

July
2025

The Bridge

The Monthly Newsletter for FBC Franklinton



Welcome, Pastor Keith Sheridan and Family!

We are overjoyed to welcome Pastor Keith Sheridan, his wife Suzanne, and their family into our church family here at First Baptist Church Franklinton! On June 8, 2025, Pastor Keith came to preach in view of a call, and following a vote by our congregation, we are proud to announce that he has accepted the call to serve as our Pastor. His official first Sunday will be July 13th, and we invite everyone to join us that evening at 6:00 PM for a special Pastor Reception as we celebrate this exciting new chapter together. We are excited for the future! We are eager to see how God will work through Pastor Keith to lead and shepherd our church with vision, grace, and faithfulness.

As we step into this new season, we also want to express our deepest gratitude to Dr. Jake Roudkovski, who has faithfully served as our transitional pastor for the past two years. His wisdom, steady leadership, biblical teaching, and wise guidance have been a gift to our congregation during this time of preparation and transition. We are deeply thankful for the foundation he helped strengthen, the way he prepared our hearts for what God has in store, and the care with which he led us to this moment.

JUNE BAPTISMS & NEW MEMBERSHIP

- MaKenna Athey 6.15.25
- Drew Brown 6.15.25
- Christopher Burch 6.15.25
- Cora Burris 6.15.25
- Braelyn Johnson 6.15.25
- Jaylee Johnson 6.15.25
- Justin Jones 6.15.25
- Chyanna Stevens 6.22.25
- Sydney Thomassen 6.15.25

Glory to God



July
2025

Senior Adult Ministry

SAM



REV. JOEY MILLER, ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF PASTORAL CARE



“I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land... but I found no one.”
— Ezekiel 22:30 (NKJV)

Stand in the Gap

As we celebrate our great nation on the 4th of July, we remember that fateful day of 9-11 when America was attacked. Fear filled the streets as airliners were hijacked and headed toward the Capitol in Washington, D.C., and the financial center of New York. But years before heroes were born and raised, who stood up for the occasion? Nobody knew Todd Beamer outside his family and friends before that day. Now his name is an American legend. As he stood up on that fateful day to lead other passengers, his infamous words still ring in our hearts – “Are you guys ready? Let’s roll!”

We believe that he and the other passengers averted yet another attack on the Capitol in Washington, DC. And all of us remember that on 9-11, the firemen and policemen who were rushing into the World Trade Center while everyone else was rushing out. **That’s how we define a hero – Someone who rushes in when others are rushing out.**

God has always looked for men and women who would stand in times of need and make a difference for the glory of God. God spoke through Ezekiel to call forth heroes who would change the spiritual course in Israel. The leaders were not leading, and the preachers were not preaching, and so the people were in disarray.

Violence filled the nation, and evil prevailed. God called for a man to stand in the gap on behalf of the land and the people. But Scripture declares that He found no one.

Heroes are born every day, but we have relegated the title of “hero” many times to those in sports or on the movie screen. But the real heroes are those who stand in the gap every day. They are the fathers who stand in the gap between their children and a wicked society. They are the teachers who stand in the gap between the children they teach and a godless culture. They are the preachers and statesmen who stand in the gap to speak the truth from the Word of God regardless of what’s popular and faddish. They are the believers in the Lord like you and me who dare to stand in the gap of prayer to pray for our nation, our churches, our homes, our leaders, and our students. Will we answer God’s call to stand in the gap and make a difference? “Let’s roll!”

— Joey Miller

WORLD WAR II MUSEUM TRIP

Tuesday, July 29th
Look for opportunities to sign up at our welcome tables or in your Sunday School class or you may call the church office to register. This trip will be open to anyone interested.

FALL TRIP TO BRANSON:
We still have room on the bus for the October 6-10 trip to Branson. Don't miss great shows like The Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs and The David Show at the great Sight and Sound Theatre and four other shows. Flyers are available. Call the church office to register.

NURSING HOME WORSHIP SERVICES

JOIN US AS WE WORSHIP WITH THE RESIDENTS IN SONG AND BRING ENCOURAGEMENT TO THEM.

GOOD SAMARITAN -
MONDAY, JULY 7 @ 3:00 P.M.
FAIR CITY REHAB -
MONDAY, JULY 14 @ 3:00 P.M.

July
2025

FBC Student Ministry



BRO. DRAKE WESTMORELAND- NEXT GEN PASTOR



DISCIPLING A GENERATION THAT KNOWS CHRIST AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.

What's up, FBC Franklinton family! Man, God has done some big things in our student ministry throughout the month of June. God saved 7 souls while at camp, we hit a record high of 90 students at Midweek service, we are sending 9 students/leaders associated with our ministry to Honduras in July, and God has allowed us to grow closer as a body of believers throughout the month! I am thankful for what God has been doing throughout our ministry and can't wait to see what God has in store for the future!

