

JULY 2023

THE PINNACLE

First Baptist Church of Middlesboro, Kentucky

P.O. Box 839 606-449-5564 office@fbciddlesboro.org



Welcome! [Again!]

WRITTEN BY REV. ZACHARY L. BAY

Believe it or not, the church newsletter you're accustomed to receiving each month has been in service for nearly 10 years! One of the first moves I made after arriving in 2013 was to recruit Evan Harrell to help redesign the church newsletter. It was then that it took its current form, and then that I named it "The Pinnacle." Other than changing the color scheme a couple of years ago, it's remained largely *unchanged* for a decade. Time flies!

Welcome to the first full overhaul of The Pinnacle. I've worked hard this month to make it happen. Enjoy!

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What's inside our latest issue:

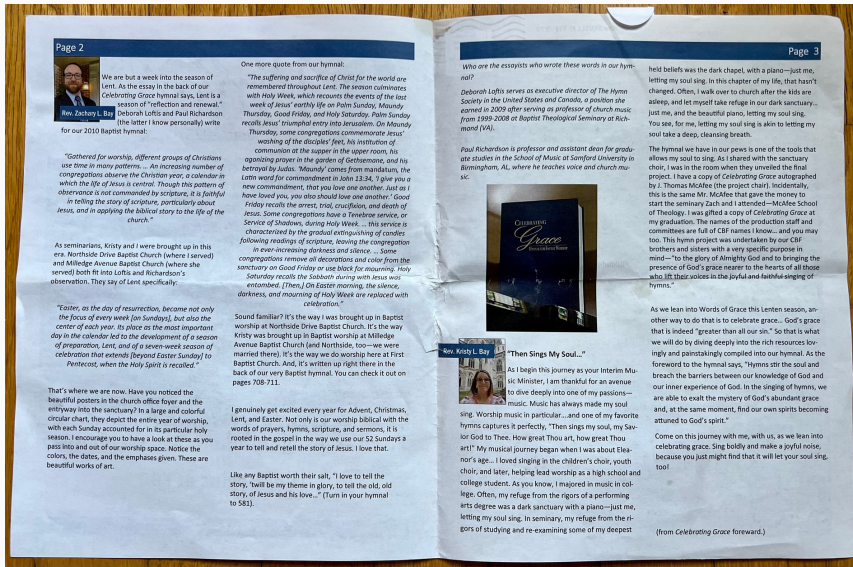
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New Pinnacle

WRITTEN BY REV. ZACHARY L. BAY

The redesigned Pinnacle you are reading is a completely new newsletter, inside and out.

On the inside in the church office, we're using new software. This software streamlines the design and layout processes. It is full of modern graphic design tools. It allows the church office staff to collaborate virtually in the creation of The Pinnacle—we can all work on the same publication from our own computers, separately or even simultaneously! For the staff, these are all firsts and improve both our creative capacity and workflow efficiency. Win-win.

On the outside, whether in print or on your screen, you get a beautiful, up-to-date publication.

You can still expect to get great writing and great photos in The Pinnacle. You will still receive a church calendar and upcoming birthday lists. What the old Pinnacle did in 7 pages the new one does in 4 through deeper design integration and streamlining. What was before a longer publication of semi-connected parts is now a shorter unified whole.

You will receive The Pinnacle however you have already chosen to receive it: on paper, digitally, or both. To change that, email the church office.

The Pinnacle exists to capture and retell God's Great Story as lived out in the many small stories of First Baptist Church. I am truly delighted that you are one of our readers!

“The Pinnacle exists to capture and retell God’s Great Story as lived out in the many small stories of First Baptist Church.” –Rev. Zach Bay



We are ONE in Christ...

WRITTEN BY REV. KRISTY L. BAY

Galatians 3:23-29 is one of my favorites. Perhaps because I am a woman in ministry and have faced all sorts of critiques and criticisms, this passage encourages me. Whatever boxes we have constructed around the label "Christian" and then tried to stuff everyone into are cut open and flattened by these verses. We are all one in Christ. I can't think of anything that screams "Good News!" louder than that!

Sometimes, I wonder if we're secretly grateful that Paul was writing in a different era than ours. Paul only lists three ways his culture separated people. Now, in 2023, we have so many more ways to separate, don't we? We separate people along racial lines, economic lines, citizenship lines, geographic lines, sexual orientation lines, educational lines, denominational lines, political lines, technology lines, gender lines, age lines, cultural lines... and the list goes on and on.

