



SIMPSONVILLE

BAPTIST CHURCH

February 2023

Volume 34 Issue 2



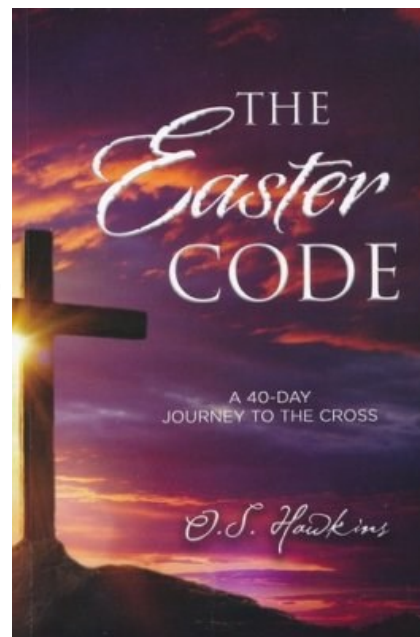
Lent is a solemn observance of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert and enduring temptation by Satan. During Lent, many Christians commit to fasting, as well as giving up certain luxuries in imitation of Jesus's sacrifice during his journey into the Wilderness. Early Christianity records the tradition of fasting before Easter. These fasts were marked by abstaining from food and festivities, and by other acts of outward expressions of repentance. Others give up a personal pleasure during the 40-days.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends about six weeks later. The 40-day purpose is for the preparation for Easter through prayer, fasting, denying the flesh, repentance of sin, and self-denial. Many Christians also add a spiritual discipline, such as reading a daily devotional to draw themselves near to God and prepare for Easter.

The Reformed churches have historically not observed Lent. However, some churches focus on prayer, fasting, and repentance, encouraging members to self-examination, practicing works of love, and reflecting on God's Holy Word.

We would like to offer you a 40-day devotional to prepare your family for Easter. We pray that you draw near to God during this time, giving thanks for the salvation that comes by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

If you are unable to attend worship and would like a devotional, please contact the church office.



Kingdom Life by Steve Boyd

God's Strengths for the Church

One of the greatest strengths of the church is **FELLOWSHIP**. Fellowship in the Greek means partnership and association within our commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord. Fellowship is certainly a spiritual quality of loving one another in every way. In fact, that should set the Church apart from other worldly organization through our unconditional, gracious, merciful, and accountable love for each other.

The fellowship of the Church won't happen in your life without a commitment to doing life together. That requires time! In becoming a member of SBC, the Bible and SBC asks you to spend significant time together with your spiritual and eternal family. Spending time together emphasizes both spiritual and quality time together. It's odd to me, but some people decline spending time with their church family and thereby deny their faith altogether. Others may not deny their faith, but they deny the power that comes from the Family of God.

So, what are we talking about? We should understand and desire the call of Jesus to be His church by worshipping, discipling, evangelizing, praying, ministering, and fellowshiping **TOGETHER**. I am concerned that some of you have a fraternal relationship only with fellow Church members. The Bible teaches we must have a spiritual (**FAITH**) relationship with one another. This allows us to receive the strength, support, care, accountability, and prayer that we desperately need from one another.

If you are a Christian, this biblical admonition isn't a suggestion. Jesus and his apostles declare it as the Word of God. You can't live a victorious Christian life without other spiritually-minded Christians. You can't isolate yourself from spiritual relationships and please God. That is why fellowship is so important.

Generally, it seems women may tend to be able to talk about spiritual life and growth more than men. Gentlemen, we must grow in our spiritual life to be able to readily discuss God's purpose for our life. It should be commonplace to discuss

God's plan for our life and church. I want to encourage our men to step up and become a spiritually mature man, unashamed of the gospel and rightly dividing the Word of God.

