

Additional events will be added to the calendar. Visit our website for UpToDate details for all events.



At First Baptist Church of Bellevue, you'll find Christ-centered teaching, a welcoming community, and a heart for serving others.

The Book of Acts – Empowered for Mission: The Power, The People, The Mission.

by Daniel Fessler

As a church, we have continued our journey through the book of Acts on Sunday mornings, and it has already been an encouraging and challenging study for us. We are currently in Acts chapter 5, where we see both the seriousness of holiness in the church and the boldness of believers who refused to stop preaching about Jesus.

Acts is such an important book for us because it shows us what the church is meant to look like. We see ordinary people empowered by the Holy Spirit, boldly proclaiming the gospel, loving one another, and trusting God even in the face of opposition. The same mission that began in Acts continues today, and we are part of that story.

I want to encourage you to spend time reading through Acts as we study it together on Sunday mornings. When we read the Word for ourselves during the week, it deepens what we learn together as a church family.

We also have several other opportunities to study God's Word together. In Sunday School we are working through the Gospel of Matthew. On Thursday nights we are studying 1 John, and our Men's and Ladies Bible studies are currently walking through the Gospel of John. I want to encourage and invite you to participate in these studies whenever you can. We can never get enough of God's Word, and these times together help us grow deeper in our faith and stronger as a church family.

My prayer is that as we continue in these studies, the Lord would stir in us a deeper love for His Word and a greater boldness to live it out in our daily lives.

Current Needs and Opportunities

As we look ahead to the spring and summer, there are several ways you can serve and help our church impact the community. We are in need of volunteers for Vacation Bible School, helpers for our Spring Cleaning Day on March 21st, participants for the Memorial Day parade outreach, and individuals willing to go door to door inviting neighbors and offering prayer. Every helping hand makes a difference, and we encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can get involved and be part of what God is doing through our church.

Fun and Faith at DNow

by Lucy Fessler

I had so much fun at the DNow Teen Conference! We studied the book of Ruth and learned about depending on God and how her story points to Jesus as our Redeemer. In our small group, we talked about Ruth and shared what we thought and learned. I also went to breakout sessions on apologetics and the stages of faith and they really helped me feel encouraged in my faith. We also got to play Nerf tag and basketball, which was so fun! It was such a fun weekend and I'm really glad I got to go.

Church Business

This quarter has been full of encouragement as we continue to see the Lord at work in our church family. We are celebrating two professions of faith from the Woodyards and a rededication from Shelia Bacis. It is always a joy to see lives changed and hearts drawn closer to the Lord.

We have also welcomed two new members, Matthew Gross and Nathan Gross. We are thankful for their desire to be part of the life and ministry of our church.

Behind the scenes, many are serving faithfully to help our church function well. Our deacons have been having productive meetings as they continue to care for the needs of the church, and our trustees have been working hard on several projects to keep our building in good shape. Please be praying as we work toward getting our roof repaired.

We are also excited that our new presenter system is now up and running, helping us display songs, videos, sermon slides, and Scripture more smoothly during our services.

Thank you to everyone who continues to serve and work faithfully. It is a blessing to see so many people using their gifts to strengthen the ministry of our church.



Looking Back: Quarter Highlights

As we reflect on the past few months, it's clear that God has been faithful and at work in our church family in so many ways. Our discipleship and fellowship ministries continue to flourish. The Ladies Bible Study remains a highlight—our ladies love diving into God's Word together—and the Men's Bible Study has been both encouraging and inspiring, with many expressing a desire to meet more often.

The holiday season brought beautiful opportunities for celebration and fellowship. The Hanging of the Greens was a joy, especially seeing the kids participate so well. The Ladies Christmas Party provided fun, fellowship, and a festive cookie exchange, while the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service was once again a meaningful reminder of Christ's coming. The Men's Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Game Night, and Galentine's Party were all wonderful times to grow in community, and we are so grateful to Mindy for her incredible work with the Galentine's event.

We also experienced powerful times of worship and outreach. Praise & Worship Night brought together believers from ten churches, lifting our voices to the same Savior—a beautiful glimpse of the unity Scripture describes in Revelation, with Jesus at the center of our story. The DNow Teen Conference encouraged our youth and reminded us of the next generation of believers rising up here at FBCB.

Spiritually, this quarter has been full of milestones. We celebrated two professions of faith, one rededication, and welcomed two new church members. Our deacons and trustees have faithfully served behind the scenes, and our new presenter tool is running smoothly, enhancing our services. We are also thankful for the steps forward in planning and fundraising for teen camp.

Through every event and every moment, God has shown His faithfulness. Whether in study, fellowship, worship, or service, we see Him moving in our lives and our church. We give Him all the glory and look forward with excitement to what He will continue to do in the months ahead.

Scripture

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord."

Romans 12:11

In the Spotlight: Rick and Barb Hardin

This quarter, I have the joy of highlighting two incredible people in our church family: Rick and Barb Hardin. Since coming to FBC Bellevue, we have met so many wonderful members, and the Hardins have truly stood out as a blessing. Serving alongside them has been such a joy, and honestly, we wouldn't feel like we could do what God is doing here without them.

Rick has stepped into the role of lead Trustee and has already poured countless hours into making sure our building is in tip-top shape. It's a big job, but he approaches it with diligence and faithfulness, setting a wonderful example of what it means to be a good steward. Barb serves faithfully as our treasurer, keeping everything in order and making sure our finances are handled responsibly. It's a thankless job, but one she does with care and trustworthiness. On top of that, she plays piano faithfully each week and participates in nearly every activity that happens at FBCB.

Faithfulness, gentleness, and humility are the words that come to mind when I think of Rick and Barb. They encourage not just me, but my wife as well, and it is such a comfort to know they are here for us and for the church family. I encourage each of you to thank them for all they do and to love on them however you can. FBCB is truly blessed to have Rick and Barb serving alongside us, and we are so grateful for their faithful hearts and steadfast service.

