

THE BRIDGE

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During these past few months, we have certainly had to GROW in our knowledge on how to CONNECT with and SERVE others!

THANK YOU to all those who have stepped out of their comfort zone to try new things. We've had a surge of Facebook followers, members learning how to Zoom or even use the Internet, and a multitude visiting our website.

Please remember the best way to ensure you are receiving accurate, up-to-date information is to regularly check our website, www.fbcfrankfort.church. On the homepage, there are scrolling slides. Almost all slides link to a page with details of the announcement, just click on the slide to access the information page. In addition, each Monday we post a weekly update with the schedule for the week.

As we navigate the future days, please let us know how we can communicate with you, and thank you for your patience as we all learn to CONNECT—GROW—SERVE in 2020!



THE BRIDGE
First Baptist Church of Frankfort
June 2020 Newsletter

For
I KNOW *the* **PLANS**
 I HAVE FOR YOU,
DECLARES *the* **LORD,**
 PLANS FOR WELFARE AND NOT FOR EVIL,
to give you a
FUTURE *and a* **HOPE.**

JEREMIAH 29:11

From the Associate Pastor of Missions Search Committee

First Baptist Church:

The Associate Pastor of Missions Search Committee has been working diligently over the past several months. We are fortunate that several qualified applicants have shown interest in the position. Knowing that missions is the heart of our church, we prayed for guidance and discernment at all stages of the process. As the committee wraps up its work, and on behalf of the committee, I would like to tell you about one of the candidates, Michelle Carroll.

Michelle grew up in a small rural town in the South. She graduated cum laude from The University of Georgia with Bachelors degrees in Religion and Communications. She went on to earn a Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in Community Transformation and a Graduate Certificate in Christian Social Enterprise from the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University, a seminary affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Michelle has served as missional outreach associate at a church in Tennessee, nonprofit community director in Georgia, chaplain intern in Georgia, scriptwriter and project manager for a faith-based film company in Georgia, and as a graduate chaplain fellow at a college in rural Indiana.

Michelle demonstrated to the committee through video interviews and an in person meeting that her education and experience have prepared her well for service in missions in our church. She is familiar with doing missions work in small and rural towns, she has experience involving students in missions work, she has worked with volunteers in multiple settings, she has been in charge of projects and programs, and she has worked with the type of populations that we serve.

All of the above make Michelle an outstanding candidate for consideration by First Baptist Church. The committee is impressed by Michelle's educational accomplishments and work history, but we are even more impressed by her outstanding communication skills, her passion for missions, how well she handles herself in dealings with the committee, her down to earth nature, her humble spirit, and her enthusiasm for the position. Michelle is wise beyond her years.

The Associate Pastor of Missions Search Committee is excited for you to meet Michelle Carroll.

Sincerely,
Dana Cox Nickles, Search Committee Chairperson
Brent Simpson
Susan Hopkins
Larry Cleveland
Adell Kemper
Gary Forman
Cindy Fogg



Michelle Carroll
Candidate, Associate Pastor of Missions

Meet the Candidate

FBC is providing a variety of opportunities for you to meet Michelle Carroll, Associate Pastor of Missions candidate. Please make an effort to take part in one or more of the following applicable opportunities.

- Saturday, June 13, 6:00 pm—ZOOM MEETING WITH FBC MISSIONS ADVISORY TEAM. Michelle will meet with our Mission Advisory Team via Zoom to answer their questions.
- Saturday, June 13, 6:30-7:30 pm—ZOOM MEETING WITH FBC CONGREGATION. During this hour, FBC congregation members are invited to meet Michelle and ask any questions.
Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88254681292>
Zoom Meeting ID: 882 5468 1292
- Sunday, June 14, 9:45 am—FACEBOOK LIVE WITH DR. FELTON AND MICHELLE. During our Sunday School hour, Dr. Felton will meet with Michelle, Live, on our Facebook page, First Baptist Church at the Singing Bridge. You may post questions during the live feed and we will try to address those during that time.
- Sunday, June 14, 10:50 am—MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE. During our morning worship service, Michelle will share part of her testimony and why she feels called to missions and First Baptist Church.

