



Beloved First Family,

Grace and Peace in Christ our Lord! I'm so excited to:

### CONGRATULATE THE MINISTER OF ACTIVITIES JOHN ELLIOTT!

As of this past Sunday, our man John has served our church for 10 years! We'll recognize and honor John and his family this coming Sunday in each of our services! Make sure you congratulate John and express your appreciation to him for his faithful service!



### A SIGNIFICANT STEP FOR OUR CHURCH

This Sunday evening at 5 PM in our Fellowship Hall is our monthly church conference. It's our chance to make decisions together and practice stewardship over God's resources which have been entrusted to us. This Sunday night, however, will be anything but business as usual. Throughout the life of our church, we've had a rich history of launching new churches. From the end of WWI through 2000, we were launching a new work about every 10 years. Since we launched Stonegate in the late 1990s, however, we have not done so. It's time we do so again. Only this time, in a 21st century sort of way.

For the last several years, I've been praying

for an open door for our church to start a new work on North Big Spring street, near the entrance to Midland Country Club. If you've driven that area, you know it's exploding with new growth! According to a recent demographic study, there are more than 3,500 housing units in the area between A Street and Fairgrounds Road north of Loop 250. What would it be like if we put a new FBC campus right in the middle of that? For months now, we've been working on just such a plan and – after more prayer and fasting that I think I've ever done – we're ready to present it to you for your approval this Sunday night in our church conference.

I want to be clear - this proposed campus – entitled "First Family Fellowship" – will be a satellite campus of our church, not a new church body. It will be an extension of us, just on another campus. Should you vote to approve this new work they will meet at 1201 Tejas, near the new Midland Meat Market and the Dollar General. Three Sundays of the month, their services will be a broadcast of our services, just as if they were in another part of our building. The fourth Sunday will be led by the campus pastor. You'll have to come Sunday night (or wait till next week's Banner!) to learn who that is.

As for governance and operations, the satellite campus will be under our by-laws, policies and governance to provide them with the right start.

How will we pay for this? Through the generosity of a First Family member, we have more than sufficient funds to operate this campus without touching FBC budget funds.

Lastly, this is anything but like what we did with Stonegate. We will NOT be sending big groups of people to the new campus. Frankly, there isn't room to do so. The core group of families – led by our campus pastor – will be responsible for building a church body from the ground up.

My prayer is that you'll come Sunday night having prayerfully considered this opportunity. I'll be talking about some of our history of missions in Midland and why I believe this is an important step for us.

### GOD SPEAKS: DESIRES

When I was in high school, my home church (First Baptist Church, Joshua, TX) was pastored by Dr. David Hampton. He told a story of when he was struggling with God's calling on his life. A young man, he was working for the Kimberly-Clark paper goods company when he was saved and called to ministry. But he wasn't quite sure of his call. Was it REALLY God's call or did he just really WANT it to be God's call? He confided in one of his co-workers about his dilemma. The co-worker responded wisely – "Could it be that your desire to preach is God's call?" David never looked back. Although he's retired now, from then until now, hardly a Sunday has passed that David hasn't preached somewhere.

This Sunday, we'll take up how God can speak through our desires. May God make his voice clear in your life today.

Your servant,

Darin

### CHURCH CONFERENCE AGENDA

April 25, In Fellowship Hall at 5 PM

- Approval of Minutes (March 31, 2021)
- Approval of new members
- Grant Church Letters
- Reports:
  1. Church Council Chairman
  2. Personnel Committee Chairman
  3. Finance Committee Chairman
- Old Business
  1. Campus Expansion Committee Report
- New Business
  1. Approval of Volunteer for Preschool Ministry –Kim Castillo
- Other Business
- Adjourn

**SUNDAY, 4/25**

8:15 AM Blended Worship Service (*extended care 8:15 only*)  
 9:30 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Worship Service  
 Contemporary (Worship Center),  
 Traditional (Chapel), & Family (Fellowship Hall)  
 Español Service (Student Worship Area)  
 4:00 PM Information meeting: Tour Kentucky trip in September  
 5:00 PM Church Conference  
 Youth Choir  
 6:00 PM Youth Discipleship Classes

**MONDAY, 4/26**

11:45 AM Brotherhood luncheon in the Fellowship Hall.  
 Cost: \$6 and must RSVP by Sunday.  
 Call Carl Brown if questions, 432-557-6810

**WEDNESDAY, 4/27**

4:45 PM Wednesday Family Meal in the Fellowship Hall  
 RSVP each week, online, at [fbc-midland.org/events](http://fbc-midland.org/events) in  
 the Wednesday Family Meals tab or at:

