



## Pastor Search Update

We're excited to share that the church has officially partnered with Vanderbloemen, a trusted organization that specializes in helping churches find pastoral and ministry leadership.

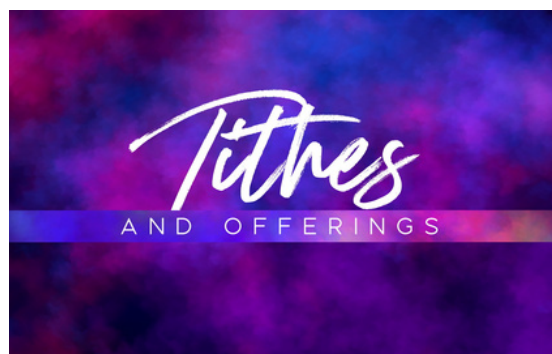
Jeff Bachman, a representative from Vanderbloemen—who also serves as a teaching pastor—will be visiting First Baptist on Sunday, November 9th. He will bring the morning message and then spend time meeting with our church leadership team to learn more about our congregation, our vision, and our needs for our next Senior Pastor.

After gathering this information, Vanderbloemen will begin the process of prayerfully identifying potential candidates who could be the right fit for our church family.

While we're thankful for this exciting step forward, we know that finding the right pastor is not just a process—it's a spiritual journey. We ask that you join us in praying for God's clear direction, the Holy Spirit's guidance, and His perfect will to be done in every decision ahead.

Together, let's trust God to lead us to the shepherd He has prepared for First Baptist Church.

Sincerely, Steve Struble,  
Pastor Search Committee Chair



## 2025 Tithes & Offering - Year To Date

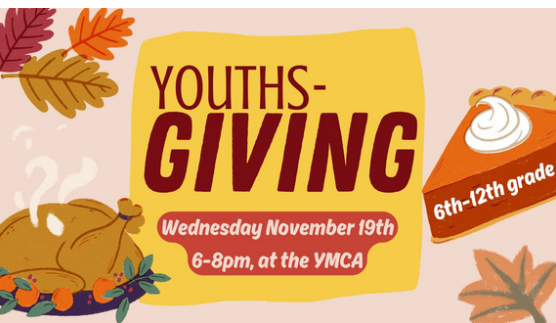
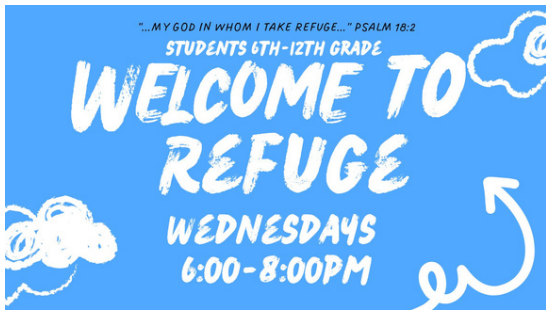
Giving Needed to Meet 2025 Budget - **\$515,253.52**

Current Expense Giving - **\$516,595.96**

Building Fund Designations - **\$154,054.06**

Deacon Fund Designations - **\$2,835.00**

Total Giving - **\$673,485.02**



# REFUGE STUDENT MINISTRY

**Refuge at the Y!**-All 6th-12th grade students join us at the YMCA in Aledo for the Refuge Youth Group on Wednesday nights! Games, small groups, snacks, and more will be provided on Wednesdays from 6 pm (check-in) to 8 pm (pick-up). Hope to see you at the YMCA this Wednesday! **NO REFUGE NOVEMBER 26TH.**

**Boomsisters Christmas Craft Camp**-All girls in grades 6th through 12th are invited to join us for a Boomsisters Christmas Craft Camp on November 15th from 10 am-2 pm here at FBC in the Fellowship Hall. Admission is a non-perishable item for the food pantry. Lunch provided. A treat to share is encouraged. Sign-up deadline is Nov. 10th.

**God's Gals**-Girls-6th-12th grades are invited to join us on Mondays from 6-7 pm in the Enon Room. Our current study is *Jude-Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture* by Jackie Hill Perry. Jump in any time! Questions, see Rhonda McKinley or Vickie Korns.

**High School Bible Study**-We meet from 6-8 pm at Nick & Justina Abbadusky's home 408 NE 12th St., Aledo. Our next meeting is Saturday, Nov 1st, and then we'll meet every other Saturday after that. Join us as we continue the journey and study 2 Peter. We will learn the importance of becoming mature in our faith so we can be strong, effective, and productive in our knowledge of Jesus Christ. Please bring your Bible. Dinner is provided and free to attend. Sign up at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com).