Let's be a church that's known for our warm, loving, spiritual fellowship and hospitality. Spread the Spirit, be kind to one another, help one another through trials, and offer prayers for one another daily. This can and should be one of the greatest strengths of the church. You have an opportunity each week to invite someone into the circle of your fellowship, and I pray that you do so.



Barry and Rebecca Cecil are coming from Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, where they were members for 28 years. They live in Finchville and have three grown-and-flown children. Barry has worked as a Bereavement Director for Hosparus, Program Director for Sunrise Children's Services, and is semi-retired from Clinical Director for Behavioral Health Group in Frankfort.

Rebecca has worked as an engineer at GE, a high school math and robotics teacher, and is currently Program Coordinator for executive master's programs for international students and Adjunct Instructor of Management at Campbellsville University. They enjoy gardening, raising chickens, quilting (Rebecca), and spending time with two granddaughters. They attend the *Equipping the Saints* Sunday School class.





Meadow Ridge Blessings Box

The Blessings Box at Meadow Ridge is used every day of the week.

Donation requests: cereal bars and PopTarts, canned meats, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, dried black beans, soup mixes, white rice, sugar, corn meal, toilet paper, paper towels, dish liquid, tuna helper-type products, vegetable oil, canned fruit and vegetables, bags of apples/potatoes.

Donations of food can be dropped off at the church office or placed directly in the box. Monetary donations can be taken to the church office.



Community After-School Ministry

We have some fantastic volunteers who serve each Monday with our After School Ministry. The volunteers read and help with homework. The kids got a special treat in January when Bobbie Erlandson took some of them home to teach them how to make spaghetti sauce. The next day they served the whole group spaghetti and meatballs!!



If you have a spare hour, we invite you to join us on Mondays from 2:45-4pm at the Warehouse!

7387 Shelbyville Rd.
Simpsonville



Sunday School Class AND Individual Volunteers Needed!

Beginning March 14 the ALC parent classes will run from 5-7:30pm. They are needing help in these areas:

- ♦ Childcare coverage
- ♦ Provide a meal for 10-15 adults and children
- ♦ Teachers who are comfortable teaching court-assigned individuals
- ♦ People to provide a devotion or craft to women in need of socialization and a Word from God
- ♦ Photographer and graphic designer

They are also launching two new programs!

- 1) Save Me A Seat! -which is an ALC client who wants to go to church but is too afraid to walk in by herself so a women volunteer would agree to meet her at the door, and they would sit together (only on Sundays)
- 2) ALC's Women Mentor Program-they are seeking women volunteers to be mentors to their clients who have graduated from their services.

For those that would prefer to make donations, incentive gifts such as gift cards to gas stations, grocery stores, or gifts for mother/baby are welcome. Please go to alky.org to volunteer.

Shelby Touched Twice Clinic

Saturday, March 25 from 10am-2pm
First Baptist Church in Shelbyville

The primary purpose of this ministry is to meet needs in Christ's name. Organizers want to meet medical, spiritual, and physical needs of guests who receive services at the clinic. Services to be offered include medical, dental, clothes closet and food pantry. Volunteers are needed! Please go to shelbytouchedtwice.com or call 502-437-9437.





Next Step Training Program

December was a BIG month for NSTP! The first big event came about because we were chosen to present the Next Step Training Program at the 100 Women Who Care meeting back in October (if you don't know about this organization, please ask me or Dixie Taylor!). The general manager of the Outlet Shoppes heard our story and asked us to serve in the role of wrapping gifts at the Outlet Shoppes from Dec 16th to the 24th. This was a fantastic way for our students to work to earn money (and gain vocational skills) and for delightful people from SBC and the community to volunteer alongside of us! And, for us to raise over \$2200! It was a win-win-win. The second big event is that we graduated our first group of 8 students, and two already had jobs by graduation day! The session was great in so many ways, and God worked through the staff in amazing ways (ask me sometime; I would love to share the stories with you!)

