

PETERSBURG FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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—†— *The Mission in Motion* →

Worship in the Building



Sunday, February 21 at 10:45am

We'd love to invite you to worship with us this Sunday in-person or on Facebook Live! Who knows what the weather will bring, but we're grateful to the Lord for every provision and every blessing. Special thanks to the guys who have helped clear our sidewalks and parking lots!

If you have any needs during this winter season that we can help with, such as picking up medicines or other essentials, please feel free to contact us and we'll see what we can do!

Children's Discipleship Ministry

Starts this Sunday, Feb. 21!

Children through 6th grade are invited! It will be held downstairs during the sermon portion of the Sunday morning worship. We are teaching from "The Gospel Project for Kids" curriculum – a Christ-centered teaching journey that helps children discover how the gospel unfolds from Genesis through Revelation. Parents, all teachers and children will wear masks and social distance while downstairs together. In case of inclement weather (again), we may need to cancel on any given Sunday.



Worship through Giving

Thank you for remaining faithful and generous in your giving! Here are some ways you can give: **Send a check by mail.** First Baptist Church 103 W. Sangamon Ave., Petersburg, IL 62675 **Drop off during office hours; 9am-1pm, Mon-Thurs, or in designated area before/after church.** **Generosity by LifeWay** – Visit our website at <http://fbcpetersburgil.org/online-giving> to give via credit or debit card. You can also download the Generosity app on your smart phone! **PayPal.** You are welcome to give using our PayPal account!

Inner City Mission



At our last Business Meeting, we voted to donate \$1,000 each to two of our ministry partners – Inner City Mission and WLJ Radio. We had planned in 2020 to receive special offerings for each of these ministries, but due to the ever-changing circumstances we did not do it.

In the next two newsletters we'll feature highlights of these ministries, starting here

with the [Inner City Mission](#) in Springfield, whose mission is...

Providing shelter, sustenance, education and Christian counseling to homeless children, their parents and single women while keeping Biblical truths about Godly righteousness before our culture, community, and fellow Christians.

ICM works for the mental and spiritual transformation of the heart, mind, and soul of those who find themselves homeless, giving them the needed tools to obtain and maintain permanent housing. This is accomplished by providing a safe environment in which the love of God can do its work.



Our church's collection of clothes for the Inner City Mission is on hold right now due to the Covid situation, but we are glad to continue supporting and praying for the work of this needed ministry in Springfield. Thank you for giving to enable us to help further this gospel mission!

Activities, Meetings & Practices

J.O.Y. –The JOY group will not be gathering again until March.

FBC Vocal Ensemble – Practice on Sundays at 5:00 pm

Praise Team – Practice Tuesdays at 6:30pm

2021 Business Meetings – May 2, August 22 & December 12.



Weekly Bible Study and Prayer Groups

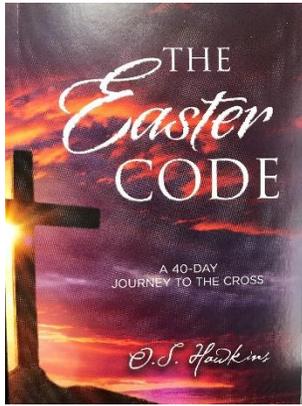
ZOOM PRAYER MEETINGS –Wednesdays at 10:00 am & 7:00 pm. See e-mail link to join.

LIFE GROUPS – Join us for men's, women's, and co-ed Bible study and fellowship! Sundays at 9:15 am & 6:00pm. Also Wednesdays at 6:30pm! For adults of all ages!

SISTERS IN CHRIST – Sundays at 6:00pm in the prayer chapel. Women of all ages are invited to come as we discuss the book of Romans, fellowship and hold each other up in prayer.

MIGHTY MEN OF GOD – We are studying "The Power of Jesus' Names" on Sunday nights at 6:00, featuring the teaching of Dr. Tony Evans. All men are invited to come.