I am excited for the month of July as we will announce our student leaders for the 25'-26' internship! These interns will have weekly assignments, monthly service projects, will serve close to myself as well as other adult leaders, and will go on a retreat in December! My goal is that we can be a ministry who disciplines the next generation of leaders to send them off to do the same. We want to be a ministry that makes disciples who make disciples!

I have two prayers requests:

1. As our student ministry is growing, we are running out of space in the student center. Pray that we can find a solution so that we can keep the momentum. God has been too good to us!
2. Pray for the student leader interns as they seek to grow in Christ and in leadership!

*Drake Westmoreland
Next Gen Pastor*



July
2025

FBC Student Ministry



BRO. DRAKE WESTMORELAND- NEXT GEN PASTOR



DISCIPLING A GENERATION THAT KNOWS CHRIST AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.



MaKenna Athey
was
Baptized
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438



Drew Brown
was
Baptized
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438



Cora Burris
was
Baptized
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438



Braelyn Johnson
was
Baptized
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438



Jaylee Johnson
was
Baptized
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438



Sydney Thomassen
was
Baptized
SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438

July
2025

FBC Kids Ministry



KELLY MCELVEEN, DIRECTOR OF FBC PLAYSCHOOL, CHILDREN'S AND PRESCHOOL MINISTRY



Raising a generation that knows Christ AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.

Tuesday, July 1st – Thursday, July 3rd:
CentriKid at Timber Creek Camp, Pulaski, MS

Tuesday, July 1st:
Deadline to sign up for the July 15th I Love Tuesday Trip to Honey Island Swamp
Details below

Wednesday, July 2nd:
No FBC Kids Wednesday Night Activities

Sunday, July 6th:
One Service Sunday, No Wee Worship
No 8:15 am worship service but join us for Sunday School at 9:30 am and 10:45 service!

Sunday, July 6th:
Family Fun Night at Hunt Branch Lakes
Check out The Bridge for more details!

Tuesday, July 8th:
Elementary I Love Tuesday at Fun World in Tylertown
Sorry, registration for this event closed on Tuesday, June 24th.

Tuesday, July 15th:
FBC Kids I Love Tuesday
Tentative, Jury Duty Pending
FBC Kids of all ages* are invited to join us as we head to Honey Island for a swamp tour! The cost is \$15 for kids and \$25 for adults. Plan to bring a picnic lunch (and probably sunscreen and bug spray, too!). Sign up with Mrs. Kelly by July 1st by emailing her at fbc.kids@fbcfranklinton.org. More specific details will be provided once you have signed up. This trip will be limited to the first 50 people to sign up.
**Preschoolers will need their own chaperone (parent/grandparent/guardian/babysitter) to attend.*

Tuesday, July 15th:
Deadline to sign up for the 6th Grade Farewell I Love Tuesday
Details below.

Tuesday, July 29th: 6th Grade Farewell I Love Tuesday
Our soon-to-be 7th graders will have their own day of fun in the sun at Serengeti Springs...but no passport is needed as we will be going to the one in Hattiesburg! There is no admission fee or lunch cost. Kids will want to wear a church-appropriate swimsuit under their clothes, bring a towel, sunscreen, spending money, and a change of clothes. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. and return to the church at 2:30 p.m. Sign up with Mrs. Kelly by July 15th by emailing her at fbc.kids@fbcfranklinton.org.

Sunday, August 3rd: Promotion Sunday
All children in grades PK3 and up will officially be in their new grade level. New 1st Graders and new 7th Graders will be recognized in one of the morning services and receive a new Bible.

And, last, but certainly not least,
Wednesday, August 6th, 5:30 pm – 7 pm:
Back-to-School Celebration
It's all fun and games till summer is over...or is it? School may be back in session, but we'll have an evening of fun and games (and food!) to help celebrate the start of something new! Wear clothes you can get wet in, and be sure to bring a towel!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old one has passed away, and see, the new has come! – 2 Corinthians 5:17

-Kelly McElveen

CentriKid Camp Prayer List: Campers:



Addison
Barrett
Berkley
Bram
Brody
Cambree
Christian



CJ

Emersyn
Ethan
Henry
Jett
Jude
Khloe
Lil



LouLou
Mack
Madden
Madelyn
Mason
Oliver
Owen
Sawyer
Seryn
Turner

Chaperones,
Jessica
Jordan
Kelly
Scott
Tonya



July Wee Worship Volunteers



6th: No Wee Worship
13th: Cindy Knight
20th: Alex McElveen
27th: Callie Moore

July
2025

FBC Kids Ministry



KELLY MCELVEEN, DIRECTOR OF FBC PLAYSCHOOL, CHILDREN'S AND PRESCHOOL MINISTRY



Raising a generation that knows Christ AND MAKES HIM KNOWN.