The good news of the message of Galatians erases those lines. We are all one in Christ Jesus. Oh, that the body of Christ was strong enough, faithful enough, to rise to this challenge and actually live it out! If we cannot follow through on the Good News of the Gospel, how can we expect anyone else to see it as *Good News*? If we cannot treat one another within the church as if we are one in Christ, then how can we expect to be examples of Christ's message to others?

Friends, we live in challenging times. There are so many voices and institutions that say and do so many things in the name of Jesus that Jesus himself would have no part of. Let's sit with Gal. 3:23-29 long enough to allow the Holy Spirit to tug at us so that we might truly live out what we believe: that in Jesus Christ we are all ONE...and that is the very GOOD NEWS the world needs to hear from the church today!

July Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Evan Harrell, 4057 Mooncoin Way, Apt 10207, Lexington, Ky 40515 | 18 Ron Branscom, 507 Fairview Rd, 40965 |
| 4 Jack Greene, Jr., 1007 Gloucester Ave, 40965 | 19 Glenna Laws, MNRF, 235 New Wilson Ln, 40965 |
| 7 James Carl Shumate, 104 Kingsbury Hgts, 40965 | 19 Ethan Shumate, PO Box 1427, 40965 |
| 8 Destiny West, 141 Eagle Ln, Tazewell, Tn 37839 | 19 Helen Harris, PO Box 754, 40965 |
| 10 Maredith Goodin, 3526 Creekwood Dr, Apt 3, Lexington, Ky 40502 | 26 Paula Adams, PO Box 485, 40965 |
| 13 Kelly Shoffner, 2906 Cumberland Ave, 40965 | 28 Adam Frederick, 219 Cosby Cir, Tazewell, Tn 37879 |
| 13 Rudelle Greene, PO Box 955, 40965 | 29 Conner McGeorge, 7956 Wilderness Rd, Ewing, Va 24248 |
| 16 Christopher Barton, PO Box 1427, 40965 | 30 David Mike, 114 Apline Rd, 40965 |



What's Happening at FBC?

**ADD EVENTS BY EMAILING
OFFICE@FBCMIDDLESBORO.ORG**

July 2 - 10 AM Fellowship in the Foyer
11 AM The Worship of God
The Service of the Lord's Supper

July 4 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling
Church Office Closed
Independence Day Holiday

July 5 - 5:45 PM Wednesday Meal Pick-Up
No Wednesday Night Activities

July 6 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

July 9 - 10 AM Fellowship in the Foyer
11 AM The Worship of God
6 PM Deacons Meeting

July 11 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

July 12 - 5:45 PM Wednesday Meal Pick-Up
No Wednesday Night Activities

July 13 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

July 16 - 10 AM Fellowship in the Foyer
11 AM The Worship of God

July 18 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling
5 PM Finance Committee Meeting

July 19 - 5:45 PM Wednesday Meal Pick-Up
No Wednesday Night Activities

July 20 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

July 23 - 10 AM Fellowship in the Foyer
11 AM The Worship of God
12:15 PM July Church Business Meeting

July 25 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling
6 PM Venture Women's Circle

July 26 - 5:45 PM Wednesday Meal Pick-Up
No Wednesday Night Activities

July 27 - 9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

July 30 - 10 AM Fellowship in the Foyer
11 AM The Worship of God

August Birthdays

1 Gyspie Bellar, 120 Truman Ct, Harrogate, Tn 37752
2 Patty Greene, 1007 Gloucester Ave, 40965
4 Reagan Gulley, 209 Foxglove St, Harrogate, Tn 37752
5 John Brown, 2116 Cumberland Ave, 40965
5 Isaac Lawson, 316 Sugar Loaf Rd, Seymour, Tn 37865
7 Judy Ausmus, MNRF, 235 New Wilson Ln, 40965
11 Catherine Wilson, PO Box 757, 40965
11 Don Emmett, 815 Winchester Ave, 40965
14 Micah Lee, 700 Twin Fawn Tr, 40965
16 Sharon Burchfield, 8 Thaxted Ln, 40965

19 Vic Kaw, 157 Wellington Dr, 40965
21 Sharon Goodin, 704 Gloucester Ave, 40965
21 Freeman Thompson, 601 Elmwood Dr, 40965
23 Nikki Branscom, 507 Fairview Rd, 40965
26 Bryan Cox, PO Box 1381, 40965
26 Mark Watson, 215 Nottingham Dr, 40965
28 Wayne Greene, PO Box 955, 40965
28 Wayne Ausmus, 1307 Gloucester Ave, 40965
29 Lawrence McGeorge, 7957 Wilderness Rd, Ewing, Va 24248
31 Judy Grandey, PO Box 1375, 40965