



November 2021

# Tower Tidings

First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland



*The Path  
in all your ways  
submit to him, and  
he will make your  
paths straight.*

*Proverbs 3:6*

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### Trust in the LORD with all your heart

Days are growing shorter and the pandemic is lasting longer. Lord give us strength to protect our bodies, minds, and faith.

Our sanctuary is open for worship but due to COVID-19 most of our classes and meetings are still via Zoom. Our worship service is also streamed [LIVE Sunday morning on YouTube](#) while previous videos can be

viewed anytime on our [YouTube Channel](#). Visit our [Church Updates](#) page for any changes. If you have anyone who needs our prayers please [submit a request online](#) for our prayer team. Stay healthy! If you have any trouble accessing any of our activities or have challenges using technology call Pastor Kregg 216-882-8555 and he can connect you with someone who can help!

# PSALMS



## Life with the Book of Psalms

### Psalms for Storms

The storms of life come in all shapes and sizes. For instance, some are literal storms like hurricanes and tornadoes that ravage communities. Others come in physical or emotional illnesses like cancer, viruses, depression or anxiety. And still other storms come as a result of day-to-day circumstances like losing your job, being in an accident, having a loved one pass away or having a friendship fall apart. In these difficult times, Scripture can provide help and hope, to comfort and calm. The book of Psalms provides messages of inspiration in the midst of the storms.

Perhaps in your reading of the psalms, you have come across some favorites.

The following verses are timeless treasures to be reminded of God's faithfulness and help in the midst of the storms of our life.

### Psalms of Comfort

Psalm 9:9 – "The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."

Psalm 23:4 – "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."

Psalm 27:1 – "The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Psalm 30:5 – "...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

Psalm 34:17-18 – "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit."

Psalm 40:1-2 – "I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry; He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps."

Psalm 46:1 – "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 55:22 – "Cast your burden on the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved."

### Psalms of Encouragement

Psalm 56:3-4 – "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), in God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?"

Psalm 71:20-21 – "You, who have shown me great and severe troubles, shall revive me again, and bring me up again from the depths of the earth. You shall increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side."

Psalm 86:17 – "Show me a sign for good, that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; because You, Lord, have helped me and comforted me."

Psalm 91:2-4 – "I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge..."

Psalm 94:19 – "In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul."

Psalm 119:50, 52 – "This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your word has given me life. I remembered Your judgments of old, O Lord, and have comforted myself."

May these Psalms of comfort uplift your spirit in whatever storms you might be experiencing. These have been difficult days with COVID-19. Only now are we beginning to look beyond the devastation of the impact of COVID-19. Storms move on but leave behind destruction and devastation requiring us to rebuild our world. May these verses provide inspiration as we rebuild our world to withstand the future storms of life.

  
Pastor Kregg Burris  
Senior Pastor

## Sunday Discipleship Hour

*Praying with Jesus* by Dr. James Banks

Facilitated by Marty Capers

Starting 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

"As we live within this complex and unpredictable world, prayer is vital to our existence, our mental health, and primarily to our relationship with Jesus Christ. In essence, every season should be a season of prayer. The theme of this study is to help us develop a life of prayer which will manifest in us through our ever-deepening interactions with God who created us and loves us." In this study, Dr. Banks beckons us to develop a more in-depth understanding of prayer. Furthermore, he highlights effective strategies which will enhance our ability to speak with our Lord and Savior through prayer. Dr. Banks is providing a spotlight on the most significant conversations we will have during our lives; those we have with God. Don't miss this thought provoking discussion about the privilege and power of prayer!



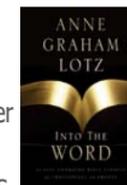
## Wednesdays In The Word

*Into the Word* by Anne Graham Lotz

Women's Bible Study

Facilitated by Martha Lant and Rev. Sandra Alexander

Starting at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom



This book is described as a "roll-up-your-sleeves look at Scripture." As noted by the author, "These fifty-two weekly studies emphasize personal application and will draw you directly into God's Word...to love Him more. Each lesson contains a short reflection that considers our present-day way of life, but the richness in the lessons stem from the connections to Scriptures in the Old and New Testaments.

As explained by the publisher, the author does not attempt to explain her interpretation of the Scriptures, but through questioning leads the reader to personally dig into Scripture. So please join the Women's Bible Study to discover God's message for yourself!