**YouthsGiving**-All 6th-12th grade students are invited to join us on Nov. 19th from 6-8 pm for YouthsGiving at the YMCA in Aledo. Games, Thanksgiving day food & more!

**FCA**-We are challenging all students to join us for Fellowship of Christian Athletes Huddles at MC High School and Jr. High. The high school meets every Thursday at 7:15-7:50 am in room 210, and the Jr. High meets every Friday at 7:30-7:55 am in room 23. All students are welcome; breakfast provided!

# KIDS CLUB

All kids ages 3 years old - 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us for our last two sessions of Kids Club on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00pm. We have been learning about the life and ministry of Paul and how we are all called to share the Gospel. If you haven't been able to make it yet, we'd love to have you join us!! Please sign-up online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) for easy check-in.



## MISSION PROJECT

### Mission Project

There is still time to help the kids fill 50 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes! Please bring personal care and "Wow" items to Kids Club on Wed., Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.

- "Wow" Items - soccer ball (deflated) and pump, doll, stuffed animal, musical instrument, large toy truck/car
- Personal/Other - toothbrush, washcloth, comb, flashlight, sunglasses, fidget toys, hat, water bottle/cup

## Operation Christmas Child PACKING PARTY

### OCC Packing Party

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, everyone is invited to wear red or green and join us as we celebrate all the amazing items we've collected for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! We'll pack boxes, have fun, and take a big group picture to include in every shoebox we send—sharing joy and Jesus with kids around the world!



Kids have been working hard on two very special Bible Verse songs and can't wait to share them with the Church family on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. They will be singing at the beginning of the 10:15am service. Kids should check-in downstairs before 10:10am. After they are done singing, volunteers will take them back downstairs for Kids Worship. Parents will pick them up in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Please remember your pick-up tags.



### Together Celebrating the "King of Kings"

Feeling busy and pulled in many directions? This Advent season, let's slow down and come together as one big church family! Join us in the sanctuary Sundays, Nov. 30–Dec. 21, from 9:10–9:55am for a special time of worship and reflection. Kids will check in upstairs before Sunday School, and nursery care will be available for ages 2 and under. Let's prepare our hearts together for the celebration of Jesus!





## Women's Better Together Event Nov. 8th 9am-Noon @ FBC

Ladies, we can't wait to see you! ❤️ We look forward to a beautiful morning of growing together in God's Word and worship with our special guest musician and speaker, Delayna Sneed. A delicious brunch will be served as we gather for encouragement, connection, and praise. Please note—childcare will not be provided. We look forward to sharing this special time together! Registration for this event is now closed.

## 2026 Women's FLOURISH Small Groups!

Are you ready to deepen your relationship with Christ, while also growing in community with others? Registration will open November 8th and run through December 13th for the 2026 Women's Small Groups. Small groups will be going through "*The Way of the Wildflower: Gospel Meditations to Unburden Your Anxious Soul* by Ruth Chou Simons" starting in January. This study focuses on releasing our burdens to the Lord in order to live freely. All ladies need to register, even if you have been in the program before. You can register with a group of friends, or ask to be placed with some new ones! Small groups will decide when, where and how often they meet, though the recommendation is at least once a month. Please register online at [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) or at the QR Code to the right, and your group leader will be in contact with you in January. For questions, please see program coordinator Crystal Clark.



Mark  
your  
Calendar

LADIES, YOU ARE INVITED TO J.O.Y. CIRCLE

*Christmas Party*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

EVENT DETAILS COMING SOON!

\*PLEASE NOTE, NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER.



# Other Happenings!



The El Salvador Mission Team is having a Dessert Auction on Sunday, Nov. 9th following the 10:15am service in the overflow. We will auction off your yummy treats to help fund our February Mission Trip. So, bring your tasty, well-known desserts (cakes, cupcakes, pies, cookies, breads, any sweet treat) to FBC on Nov. 9th. John Welch will be our Auctioneer. Bring a sack lunch to the auction if you like! We need bakers and bidders to make this fund raiser successful! Questions, see Cindy or Lonnie Maynard or any El Salvador Mission Team Member.



Yikes! Christmas is right around the corner! Do you need a few hours to get your Christmas shopping done? Well, drop off your kids here at the church on Saturday, December 6th from 10am-3pm and we'll provide lunch and activities while you enjoy getting everything checked off your list. Doors will open at 9:45am for drop off with pick-up being promptly at 3pm. This will be a great time to shop local as it is Holly Days in Aledo!

Please ensure you have listed an emergency contact for your children and that you have updated their medical notes to include any food allergies. If you'd rather pack a lunch for your child, that's fine, just put that in the notes section.