January 24th is our next start date and we are full with 8 students again. I can't wait to see how God works in the lives of these young adults to get them to their Next Step! Please continue to pray for us to glorify God in all that we do with and for our students, in class and in the community.

Suellen Barnes



Mijomboni Orphanage Update

We currently have 37 children residing at the Rescue Center. Thirty children was our goal for sponsorships, however Nathan is needing to intervene in emergency situations that require additional sponsors. We are also needing to begin educational sponsorships for those children moving into the next grade levels.

New Residents

Amos (4yrs), Wilson, Dennis & Rheama Karisa have all come to the Center following the death of their mother, who was killed by an elephant. Due to funding, the original plan was for the three younger boys to be taken to the Rescue Center. However, Nathan investigated Rheama options and found that she was to be sent to a relative's home to begin serving as a maid. So all four children are now residing at the Orphanage and we have been blessed that all now have sponsorships!!

Diana (19) and her son Emmanuel (2) are also new residents. Nathan shares her story- "She has come to the Rescue Center with a sad story from her past. In 2014 her father hit her mother until she died. Two months after killing her mother, her father remarried and Diana's stepmother refused to send her to school. She ran away from home and sought shelter with her aunt hoping things would change. Her aunt forced her to become a maid but then chased her away. She moved from house to house seeking shelter from unknown individuals and wound up conceiving a child. She was then taken to a lonely old widow of 80 years old. She gave birth to Emmanuel under difficult circumstance and then was given in marriage to a sixty year old man who beat her every day. Hearing of the Rescue Center she ran away to find help. Both Diana and Emmanuel had sponsors step up to pay for their care."

****Educational scholarships needed****

Entry ages for high school have changed in the county. Previously, elementary and junior high were offered free to all residents. To attend high school, a child needs to pass a national test AND be able to pay the associated fees. The government recently passed a regulation that junior high-aged children are now considered high school level. This change affects three of our children. Unfortunately, there is no local high school close by and the children will need to attend a boarding school. Annual fees are \$450 -of which our sponsorships provide \$300. **We are now needing three \$150 educational sponsorships to help provide the balance of the school fees.** We are so pleased to be able to share that due to the education provided by the Rescue Center, all three children passed the national test!

The Center is thriving and doing well, with the exception of having to deal with unexpected, extraordinarily high, rates of inflation that has affected the price of food and supplies that are normally purchased.

**An easy way to support the orphanage is to donate your change!
Please use the Change For Change giving box located in the foyer!**



METRICS THAT MATTER

We are excited that 2022 proved to be a year of growth that thankfully brought with it a return to our regular programming.

Guests

We had 51 families who were first-time visitors that consented to sharing their contact info with us. Of those, 22 are attending regularly. Eleven of the guests are regularly attending Sunday School. All of these numbers are up from last year!

Membership

Four of our first-time families became members in 2022. Altogether, we had 29 people who asked for membership (9 by baptism, 15 by letter, and 5 by statement of faith.) All of these numbers are up from last year!

Barnabas Ministry

This ministry welcome new guests and members, and sends cards of encouragement. Under the leadership of Joy Casey, the team made 214 contacts this year.

Support Staff

Support staff made 531 personal contacts, 73 of which were community outreach.

Additionally, in September we asked Jenny Huff to begin contacting our new returning guests who are women with a welcome card, and she made eleven contacts. Baylee Branstetter contacts our children and youth guests with a welcome note. She made contacts with six families.

Women's & Men's Ministry

We had 92 different women participate in women's ministry events and discipleship classes. Twenty-nine women were first-time participants and thirteen women who participated were from our local community. We had 35 different men participate in mission trips and discipleship classes. Of those, four were from the community and twelve were first-time participants. We had 28 different people participate in ministry training.

Sunday School & Worship

Our average attendance in worship was 218. Our Sunday School average attendance was 116.



Scott Sageser and Jamie McEldowney constructed our new covered walkway to see us through the wintry months of rain and snow. They saved the church \$12,000 by doing it themselves rather than bidding it out to a construction company.