*Into the Word* by Anne Graham Lotz -

Women's Bible Study

Facilitated by Tobili Sam Yellowe

Starting at 7:30 p.m. via phone conference

*The Passion Translation: The Passion Life Bible*

*Study Series: The Book of Hebrews* by

Brian Simmons - Men's Group

Facilitated by Eddie Wills

Starting at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Come, join the Men's Bible Study, and deepen your biblical understanding of the book of Hebrews. As stated by the author, "The book of Hebrews presents Jesus as gloriously divine, wonderfully human, and the fulfillment of the Old Testament. It is also one of God's greatest gifts to His church as it provides an expository look at the person, life, covenant, sacrifice, and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is indeed greater than all others." This magnificent book of the Bible leaves the reader with an incredibly rich understanding that "Jesus is better than everything that had come before and that would come after him." Hebrews is relevant to every believer today. For it clearly states that Jesus is the same yesterday, and



today and forever. Hebrews also contains the verse that sustains us through challenges as it reminds us that faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. So, come let's spur one another on as we meet to learn more about Jesus, our high Priest, who offered for all time one sacrifice for sins.

*Psalms: Poetry, Praise, and Passionate Prayer Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching* by James L. Mays

Facilitated by Rev. David Chapman

Starting at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

The Book of Psalms has been a favorite of Jewish and Christian believers for centuries. For many of the faithful, this is the "go-to" book for divine guidance and solace. But it is far more than a book of simple comfort and sentimentality. The psalmists expressed deep, often passionate emotions ranging between exaltation and rage, triumph and despair, all in the context of their relationship with the living God.

Using a layperson-level commentary written by a widely respected scholar, this course will survey principles for interpreting the psalter, and examine more deeply several individual and representative psalms. Join us in studying this timeless book of songs and poetry, and learn to embrace more of the passion that is central to our faith!

## Thursdays

*Study of the Bible-Book of Exodus and Leviticus* - Women's Small Group Bible Study

Facilitated by Rev. Sandra Alexander

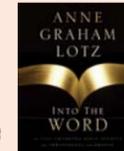
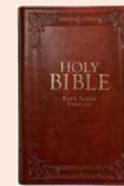
Starting at 10:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. via phone conference

*Into The Word* by Anne Graham Lotz

Women's Bible Study

Facilitated by Rev. Sandra Alexander

Starting at 7:30 p.m. via phone conference



For more information about adult classes email Rev. Sandra Alexander at [salexander@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:salexander@firstbaptistcleveland.org).

## Children's Ministry



The children meet in person on the first and third Sundays during worship service. This plan is contingent upon having sufficient volunteer coverage. We will notify families by Saturday afternoon via email if we need to cancel a class. On the Sundays that we are not meeting in person, we will continue to provide Biblically themed activity bags for all children. The Discipleship Cluster will revisit this plan monthly and adjust as needed. Please contact Carly at [cmarino@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:cmarino@firstbaptistcleveland.org) for more information and to sign up.

## Youth Ministry



At this time, the youth are meeting in person during worship service on the 2nd Sunday of each month. All other Sundays they meet via Zoom at noon. Please contact Ship at [scollins@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:scollins@firstbaptistcleveland.org) for more information and to sign up.

## HELP is All Together Now! by Kelley Plats



Musical theatre is back at First Baptist! Tickets are now available for our special event, All Together Now: a global event celebrating local theatre! This fantastic review features music for a wide array of classic and modern musical theater including show-stoppers from Les Misérables, Little Shop of Horrors, Into the Woods, and so many more!

This evening of music is music directed by Andy Novak (Hunchback & the upcoming Into the Woods) and organized by HELP founder Mike Skerritt and Into the Woods Director, Kelley Plats. We are excited to welcome back a variety of HELP alumni to bring music to our stage again. Each performer has brought their energy, enthusiasm, and amazing talent to our HELP stage. Joining Andy, Mike, and Kelley for this amazing event are: George Morgan (Les Miserables & Hunchback), Kyle Lorek (Sweeney Todd), Megan Jones-Turner (Hunchback & Sweeney Todd), Korrine Courtwright (Beauty & The Beast, & Sweeney Todd), Hannah Morocco (Matilda), and Kat Pernicone (Annie, South Pacific, HMS Pinafore, Damn Yankees, & many more).

Space is limited for this event, so do not wait to get tickets (they are sure to sell out quickly). You can either purchase an individual seat or an entire table for your friends! Enjoy tea or coffee with a delectable selection of sweets. All of our proceeds support the Happy Ending Lyric Players and will help fund their upcoming spring production of Into the Woods!

Tickets: \$20 each or \$150 for a table - [eventbrite.com/e/all-together-now-tickets-169483394395](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/all-together-now-tickets-169483394395)

## Thanksgiving Food Drive by Carol Broadbent

For many years the Mission & Social Concerns Cluster has been sponsoring a Thanksgiving food drive and assembling baskets of food for area families in need. The project continues but with a plan that needs to accommodate the continuing impact of COVID-19...