*Sponsored by the FBC Marriage Ministry & Men's Ministry.*

## 1 Night Grief Seminar Coming to FBC in November!



Grieving a loss? Know someone who is? **Join us for GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays, a one-night seminar offering hope and support during a difficult season.** This event is designed to help you navigate the challenges of grief during the holidays.

**Date: Thursday, Nov. 20th 6- 8PM**

**Location: FBC, Enon Room**

**Leaders: Joe & Kathy Olson**

**Register online:**  
[firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com)

You're not alone—find comfort and community as we walk through this season together.

## FBC MEN'S MINISTRY



# FBC Blessing Box/ MC Food Pantry & Helping Hands Ministry



## Let's Lend a Hand to Our Neighbors in Need

As many of you know, food insecurity continues to be a growing struggle for families right here in Mercer County. Both the Mercer County Food Pantry and our own FBC Blessing Box are seeing record levels of need.

The Food Pantry has recently put out an urgent plea for more food to meet the increasing number of people walking through their doors. Likewise, our FBC Blessing Box (located in the FBC north parking lot) —open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week—has become a constant source of help for those in our community. Volunteers report restocking the box several times a week with up to seven bags of groceries at a time, and it is often emptied out within hours.

This November, let's come together as a church family to "give a boost" to both the MC Food Pantry and the FBC Blessing Box. We're inviting everyone to bring at least one canned good or other non-perishable food item this month. Donations may be placed in the marked wooden crates in the church lobby any time by Sunday, Dec. 7th.

Even a small gift can make a big difference for a family in need. Together, we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. ❤️

Helping  
HANDS



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



**SATURDAY, NOV. 1ST**

CHECK IN AT 7:30AM IN THE CHURCH FOYER  
RETURN AT 12:00PM FOR FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

## Helping Hands Ministry Serves Our Community This Saturday!

Our Helping Hands Ministry will be out and about in our community this Saturday, November 1st, lending a hand to those in need of a little extra help around their homes. Volunteers —both youth and adults—will be tackling projects such as yard work, minor repairs, and other simple tasks, all done with a spirit of love and service.

We invite you to pray for our volunteers as they serve, that their efforts would be a blessing and a reflection of Christ's love. Please also pray for the individuals and families they will be helping—that each one would feel cared for, encouraged, and reminded of God's faithfulness through this ministry.

Together, we thank God for the opportunity to be His hands and feet right here in our community! .

# Nursing Home Christmas & RightNow Media



## Nursing Home Gift Ministry

The Best Time of the Year is Almost Here!! We know that for many of you, your favorite time of year is fast approaching! Your chance to help us out in collecting and dropping off Christmas gifts for the local nursing homes will be here before you know it!

NURSING HOME GIFTS can be placed in the marked box in the lobby starting Monday, November 24th. We will be collecting unwrapped gifts until Tuesday, December 16th. The residents love small fleece blankets, small stuffed animals, adult coloring books with markers, chocolate candy, sugar free candy, metal tins of cookies, and slipper socks with grips. Please feel free to take a list of gift ideas from the front of the tote.

Cathy and Linus Griswold are coordinating this effort and would love for you to donate gifts. Your help would also be greatly appreciated for sorting and packing the gifts on Tuesday, December 16th at 10am. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pam at the church office at (309) 582-7812.

Thank you so much for your help with this project!



## Right Now Media

**Did you know** First Baptist Aledo has access to a FREE extensive video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV. RightNow Media has videos for everyone—kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals—all aimed at helping you grow.

Sign up at [firstbaptistaledo.com/resources](http://firstbaptistaledo.com/resources) or e-mail Pam at the church at [firstbaptistaledo.com](mailto:firstbaptistaledo.com) and say "Sign Me Up for Right Now Media" and you're all set to explore more than 20,000 videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!





## Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

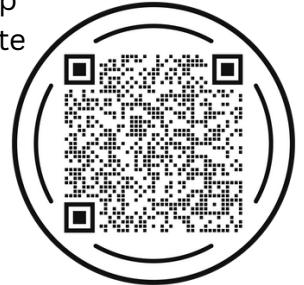
Operation Christmas Child uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. You may pick up an empty OCC shoebox with instructions in the church lobby! Return your filled box by Sunday, Nov. 23rd along with \$7 for shipping cost (check made payable to Samaritan's Purse). The Women's Ministry pays the remainder of the shipping cost. Questions, see OCC Coordinator Pam Ricke at the Welcome Desk or call the church office at 309-582-7812.