Our new lighting and stage background looks wonderful! We would like to thank Kyle & McKenzie Parks for their creativity and volunteer hours to keep our worship stage up-to-date and so aesthetically pleasing!



March 13-14
Severns Valley Baptist

Elizabethtown

The conference will focus on ways to identify, equip, send and care for those called to fulfill the Great Commission.

Sessions

- Reaching the emerging generation
- Rural evangelism
- Sharing Christ in a hostile world
- Love so loud your community hears you.

Plenary Speakers

- Chuck Lawless
- Paul Worcester
- Jay Strack
- Tom Richter

Plenary Speakers

- Mack Stiles
- H.B. Charles
- Greg Faulls

Please contact Steve Boyd at steve@simpsonvillebaptist.com if you would like to attend. There is no cost to attend.



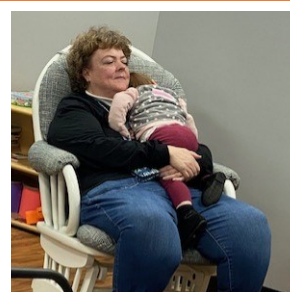
Greater Louisville FCA
 Father Daughter Dance
 Saturday, February 4
 3-5pm
 Louisville Slugger Field
 Tickets: fcalou.org



We are extremely blessed by our volunteers who provide much love and care for our children!

Additional workers are needed as our numbers are growing!!

*Please contact Mollie Hefner at
 mollie@simpsonvillebaptist.com if you can occasionally serve
 in Children's Church or Sunday School.
 Contact Anne Waterman at 502245-8752 to help with nursery.*



**Kid's Camp
 June 23-25th
 Campbellsville
 University**

For 3rd-5th grade completed.
 Cost: \$154 with \$75 deposit due Sunday, April 23.

3rd – 5th grade Sunday School

We (my assistants and the students and I) have had a great time getting adjusted to our new Sunday School format! We have been using the new curriculum that Pastor Jesse and the team picked out and it has been wonderful! We have been going through the book of Genesis studying the main characters (Adam, Noah, Jacob, Moses, etc.) and learning about the foundations for our faith. We recently had the opportunity to lead the congregation in the reading of Hebrews 11 about these "heroes of the faith." The goal of this opportunity was not to perform for the congregation, but to take the first step toward being leaders. This also gave us a concentrated time to focus on why the book of Genesis is so important to our understanding of the beginning of the world and how that helps us defend our faith.

Suellen Barnes



**WEDNESDAY
 EVENINGS**

6:15-7:30pm

Choir-Room 201

Co-ed Spiritual Gifts Class—Room 205 & 206

Students—Warehouse

Children K-5th—Gym

Preschoolers—Room 107

Nursery available for our Discipleship classes.

Engaging Your Children

Sometimes getting conversations started with your children can be a challenge. If you're looking to get your kids more engaged and move beyond the basic "How was your day?", here are some suggestions to get them talking, thinking, and engaging.

- ♦ If your stuffed animals could talk, what would they say?
- ♦ What do you think you're going to dream about tonight?
- ♦ What sounds do you like best and why?
- ♦ If you were going to spend the whole day outside, what activities would you do?
- ♦ Do you like it when other people share with you? Why?
- ♦ What one thing do you do now that you usually need an adult for but would like to try to do by yourself?
- ♦ If you had to give everyone in the family new names, what would they be?
- ♦ If you had a pet dragon, what would you name it? What would you do together with your dragon?
- ♦ If you opened a store, what would you sell?
- ♦ What movie, TV or book character makes you laugh the most?
- ♦ What are some of the best things about nature?
- ♦ If you were a photographer for a day, what would you take pictures of?
- ♦ What makes your friends so awesome?
- ♦ How would you design a tree house?
- ♦ If you joined the circus, what would your circus act be?

Have fun learning more about your kids!