Justin Jones
was

Baptized

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438

Vacation Bible School 2025 – Magnified

What an incredible week we had at this year's Vacation Bible School! With nearly 300 children walking through our doors and over 100 volunteers showing up with joy and purpose, God moved in a mighty way. Our Magnified theme reminded us to focus on the greatness of our Creator, and we saw that truth come to life every single day. Fifty-eight children made decisions for Christ, and twenty-four indicated a desire to follow in believer's baptism. We are rejoicing with Heaven over each and every one! The spirit of giving was also deeply magnified this week. Our children collected a total of 4,652 non-perishable food items for the Washington Parish Food Bank and raised \$7,257.46 to help spread the Gospel along the SPICE Road in Italy. Watching their hearts ignite for missions was one of the most moving parts of the entire week. It's a reminder that even the smallest hands can make an eternal impact when we say "yes" to being used by God. To every single volunteer: whether you served by teaching, crafts, sports, build-it, tracks, security, snacks, worship, check-in, or behind the scenes, **thank you!!** Your time, energy, and love didn't go unnoticed. *A special thank you goes to Donna Vega, whose talent and heart brought our VBS spaces to life. Her art and dedication created an atmosphere of awe and wonder for our kids.* From the bottom of my heart, thank you for helping make this year's VBS one we'll never forget. God was glorified, and His name was magnified. Until next year!

-Sierra Smith, VBS Director



Pictured: Wendi Fortenberry (Green Team Leader), Kelly McElveen (Yellow Team Leader), Bro. Keith Sheridan (Pastor to the rescue!), Liz Russell (Worship Rally Leader), Butch Reviere (Red Team stand in for Bro. Drake), & Sierra Smith (Blue Team Leader & VBS Director)

The moment Bro. Keith Sheridan came in to rescue Mrs. Kelly from her fate of eating the scorpion for losing the mission's challenge!

JULY

TWENTY TWENTY FIVE

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
<p>*THERE WILL BE NO MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST SUNDAY, JULY 6TH *</p> 		<p>01</p>  <p>FBC KIDS @ CENTRIKID</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p>	<p>04</p> 	<p>05</p>
<p>06</p> <p>ONE SERVICE SUNDAY 9:30 AM-SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM-WORSHIP SERVICE *NO WEE WORSHIP*</p> <p>FAMILY FREEDOM SUNDAY 6 P.M.</p>	<p>07</p> <p>WORSHIP @ GOOD SAMARITAN 3 P.M.</p> 	<p>08</p> <p>FBC KIDS ELEMENTARY I LOVE TUESDAY AT FUN WORLD IN TYLERTOWN</p>	<p>09</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
 <p>13</p> <p>PASTOR RECEPTION 6 PM</p> <p>WEE-WORSHIP: CINDY KNIGHT</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>FBC KIDS I LOVE TUESDAY HONEY ISLAND SWAMP</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 5 PM</p> <p>WEE-WORSHIP: ALEX MCELVEEN</p>	<p>21</p> <p>WORSHIP @ FAIR CITY REHAB 3 P.M.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>DEACONS MEETING 4 PM</p> <p>WEE-WORSHIP: CALLIE MOORE</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>FBC KIDS 6TH GRADE FAREWELL I LOVE TUESDAY</p> <p>SAM TRIP TO WWII MUSEUM</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		

FBC FRANKLINTON IN HONDURAS-----

July
2025

FBC Events



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FAMILY FREEDOM SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FAMILY RETREAT DAY & 4TH OF JULY BBQ AT HUNT BRANCH LAKE

FREE ENTRY

JULY 06 AT 6 PM

DEVOTIONAL- FELLOWSHIP- FAMILY FUN- 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION- RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY JULY 1ST. TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE.

51539 LOUISIANA INDUSTRIES RD, FRANKLINTON, LA 70438

www.fbcfranklinton.org 985.839.3427



Chyanna Stevens
was
Baptized

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
franklinton
(985) 839-3427 OFFICE

SERVICE TIMES

Sundays
Worship Services
8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study
9:30 a.m.

Choir Practice
4:30 p.m.

Wednesdays
Wednesday Night Supper
5:00 p.m.

Preschool, Children,
Youth Activities
6:00 p.m.

Adult & Ladies Bible
Studies
6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m.

[http://](http://www.fbcfranklinton.org) CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT
[WWW.FBCFRANKLINTON.ORG](http://www.fbcfranklinton.org)

VBS 2025 :
TOTAL MISSIONS:
\$7,257.46

VBS 2025 :
TOTAL NON-PERISHABLE FOOD
ITEMS COLLECTED:
4,652



Christopher Burch
was
Baptized

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025
First Baptist Church
Franklinton, LA 70438

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
950 SELF STREET
FRANKLINTON, LA 70438

PSRT STD
NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 27