## OCC Collection Week at FBC

FBC Aledo is excited to be a Collection Site for the Samaritan's Purse project, Operation Christmas Child. We are honored to be a place where individuals, churches and organizations can bring all the shoeboxes that they have filled.

**National Collection Week is November 17th - 24th.** We are looking for volunteers from all area churches to help with various aspects of this event; set-up, tear-down, and collection of boxes. If you'd like to volunteer, please sign up on our website or in the Church App.





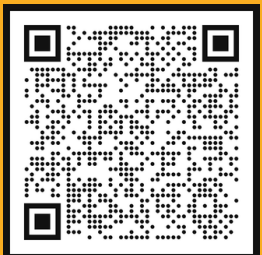
# FREE Thanksgiving Meals

## Thursday, November 27th starting at 11:00am

Three Options to Receive Your Free Meal

1. Pick-up at FBC.
2. Delivered to your home.
3. Dine In at the Senior Center.

RSVP Required.  
Call 309-582-7812 or visit  
[www.firstbaptistaledo.com](http://www.firstbaptistaledo.com)





# Thanksgiving

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH 10:30AM-12:00PM



**SIGNUP AT  
[WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM](http://WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALEDO.COM)**



## Let's Give a Boost to the MC Food Pantry!

In the month of November Boomisters Bushels of Love is encouraging each person to bring 1 canned good for the MC Food Pantry. Please bring your canned items no later than Sunday, Nov. 30th and leave it in the totes/bushel baskets in the lobby.



### Together Celebrating the "King of Kings"

Do you ever feel busy, rushed, and pulled in many different directions? This Advent season, let's pause and come together as one big church family! Everyone is invited to join us each Sunday, November 30th–December 21st, from 9:10–9:55am in the sanctuary for a special time of worship and reflection as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus.

#### Kids Ministry Details:

- Kids will check in upstairs in the foyer before Sunday School.
- Pre-K–1st grade will head downstairs for Kids Worship after Sunday School.
- 2nd–5th grade will remain upstairs for the beginning of the 10:15am service, then be dismissed to Kids Worship.
- If you can't attend Sunday School, you can still check in your kids for Kids Worship downstairs as usual.
- A nursery will be available for children 2 years and younger.

Let's prepare our hearts together for this wonderful celebration of Jesus throughout the Advent season!

*There will be no regular Sunday School classes those weeks.*



Join us at FBC through Nov. 12th each  
**Wednesday from 6:30–8pm for  
Wednesday Night Live!**

**2 weeks left!** There are classes for the whole family designed to help grow your faith and deepen your fellowship with others! **Adult Classes, Kids Club, Nursery and Refuge Student Ministry.** It's free to attend and open to the public! Invite your friends! **Wednesday Night live will take a break after Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> and resume Feb. 4th–March 11th, 2026.**



## 2025 Coat Giveaway

Update from Kady Hofer on the 2025 Coat Giveaway!

You all came through in a BIG way for this record-breaking Coat Giveaway! 🙌 Many hands made light work—thanks to the incredible volunteers and generous coat donations. When we started to run low after Thursday night, we put out the call, and you delivered! 🎉

Drumroll please... Over 200 coats were given to kids and adults this year! The remaining coats were shared with local schools and nonprofit organizations.

To God be the glory! ❤️

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**800 NE 6TH AVE.**  
**ALEDO, IL 61231**

**PHONE: 309.582.7812**  
**E-MAIL: FBCALED02@FRONTIERNET.NET**  
**WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTALED0.COM**

**PRE-SORTED STANDARD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**PERMIT NO. 102**  
**ALEDO, IL 61231**

## **Stay Connected!**

·We offer worship at 8am & 10:15am. Sunday School for all ages is at 9am along with a nursery for 0-2 years old. We have Kids Worship at the 10:15am service as well as a nursery for babies 0-2 years.

·For all the details about our upcoming events and live streaming Visit [FirstBaptistAledo.com](http://FirstBaptistAledo.com).

·Listen to WRMJ 102.3 at 10:30am each Sunday.

·Download the "Church Center App" from the App Store or Google Play and choose "First Baptist Church, Aledo, IL" to easily sign up for church events, check our church calendar, give online, watch sermons and receive important church notifications.

·Find Us On Facebook.

·Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.



**Love Christ. Love Others.**  
**Think Biblically.**



**Thursday, November 27th**  
**starting at 11:00am**



**Three Options to Receive Your Free Meal**

**Pick-up at FBC. Delivered to your home. Dine In at the Senior Center.**

**RSVP Required. Call 309-582-7812 or visit [FirstBaptistAledo.com](http://FirstBaptistAledo.com)**