Taken from Leading With Questions by Bob Tiede



SAVE THE DATE!
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 12-16



Thursday, February 2
6:30pm

This month we will give some love to the
ALC Pregnancy Resource Center.
Please bring a gift to help support their ministry:
Size 5 & 6 diapers, girls clothing newborn to 5T,
hooded towels for boys and girls

Sign up in the foyer!



Mending Widows Hearts

Friday, February 17



**We will enjoy
luncheon at
The Bell
House in
Shelbyville.**

**Please RSVP to Bobbie Erlandson at
502-645-6946.**



Saturday, March 4

9am-2pm

**Forks of Elkhorn
Baptist Church**

Tickets are offered at a discounted price of
\$25 through January 31 and will then be
listed at \$30.

Your ticket includes conference
admission, a grab-and-go style breakfast,
and a box lunch from Jimmy John's
(ham & turkey, cheese, lettuce & tomato
sandwich, a bag of chips, and cookie).

Worship led by Nashville Band,
Chase & Co-singer/songwriters Brandon
and Theresa Chase
(formerly of *I AM THEY*).

Guest Speakers

Jodie Berndt, author of the series *Praying the
Scriptures*, Lynn Cowell, author and speaker
with *Proverbs 31 Ministries*, and Kim Hardy, a
professional speaker, author, and life coach,
who will all be sharing what God has laid on
their hearts.

Purchase tickets:

<https://devotedconference.org/register/>

Contact Debbie Willman at 502 777-9852 for more info.

SENIOR SING A-LONG

Memories Through Music

SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, APRIL 16
Family Life Center

Please join us for a wonderful
afternoon of music led by
Dover Baptist Worship Leader
Bradley Gray.





Making Resolutions for a Thriving Marriage

One of the great American traditions is to come up with a list of New Year's resolutions. They usually don't last long. If you've kept a New Year's resolution beyond these first few weeks of January, I applaud you. If you haven't, you are not alone. Some statistics state that only 8 percent of people reach their resolution goals.

Setting goals for your marriage is probably more important than any New Year's resolution that you have had, but it is equally as hard. So how do we prevent ourselves from failing at our marriage resolutions?

At [FamilyLife's Weekend to Remember®](#), you will learn excellent communication techniques, how to love and respect your spouse, and even ways to improve intimacy. But it is also incredibly easy and tempting to walk out of the conference unchanged. If you have never been to the Weekend to Remember retreat, perhaps you recall a time that you and your spouse had a great conversation or time together and walked away with concrete resolutions to improve your marriage. Did you keep those resolutions?

It is impossible to be a perfect spouse, but setting goals and striving to be better is important to maintaining a healthy marriage. Here are a few ideas to help you stick to them.

Remember who you are in Christ.

There is no such thing as a perfect marriage because there is no such thing as a perfect person. When you fail to be perfect—because we all do—remember that you have a gracious God who provides you with grace and mercy to love your spouse better each day. Understanding this will bring more love and forgiveness into your marriage as you learn to forgive because He first forgave us.

Write down your goals.

The Weekend to Remember gives incredibly helpful and practical tips on how to communicate, address conflict, and more. Perhaps your goal is to stop raising your voice when you are angry with your spouse or maybe it is to offer more words of encouragement to your spouse. No matter what your goal is, write it down with your spouse and vow to work on improving this part of your marriage.

Schedule periodic check-ins.

Getting away from routines and the struggles of everyday life is important to any growing marriage simply for the sake of reconnecting. But it can also be a great time to check in on resolutions that you set. Try to schedule a getaway at least a couple times per year. Whether this includes going to a Weekend to Remember or simply driving to a nearby town for the day, make sure these times provide alone time with your spouse to reflect on the last few weeks or months. Take time to read through your goals and talk about areas that you have improved or still need to change.

Open up to your community.