YOUTH GROUP – Feb. 21 – Bible Study from 6-7pm; Feb. 28 – Bible Study and Dinner – 6-8pm



*Draw closer to Christ this Easter season
as you celebrate His resurrection!*

We have purchased 100 copies of this 40-Day Journey to the Cross – a tool designed to help you focus on repentance from sin and consecration to God during the season leading up to Easter. We would love to have you stop by the office (or on Sunday) to pick up a copy for yourself and one to give away (maybe to your “one” for whom you’ve been praying to come to faith in Jesus).

Prayers and Praises

Praises:

Valentine’s Night at the Movies!
Zach’s brain surgery went well!
Protection from frigid weather!



Recent Requests:

Sinda Venegas – painful foot issues
Debbie Chandler – hospitalized/weakened condition /cancer
Adalynn, Keith & Carolyn’s 2 mo. old great granddaughter-2 infections/failure to thrive
Joanne Kraner – covid pneumonia/hospitalized
Shirley Squires – Sciatica inflammation/recent fall/severe pain
Karen Hinds – heart attack/revived
Ice & snow/frigid temps/power outages/traffic issues across US
Tim Kincaid – problem w/eyes
Courage and boldness for D’Anna’s Nigerian friends in court

Upcoming BFI, HBN & IBSA Events

March 6 – Baptist Foundation of Illinois **scholarship evaluation day**, Tabernacle Baptist Church in Decatur. Evaluators are needed in the selection process. See Mihaela Sexton for details.

March 13 - **VBS Preview** “Concrete & Cranes” – Chatham Baptist Church, 8:30-Noon

May 3-7 – **Streator Work Week** Trip

June 7-11 – **HBN Kid’s Camp**

July 26-August 4 – **Rio Mission Trip**

August 7-14 – **Chippewa Nation Mission Trip**

IBSA Priority Conference – April 23-24 // Keynote Speaker: **Anne Graham Lotz**

Register online at: <https://www.ibsa.org/ministry-resources/womens-ministry/priority2021/>

Three Options to attend: 1. In-person, O’Fallon FBC - \$55 (includes lunch and swag box)
2. Online only - \$30 (swag box mailed to your home)
3. Online only - \$15 (no swag box)

Schedule: Friday, April 23 7:00pm – 9:30pm and Saturday, April 24 9:00am – 3:00pm

Pastor's Study

“But God, being rich in mercy,
because of the great love with which He loved us,
even when we were dead in our trespasses,
made us alive together with Christ –
by grace you have been saved.”
Ephesians 2:4-5

If you haven't already, add these verses to your all-time favorites and impress them deeply in your heart and mind. This is gold!

In Ephesians 2:1-10, Paul lays out the glory of the gospel of God's love. And he basically says, “Here's the deal: Apart from Christ, we're dead. But in His great love for us, God has made us alive in Christ! You can't earn it, but you can receive it by faith as a gift. And I would say it doesn't get any better than that, but hold on! In the ages to come God's going to astound us with the riches of His grace beyond measure for all eternity!”

Let me break this down briefly.

Apart from Christ, we're dead. No pulse, no life, no hope. Because we've all sinned, we're all alienated from God and worthy to receive His divine wrath, which means eternal death and the torments of hell. And there's nothing we can do to save ourselves. A dead man can't make himself come alive. The influence of the world, the influence of Satan, and the influence of our own sinful nature deservedly places us under the condemnation of God.

God has made us alive in Christ. What we could not do for ourselves, God did for us by sending His Son to take the full brunt of God's holy, just, and righteous wrath against sin. Jesus became sin for us, that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. And so in His resurrection, we are raised up with Him. And in His exaltation, we are seated with Him in glory. Truly it is solely by His grace that we have been saved from divine judgment through faith.

He saved us to show us His great love. I hope and pray we never lose the wonder of God's love for us. Let me echo Paul's prayer for you: “And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God” (Ephesians 3:18-19).

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky
(Frederick M. Lehman)

– Pastor Rob