- The need in our community has increased
- We want to increase the number of families we serve. Last year we served 75 families!
- We again will purchase the needed items that were once typically donated
- Chef Faith will be able to order the needed produce at a discounted price



### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

**1. Financial support:** Your donations of any amount are sorely needed. This is now the most significant way you can help. Donate online by selecting "Other church payments" under the Mission Gifts tab or by check with "Thanksgiving" on the memo line. We do NOT want you



## 2021 Mobile Food Pantry by Karen Gill

October 2nd was our final Mobile Pantry for 2021. Thanks to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank we were able to distribute 6,000 lbs. of potatoes, zucchini, beets, peppers and cucumbers to our guests this month. We also distributed books and DVD's from the Friends of Heights Libraries.

A big thank you to our team of FBC volunteers who gave up one or more Saturday mornings to help us this year: Sandra Alexander, Greg Bagley, Heather Bell, Kevin Bouyer, Pastor Gregg and Ann Burris, Marty, Dana and Tara Capers, Melvin Garthrite, Roby, Courtney and Kelsey Gill, Karla and Evon Gocan, Monroe and Iris Goins, Jeff and Tammy Gordon, Tobili Hatcher, Debra Hegler and her son Robert, Gregg Jenkins, Claude Kennard, Debbie Ketring, Kim Kidd, Renee Lewin, John, Tina and Ian Marr, Tondra and Alona Miller, Carolyn Neal, Laura, Ari and Gia Preston and their friends Bob, Dakota and Marley, Wendy Rigo, Delesia Robinson, Nanci and Phil Ruhoff, Annette and Bria Szalay, Janice Van Lees, Nancy Wheaton, Mary Wild and Lloyd Williams. Thank you so much for your dedication to this project. We would also like to thank



Faith Arnold who stock piled boxes for us to use and everyone who donated plastic bags.

Our [Mobile Pantry](#) will be back in 2022 starting in May!

donate any food items. Again this year, our co-chairs are Bear Allen and Carol Broadbent; they and their committee will take care of the shopping!

**2. Volunteer:** Are you available to help?  
**Sunday, Nov. 21st @ 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**  
 Pack canned/ packaged foods and produce – 30 volunteers needed. All ages are welcome and families are encouraged to participate.

**Monday Nov. 22 @ 3:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.**  
 Eight volunteers needed outside at the Portico entrance to greet recipients and load food in trunks. We are looking for volunteers from ages 11 and up that are physically able to do some lifting. Volunteers will need to follow COVID-19 guidelines by wearing a mask.

\*\*Contact Star in the church office at 216-932-7480/[sknuckles@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:sknuckles@firstbaptistcleveland.org) to sign up for any of the above group time slots.

Any FBC members may email their name to [thanksgiving@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:thanksgiving@firstbaptistcleveland.org) for Thanksgiving food assistance.

## Stephen Ministry by Iris Goins



Stephen Ministry provides free and confidential Christian emotional support for those going through a difficult time in their life. If anyone is in need of a Stephen Minister, send a request to: [stephenministry@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:stephenministry@firstbaptistcleveland.org).

## FBC Christmas Mitten Tree - Help us help others this season! by Annette Szalay

The Christmas season is almost upon us. Our FBC family has always been so giving and generous during this time of year.

We have a little money in our [Mission and Social Concerns](#) budget for our Mitten Tree agencies-but we need your help to make the season bright for others.

The following are the agencies/projects we are assisting this year and ways you can help with each.

### Global Cleveland

This is the main organization that is coordinating the resettlement of refugees to Cleveland. We will put marked boxes at church to collect the following much needed items: Mops, brooms, dust pans, wastebaskets, dish towels, sponges and cleaning supplies. Donations of money are also welcome.

### Fairhill Partners

We are asking for donations of \$20 VISA gift cards or \$20 checks that can be left in a secure, marked box at church. We will use these for gifts for Fairhill Partners which assists grandparents that are raising one or more grandchildren.

If you wish to donate money for any of these projects, you may do so online by selecting "other church payments" under the Mission Gifts tab or write a check with the words "Mitten Tree" on the memo line.

## FBC Music Notes

Director of Music, Stephanie Price's last day is on November 7th. She will be moving to San Antonio, Texas. Visit [firstbaptistcleveland.org/music-the-arts/choirs](https://www.firstbaptistcleveland.org/music-the-arts/choirs) for the latest music information. Email Stephanie [sprice@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:sprice@firstbaptistcleveland.org) if you would like to send best wishes.