It is important to have a Christian community in your life because it provides accountability and support. This could be through a weekly Bible study or a good friendship. Make sure you open up to someone you trust about your marriage, both the joys and trials of it.

Admitting weakness shows strength and will only help your marriage in the long run. Whether you are struggling with very difficult issues, such as infidelity or a miscarriage, or if you simply want to improve communication in your marriage, there is no issue too large or small for prayer and accountability.

Rejoice and celebrate.

When you see improvement in your marriage (not perfection), do not forget to celebrate. Take time to praise God for helping you change your heart or your behavior. With every milestone in your marriage, remember how far you have come and rejoice in where your marriage is headed.

Resolutions are hard, but if your heart is in the right place, they do not have to fail. Striving to love your spouse like Christ is a continual journey. But it's worth it. Step into that journey and write down your resolutions with your spouse today.

Happy Birthday to....

- 1 Jaclyn Brown, Sarah Chhan
- 2 Jesse McEldowney
- 3 Mollie Hefner, Anita Hoops, Susan Watkins
- 7 Summer Gossom
- 8 Chris Kriel
- 9 Betsy Maxwell
- 10 Hope Hawes,
- 11 Brent White
- 12 Tristan Kriel, Haylee Renfro, Gabe Tindall
- 13 Myssi Corn, Jack Trumbo
- 14 Jay Branstetter



- 16 Jonah Pack
- 19 Doug Shelburne
- 20 Doug Davis
- 21 Jeff Logue, Lana Sageser
- 23 Jeffrey Vissepo
- 25 Dale Kramer

If you don't see your name, or it's incorrectly listed, please contact the church office.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, February 4 at
7:30am

Please join us at
The Farm Kitchen.

6562 Frankfort Road,
Shelbyville, KY 40065



Please join us for good Christian fellowship and good food!! Hope to see you there.



Each month we are highlighting one of our incredible Sunday School teachers. **Teacher Spotlight: Cindy Childers**



How long have you been teaching? *I started teaching full-time in 2018.*

How did you get your start teaching SS? *My husband, Randall and I started attending Rick Mansfield's class when I began Southern Baptist Seminary. Rick often asked me to substitute teach for him. His job led him out of town frequently and eventually he needed to step down and asked if I would consider teaching the class permanently. It was a hard decision as he had big shoes to fill! He kept encouraging me as did others in the class.*

What do you like the most about teaching? *I love Bible study. Teaching takes a lot of preparation and study and I learn A LOT in the process. Teaching makes one accountable and I like accountability.*

Describe your teaching style. *I teach in a way that I like to learn. I don't want the Bible to just be a history lesson. I read once that the way to get the most out of Scripture is to put yourself in the narrative. God's Word definitely becomes very personal when you do that. My desire is that when I teach, one will understand that the message of the Bible is for you but most importantly, "it is JESUS FOR YOU!" From cover to cover, it is JESUS. We were always a fixture in His mind. I also want people to 1) **Think deeply** on Scripture – what is it saying? , 2) **Think differently** if need be while understanding the context and 3) **Think inwardly**. How do you apply it? How are you accountable to it's truth?*

What is the name of your class and why did your class choose that name? *Our class name is QUEST. Rick was the founder of the class and the original class came up with the name. I inherited the class. However, when you look up the definition of "Quest", it is a "long search for something that is difficult to find." Jesus is not hard to find. Look around you. Evidence of His love for us is everywhere! But, if you look up the definition of a Spiritual Quest, it is "to make a sacred inquiry, to search for the answer to a religious question." It is a good name for the class because we seek to inquire, question and contemplate what is true.*

Tell us about the make-up of your class (age range, avg number of people, etc). *Our age range is 50+ (I think. Apologies to anyone not 50!). Married and single. There are around 25 on our roll. Typically, we average 15-20 each Sunday. We try to do a class Social every other month and would love for anyone to come and check us out!*

What would you tell a potential visitor about your class? *Come on!!! We're very friendly! The church offers several Sunday School classes. Everyone has a different style. If our class isn't what you're looking for, I can point you to another one! It's important to be involved in small groups as that is where relationship building happens. Plus, QUEST is a fun group and we do breakfast the first Sunday of every month!!! Just saying he! he!*

Get Connected with a Sunday School Class

If you are not currently involved in Sunday School, be sure to visit one of our great classes at either 8:30am or 11am on Sunday. Being part of a good Sunday School class is essential to our growth and helps us to have a better community experience. If you need more info on our classes, please let us know and we will help you find a class that is great for you!