HAVE A QUESTION BUT AREN'T ON THE INTERNET?

If you a member without internet access and, therefore, cannot take part in the Zoom or Facebook Live opportunities, you may call our church office at 502.227.4528 and give your question to either Richard Summers or Keith Felton. Either will be happy to relay your question to Michelle and then her response back to you before the voting period.

Called Business Meeting

The Associate Pastor of Missions Search Committee will make a motion to call Michelle Carroll as our Associate Pastor of Missions at the conclusion of our worship service on Sunday, June 14.

Members of the congregation will be asked to vote in one of the following two ways:

1) Email your vote (yes or no) to info@fbcfrankfort.church by noon on Monday, June 15,

Or

2) Call the church office and leave a message at extension 7 by noon on Monday June 15. If calling on Monday morning, a staff member will transfer you to the proper extension.

Election results will be announced on our website, www.fbcfrankfort.church by Monday evening.

Once the candidate responds to the decision, that decision will also be announced on our website.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

201 St. Clair Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Office: 502.227.4528
Website: fbcfrankfort.church
Hours: Mon - Thurs, 8 - 4:30

Dr. Keith Felton

Senior Pastor
kfelton@fbcfrankfort.church

Rev. Richard Summers

Associate Pastor of Music & Administration
rsummers@fbcfrankfort.church

Rev. Marcus Pernel

Associate Pastor of Students
mpernel@fbcfrankfort.church

Jenny Luscher

Interim Associate Pastor of Children
jluscher@fbcfrankfort.church

Kara Johnson

Director of Communications, Office Manager
kjohnson@fbcfrankfort.church

Linda McKinley

Organist

Lois Summers

Pianist

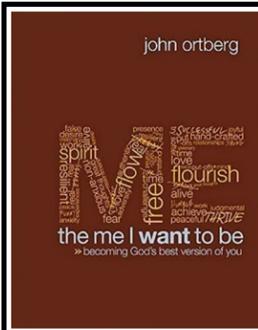
Anthony Hager

Building Superintendent

Seldon Jackson

Assistant Custodian

NEW BOOK STUDY



Beginning Tuesday, June 16 at noon, we offer a 5-week book study of John Ortberg's *The Me I Want to Be: Becoming God's Best Version of You*. This Zoom small group will be led by Rev. Richard Summers. Books are available on Amazon for approximately \$10.00. To register, email rsummers@fbcfrankfort.church. All details are on our website at www.fbcfrankfort.church.

LADIES' SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Pollyanna Sunday School class is meeting on Sunday mornings at 9:45 am via Zoom and invite all ladies to join. If interested, please email Adell Kemper at adell_pk@hotmail.com for the Zoom invitation and with any questions you may have. All of our Sunday School details can be found on our website, www.fbcfrankfort.church.

ANIMATE: BIBLE



On June 21, FBC will start an 8-week video-based series, Animate: Bible. Join us as we dig deeper into the Bible and how it came to be. The videos can be viewed solo, during the week, or as a group on Sunday mornings at 9:45 am. You also have the option of group discussion on Sunday mornings via Zoom, online discussion on our CLOSED Facebook page, self study, and/or group discussion on a different day. For all the details, please visit www.fbcfrankfort.church.

FIT AT FBC

Rev. Marcus Pernel, Certified CrossFit trainer and coach, is offering our congregation some of his knowledge and guidance this summer in connecting our physical health with our spiritual health. He's teaching 2 classes EACH WEEK in June via Facebook Live on our church's Facebook page. Look for the scrolling slide on our website for details.