## November Birthdays

4th Rebecca Chapman  
 6th Alta Daugherty  
 7th Coco Schneider

8th William Daugherty  
 8th Jerome White  
 9th Kevin Case

11th Sharon Borders  
 14th Madelyn Miller  
 17th Luis Martinez

21st Martha Lant  
 23rd Kay Rolfs Massaglia  
 24th Barbara E. Drotar



## PADS Second Annual Feminine Hygiene Product Donation Drive by Delesia Robinson

In 2019 a survey by Reuter' Health, revealed that one in five females struggle with affording feminine hygiene items. Imagine the impact that would have on someone attending school, going to a job, on an interview etc. In October of 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, [PADS \(Pride Among Daughters & Sisters\)](#) hosted its first Annual feminine hygiene product donation drive. Our City of Cleveland, surrounding suburbs, neighbors, church members, college campuses, high school kids etc. all showed up and donated to our cause in a huge way! Over the last 12 months PADS has gotten these essential products in the hands of underserved girls and women in our community.

Please join PADS November 20, 2021, for our second annual product donation drive. Drop off location at First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland, 3630 Fairmount Blvd. Shaker Height, Ohio 44118, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. You will be able to stay in your car, drive up and donate in kind products. While supplies last we will also pass out free mask and hand sanitizer. If you are in a club, or group or sorority I encourage you to reach to your cohorts to see if they can make a bulk donation to our cause. It may be easier if you collect the items beforehand, and one person does the drop off. If you want to make a monetary donation mail it to FBC office attention PADS, and they will make sure we receive it. PADS is excited and looking forward to our big day!

## Kairo's Cookie Ministry by Brian Broadbent

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 our ministry postponed any deliveries of cookies to the prisons at this time.

## 49ers Lunch And Talk

by Fran Leanza

**Sunday Nov. 14 at 11:30 a.m.**



Lunch is served in Spahr Center followed by Speaker, Historian, Dan Ruminsky. His topic is "The Fascinating History of Cleveland's Millionaire's Row". The program is sponsored by the 49ers, all are invited. Send lunch reservations to [49ers@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:49ers@firstbaptistcleveland.org).



# Tower Tidings

First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland  
3630 Fairmount Blvd.  
Shaker Heights, OH 44118

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Dated Material: November 1, 2021**  
**Thanks for prompt delivery!**

Church Office - 216.932.7480  
The Children's Center - 216.371.9394

[FirstBaptistCleveland.org](http://FirstBaptistCleveland.org)  
[office@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:office@firstbaptistcleveland.org)

Facebook/First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland



**Watch Sermons Online**

Miss a sermon  
or want to hear  
one again?

[youtube.com/channel/UCGPcB14N9TRe50jES6uHK7Q](https://youtube.com/channel/UCGPcB14N9TRe50jES6uHK7Q)

## 2021 FBC Lay Leadership

**Moderator:** Dan Mizener  
**Vice Moderator:** Kim Kidd-Collins  
**Treasurer:** Ralph Hise  
**Clerk:** Melinda Burns  
**Personnel:** Marty Capers

**Children's Center:** Frank Marino

**Communication & Outreach:** Debra Hegler  
*Greeters, Welcome Center, Marketing,  
& Communications*

**Discipleship:** Dana Capers  
*Discipleship Classes, Children's Ministry,  
Youth Ministry, & Covenant Groups*

**Fellowship & Nurture:** Kristin Roberts  
*Stephen Ministry, Deacons,  
& New Member Orientation*

**Stewardship:** Lynne Liu

**Finance & Property:** Jennifer Whatley-Williams

**Missions & Social Concerns:** Carolyn Neal

**Worship and Fine Arts:** Carole Negus

## Serving in Ministry

### Ministries

**Rev. Dr. Kregg F. Burris** - Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Dr. Sandra Alexander-Haynes** -  
Associate Pastor/Christian Education  
**Carly Marino** - Director of Children's Ministry  
**Ship Collins** - Director of Youth Ministry

### Music Ministries

**Stephanie Price** - Director of Music  
**Betty Meyers** - Associate Director of Music  
**Brian Kozak** - Director of Contemporary Music

### Marketing/Photography/Video

**Greg Beckner** - Web Design/Publicity/Social Media

### Office

**Star Knuckles** - Executive Assistant/Office Admin.

### The Children's Center

**Jane Pernicone** - Director

Send content for the next issue by **Nov. 15th** to Greg  
[gbeckner@firstbaptistcleveland.org](mailto:gbeckner@firstbaptistcleveland.org) Issue mailed Dec. 1