8:30am Sunday School Classes

Vineyard Class	Room 201	Rick Taylor
Pursuit	Room 202	Byron Thompson
Equipping the Saints	Room 205	Greg Barnes
Joy Class	Room 206	Mike Moore

11am Sunday School Classes

Truth4Life	Room 201	Mike Moore
Quest	Room 202	Cindy Childers
Bible Truth Seekers	Room 203	Lowell Ashby
Women's Class	Room 205	Linda Otterback
Multiply	Security Office	Ryan Gossom
SALT	Room 106	Matt Moore
Faith Works	Room 206	Billy Bell

Children's & Students Classes are held at 11am only.

Sunday School Fellowships help us to grow closer! Our Vineyard class recently enjoyed breakfast at The Farm Kitchen!



**Pickleball
Mondays at 6pm**

**Adult Volleyball
Thursdays at 6:30pm**
No Childcare Provided

Directory Update

Chuck & Marilyn Rhoads 5613 Harrods Glen Drive
Prospect, KY 40059

SBC STUDENTS

Xtreme Conference

A group of 22 students and adults went to the Winter Xtreme Conference in Gatlinburg, TN and it was amazing time! We were able to worship with Anne Wilson, Tauren Wells, Newsong, KB, and Casting Crowns. Speakers Zane Black, Tom Richter, Greg Stier, and Pete Hixson challenged us from God's Word. Best of all, two students made decisions of faith, one student chose to follow through with believers' baptism, and another student is meeting with Pastor Jesse about salvation. God was at work in this conference, and we are excited to see how the decisions will impact our student ministry in the new year!



Student Camp

June 26-30th

Missouri Baptist University

The cost is \$294 with a \$75 deposit due Sunday, April 23.

We are on the waiting list to go to Mfuge at Carson-Newman TN.

So, the location is subject to change.



Snow Tubing

At Perfect North

Saturday March 4, 2023

\$25 per person + money for Food

must sign waiver for Perfect North and the church



The event is open to families of middle and high school students. Everyone must sign the wavier for Perfect North and a new wavier for the church. We will meet at church at 9:30am. Depending on the group size, we may need volunteers to drive.

Baptism Celebration

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Marc Miller
Jude Miller
Karigan Tingle

Please be in prayer for them as they begin their new life in Christ.

2022 Budget Recap

As believers, we see evidence of how God has provided for us in the past, and that gives us hope for what He will do in the future. Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). This Biblical faith can be seen through this past year's challenges and accomplishments. We have worked through limited spaces, added new staff, and adjusted to the unstable economic times just to name a few. Through all of this, God continues to bless our church. We are seeing rising attendance during Sunday morning service and midweek ministries.

The 2022 operating results per the Treasurer's Report reflects a net surplus of \$50,967. Total General Operating Contributions were \$810,742 which reflected a shortfall of \$9,258 to the budget of \$815,000. Therefore, the operating surplus was achieved via containment of expenses primarily driven from the ministry staff not being fully in place for a portion of the year. The church's general fund balance of \$317,423 and additionally the general savings fund of \$220,000 provides adequate security and cushion in the event of any multi-year operating deficit. Our biggest concern and focus in 2023 will be achieving the operating budget, which is very aggressive relative to the current giving run rate. Additional costs relating to the new education building will add further emphasis on meeting the budget. We need to continue dialogue about increased giving as well as making tough decisions on how to fund a potential operating shortfall.