YOUTH NEWS

First Baptist Church
Youth Ministry

Preparing for Summer 2020

All sorts of both Spiritual Growth and Fellowship Activities are planned

for your 6th-12th graders this summer including SUNDAY SOLO, MOVE-IT MONDAYS, WEDNESDAY EVENING YOUTH GROUP, MOBILITY THURSDAYS, AND FRIDAY GAME NIGHTS. For more information, email Rev. Marcus Pernel, Associate Pastor of Students, at mpernel@fbcfrankfort.church, or visit our website and look for the scrolling slide.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

First Baptist Church
Children's Ministry

Preparing for Summer 2020

A multitude of activities are available for your pre-school-5th graders this summer

including SUNDAY SCHOOL, GODLY PLAY STORIES, CHILDREN'S BULLETINS, WEDNESDAY EVENING CHILDREN'S TIME, AND PASSPORT KIDS CAMP. For more information, email Jenny Luscher, Interim Associate Pastor of Children, at jluscher@fbcfrankfort.church, or visit our website and look for the scrolling slide.



After consulting with medical professionals, staff and the Deacon body, our facilities will remain closed for the month of June. This is a hard decision, but extraordinary times call for difficult solutions. Even if one disagrees with this decision, please know I am doing my best, with the counsel of many, to keep us all as safe as possible.

What does this mean for us? I wholeheartedly believe with every crisis comes opportunities to step up and bravely confront difficulties that arise. We cannot meet in person, but this does not mean we stop our connecting, growing and serving with one another. Don't miss our Sunday worship experiences on Facebook Live. Participate in one of the book

studies being offered via Zoom. I haven't stopped Bible study on Wednesday evening and it is also on Facebook Live. I realize many of us are learning new technology and I know personally that is not always an easy thing. BUT it is doable. I know some of our members in their eighties who have learned and are learning how to adjust in these virtual experiences, so they can remain connected to our church family. We all can make an effort to stay connected, to keep growing and be steadfast in our service to one another and our community.

We can remember our tithes and offerings. Your efforts in this regard have been truly commendable and one day as I look back on this season, one of the positives will be how you were faithful in giving. My prayer is we will have a 'summer surge' in our offerings. I am personally going to contribute more during the summer months. This is not meant to be a 'pat on the back' but to lead by example. Who will join me?

For months now, I've labored in thought concerning our search for Associate Pastors. As most of you know, our Search Committees for both the Associate Pastor of Missions and Associate Pastor for Children/Spiritual Formation completed their processes before the pandemic hit. We have two very qualified individuals waiting for their 'in view of a call' services to possibly join our staff at FBC. Initially, I knew attempting to bring on new staff during this pandemic was not wise. We had no idea how the consequences of the virus might affect us financially. I also thought, incorrectly, if we held off for a bit, this crisis might soon pass. We know now that is not the case. So, my mindset has shifted and I began communicating with our Search Committees, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, staff and Deacon body about how we might proceed in the months of June and July in order to bring these candidates in view of a call.

The response was overwhelming from these entities that because of the uncertainty with when we might be able to get back to in-person gatherings we should find the healthiest possible route in going ahead to virtually bring these candidates before the church. I realize this is not ideal – but nothing is at this juncture. I believe we can adequately meet the candidates, hear their testimonies and why they feel called to FBC, hear from the chairs of the Search Committees, ask questions and ultimately vote in a suitable manner honoring our church bylaws.

With the approval of both Search Committees, we will bring before the church their candidates for Associate Pastors. First is the candidate for Associate Pastor of Missions. She will come in view of a call Sunday, June 14. She will virtually meet with our Missions Advisory Team and our congregation on Saturday (June 13). On Sunday morning, she will be part of our Sunday school hour. She will give her testimony during the worship service along with telling why she feels called to FBC. After the service, we will come to order and will vote within a window of time that ends on the following Monday. We are planning a similar process for the candidate for Associate Pastor of Children/Spiritual Formation on the weekend of July 18 and 19.

I have been with the Search Committees over the past several months as they have worked diligently on this important task. I am confident of their selections and feel strongly that FBC will fall in love with these candidates who are eager to minister to you and our community.

Please pray for me as I am certainly praying for all of you. First Baptist, you are the church, so go be the church – act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God.

-Keith