



From front cover

We declare that as we delight in the Lord, our heart's desires are aligned with His will, and He fulfills them abundantly in May.


**Prayer:** Pray together, with Fran and me this prayer: Heavenly Father, as we enter the month of May, we pause to express our gratitude for the fresh beauty and the renewal that this spring month symbolizes. May this month be filled with evident growth, in our personal faith, in our relationships, and in our contributions to **Your** kingdom. Amen.

Peace and blessings,

*Pastor Jim & Fran*



**ASIA**  
[cmfi.org/engageseasia](http://cmfi.org/engageseasia)



**Please pray for:**

- Craig and Allison as they transition to SE Asia and focus on language and culture learning
- New relationships and connections for them in that location
- Them as they work on creating new business platforms that will open up doors for the gospel



First Baptist Church  
201 South Main St.  
Benton, IL 62812  
618-438-7661

[bentonfirstbaptist.org](http://bentonfirstbaptist.org)

May 2026

# The Herald

*Hello May*

*“Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart” (Psalm 37:4).*



In the biblical context, “May” is often interpreted as the fifth month, symbolizing grace. (5 is often associated with grace in biblical numerology.) Spiritually, it represents a period of growth, renewal, and transformation; a transition from spring to summer, often linked to the “Harvest” of blessings.

In the month of May we celebrate Mother’s Day (May 10th) and Memorial Day Weekend (May 23-25). There are the Kentucky Derby (I will watch) and the Indianapolis 500 (I will not watch).

Do you know that you are special in the eyes of our Lord? We are Chosen and Known: (1 Thessalonians 1:4). We are not a random act of fate. We are God’s precious children, specifically chosen and deeply loved, not merely lost in the crowd. We can Cast our Burdens on our Lord: (Psalm 55:22). God asks us to leave our worries in His hands rather than carrying them ourselves; He promises to sustain us. We are New Creations: (2 Corinthians 5:17). We are part of God’s renewal in the world, a living sign, a part of His work.

*Continued on the back cover*



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
of Benton  
Worshipping God ~ Sharing the Gospel ~ Serving Others

## Update From the Trustees

- ❖ A presentation on church insurance was made by SCD Rea & Sons Insurance concerning church insurance for the remainder of 2026 & the first half of 2027. Kinsal insurance company was selected for property insurance coverage and The Hartford was selected for the Liability Insurance. The cost of both totaled \$15,836.
- ❖ The Board accepted Steve Meyer's resignation with regret. We thank Steve for his service.
- ❖ Due to a change in IRS rules, the pastor's housing allowance will be increased to \$744 to offset the church's portion of the SECA taxes that the pastor will now pay.
- ❖ The pastor & Carl will prepare a proposal remodel the ladies' north west bathroom using metal wall coverings.
- ❖ A card and gift will be presented to Tesa Morris in appreciation for her good work.



**May Offering  
Pork and Beans**



Krisley showing her empty tomb from Children's Church.

*Opening the Door to Jesus*  
**REVIVAL**  
MAY 31 - JUNE 1, 2026 | 6PM NIGHTLY

*A call to  
Salvation &  
Renewal*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
201 S. MAIN STREET, BENTON, IL 62812  
(618) 438-7661

SPEAKERS: BRO. BOB DICKERSON  
& BRO. ROB MATHIS

*Bible Study*  
**Open the Door:  
Prayer**  
*That Welcomes Revival*

Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall  
• 10:00 a.m.  
*All are welcome!*

## MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

5th David Perkins  
11th Susan Stickel  
16th Carolyn Aiken  
19th Vicki Seagle  
26th Richard Mattison



Our Ministry Team will take the Good News to **Heritage Woods and Stone Bridge** this month. Join us!

## LADIES INVITED TO COFFEE

All ladies are invited to 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Coffee at The Buzz on **May 6th** at **9:30a.m.** Bring your prayer requests and a friend.



## THIS MONTH

May	1st	10:00 A.M.	Ministry @ Heritage Woods
May	6th	9:30 A.M.	Ladies Coffee @ the Buzz
May	9th	9:00 A.M.	Prayer Meeting
May	12th	9:00 A.M.	Trustee Board Meeting
May	13th	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
May	15th	10:00 A.M.	Ministry @ Stone Bridge
May	20th	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
May	20th	2:00 P.M.	Deacon Board Meeting
May	23rd	9:00 A.M.	Prayer Meeting
May	27th	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
May	31st	6:00 P.M.	REVIVAL
June	1st	6:00 P.M.	REVIVAL

## WEEKLY

Sun.	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service



Facebook

Hey Friends!

Look for us on Facebook.

Search for First Baptist Church of Benton, Illinois and Follow us.

We want to use this page as an evangelistic tool and to promote our church.

Please Like, Follow, and Share so we can spread the Good News in our community.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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## Staff

Rev. Jim Jenkel, Pastor

Tesa Morris, Administrative Assistant