The Adventure Club has and continues to be a foundational piece of our church ministry to reach families in the community. The Adventure Club Council has already begun work towards operational changes that will lead to a balanced and self-sustaining operating budget. Exclusive of all governmental funding assistance, Adventure Club had a net operating loss of (\$179,475) in 2022. In the near term, government support has provided the Adventure Club with funding that will cover annual operating shortfalls for the next 5+ years while a longer-term financial plan is determined.

Our new building has been 20 years of work and planning in the making, and the time has finally arrived to enjoy the fruit of that labor. Although a new building comes with costs and increased responsibilities to maintain it, we should be grateful for the tool God has given us to reach and minister to others. SBC is in a great place financially given the capital campaign success a couple of years ago. With less than six months remaining, the project is scheduled for occupancy by the end of the second quarter. This addition will allow for expansion of our youth area, welcoming area, increased space for Sunday School classrooms, and allow for hosting of larger special events. On the technical side, Fire Protection, Security Access Control, Security Cameras and IT Systems will all be modernized. This will provide the best in safety and security for those who enter the doors of our church. Through December 31, 2022, we have spent a total of \$1,276,585 on construction of the new building, and we still have \$2,318,042 of funds remaining in our new building fund. The church currently has no debt, but if necessary, the church's budget is conservatively able to debt service a potential church loan up to \$900,000 to complete the building.

Mike Dugle, Finance Secretary
Scott Sageser, Finance Chair



Choir Practice

If you enjoy singing, we invite you to participate in our choir. We are currently practicing for our Palm Sunday presentation.

**Join us in Room 201 on
Wednesdays at 6:15pm.**

Volunteers needed!

Sunday morning slide operators and sound techs. We need at least one or two people to be trained to run computer slides and the same for the sound board. Experience is helpful, and a good ear and eye is needed.

Contact Matt at matt@simpsonvillebaptist.com if you would like more information.



**Adventure Club Preschool
pre-registration for the 23-24
school year begins on
February 1st!**

**Please contact Jill Sowder at
jill@simpsonvillebaptist.com for
more information.**



**FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 17
6:30PM**

**Bring the whole family
for a fun night of
fellowship and games
AND
a dessert or appetizer**

**Held at the Warehouse
7387 Shelbyville Rd.
Simpsonville**

Adult Growth & Discipleship

DISCIPLESHIP



Finding Contentment and Confidence in Your Finances

***Facilitated by
Gerry Davis & Billy Bell***

***Begins Sunday,
February 19 at 5pm***

God Owns It All tackles the money question we all ask: How much is enough? The answer to this question is found in God's Word. These biblically based principles are affirmed by the authority of Scripture and tested by the marketplace and will equip us to approach money management and financial planning with freedom, generosity, contentment, and confidence. When we apply the biblical truths offered in this study, our finances will be ordered, our decisions will be simplified, and our experience will invite contentment in all areas of our lives. Sign up in the foyer.



Saturday, February 24

PRAY WITH US!

Monthly 24-hour Prayer Vigil

Each month on the 24th, our SBC community holds a 24-hour prayer vigil for our church family, staff, Adventure Club, building progress and workers, and our building team leader.

You have the option of praying at home or walking the church campus. A prayer box is located at the entrance that provides prayer guides, devotionals and Bibles to assist you in praying.

**Community Prayer Group
Wednesdays at 10am
at the Warehouse.**

Please join us!

Church Family Prayer Needs

Our prayer wall is accessible on the church website.

It is updated as needs come in. You can also post your own prayer needs.

Byron Thompson, Chuck Rhoads, Robert Woodson, Allen Ruble, Larry Kerr, Shelia Shelburne,
Carter Richardson, Gloria Early, Patti Tocci, Bonnie Pruitt, Duvall Burk, Liddie Harper

Simpsonville Baptist Church
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