[myfirstfamily.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/166/responses/new](http://myfirstfamily.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/166/responses/new)

**Menu:** Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes / Gravy, Green Beans,  
 Tossed Green Salad, Biscuit, & Cherry Pie

6:00 PM Orchestra Rehearsal  
 WEBS (room E114)  
 Preschool & Children's Choirs  
 Student Ministry Pizza (Activities Building)  
 6:30 PM Student Ministry Midpoint Bible Study (E-Hall)  
 6:45 PM R.A.s, G.A.s, & Mission Friends  
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, 4/28**

9:00 AM: Ladies Precept Class  
 10:30 AM Joyful Sound Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
 12:00 PM: Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

**Opportunities to Serve**

**Bless This House!**

Our Kent Mission Houses

OUR TWO KENT MISSION HOUSES HAVE  
 BEEN REMODELED & NOW IT'S TIME TO  
 FURNISH THEM FOR OUR MISSIONARY  
 GUESTS.



DETAILS AT:

[FBC-MIDLAND.ORG/EVENTS](http://FBC-MIDLAND.ORG/EVENTS)

Please use the Amazon, Bed Bath & Beyond, and the Walmart registry  
 links, below, to purchase household necessities that our guests will  
 use.

Purchases may be dropped off at the Missions Office Monday -  
 Thursday, from 8am-3pm or may be shipped to the Missions Office.

If you would rather give a monetary donation, you may do so and be  
 sure to mark your gift "Mission Houses".

All gifts need to be received by **April 25th**.

Be watching for information in a future Banner regarding an Open  
 House Invitation!

Amazon: [amzn.to/3dkhJPM](http://amzn.to/3dkhJPM)

Bed Bath & Beyond: [bit.ly/3e6cyl0](http://bit.ly/3e6cyl0)

Walmart: [bit.ly/Walmartfbc2104](http://bit.ly/Walmartfbc2104)

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**June 7-10, 2021**

**PRESS PLAY**

GET IN THE MIX

It will look and feel very different from any VBS we've ever done  
 before, and we're excited about how God can use us to reach families  
 for Christ this summer!

Each child will be assigned one day to be on-campus and in person,  
 according to the grade he/she just completed! PreK/K will attend on  
 Monday, 1st/2nd graders on Tuesday, 3rd/4th graders on Wednesday  
 and 5th/6th graders on Thursday.

Families who aren't getting out yet can still fully participate using digital  
 materials at home! On their 'at home' days, kids and parents can  
 access high quality videos with Bible stories and worship songs, as  
 well as other hands-on activities that help families learn more about  
 what it means to follow Jesus.

If you are interested in volunteering, you can talk to Sarah, Amy, or  
 Allison, or call the church at 432-683-0600. We are thankful for the  
 chance to reach our community for Christ this summer and sure hope  
 you'll join us!

**REGISTER at:**

[myfirstfamily.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/159/responses/new](http://myfirstfamily.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/159/responses/new)

**TOUR KENTUCKY – THE BLUEGRASS STATE**

**September 2021**

Come join us for a tour of The Ark, The Creation Museum and the  
 Louisville Area!

**Interest Meeting Dates**

**Sunday, April 25th—4pm (Parlor)**

**Thursday April 29th—1pm (Parlor)**

**55+ SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE**

**Sunday, June 6th**

5pm-Chapel: Hymn Sing

**Sunday, July 11th**

Dinner and Fellowship with  
 Haywire Bluegrass Gospel Band

**Sunday, August 8th**

Movie Night: Genesis - Part 1 "Paradise Lost"

**CAMP IN THE CITY**

**July 5th - 9th**

9 AM - 4 PM FBC Midland

Cost: \$310 (Scholarships available)

We'll be jumping, cheering, and singing each and every day, Monday  
 through Friday, in the most incredible week of your child's summer.

Register today! [pinecove.com/city/fbc-midland/](http://pinecove.com/city/fbc-midland/)

**STEWARDSHIP REPORTS**

April 18, 2021

Offering	Weekly	Year to Date
FBC Offering	\$ 146,834	\$ 4,066,387
Budget Requirement	\$ 127,000	\$ 4,181,382
Over/Under Budget	\$ 19,834	\$ -114,995
Hope 1:8	\$ 200	\$ 515,466
Annie Armstrong	\$ 4,310	\$ 31,267

**How to Give Online**

Click the round button link located on the bottom right side of the  
 website and follow the steps for online giving.

