

APRIL 2023

# IT TAKES A FAMILY

*Monthly newsletter of Family Bible Church*



**LEAD PASTOR  
KRIS TARKIEWICZ**

## Pulling Together

*"8Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." -Galatians 6:8-10*

Sunday March 19th, many gathered at Family Bible Church (FBC) in Marshall, MI. We pulled a physical rope attached to a physical plow, breaking physical ground together.

However, what was on my mind and the minds of so many others are people. Your one. People who in the coming years will be met in their need. Spiritual need. Physical need. Relational need. Financial need. Emotional need.

Together we pulled for those who came before them and for those yet to come. The pull was a continuation of ministry to the first days of FBC in Marshall in 1984. Pastor and Pam Gerten moved to Marshall, stepping out in faith to follow the Lord's call. During the almost 40 years since the doors opened for the first time, lives and eternities have been impacted for Jesus.

The physical buildings built are tools and symbols of the work done. The church is not a building, the church is people. The people gather in these physical

buildings that were constructed in 1988, 1995/1996 and now we move into this project in 2023. The Lord has moved in mighty ways throughout the years being witness to God's movement of salvation and discipleship.

If you are reading this newsletter, it is because of the steps of faith from those before you. If you have been a part of a worship gathering, events, group, service project, been encouraged, challenged, changed, received Christ, grown as a disciple, moved toward Jesus and people...it is because of steps of faith ahead of us.

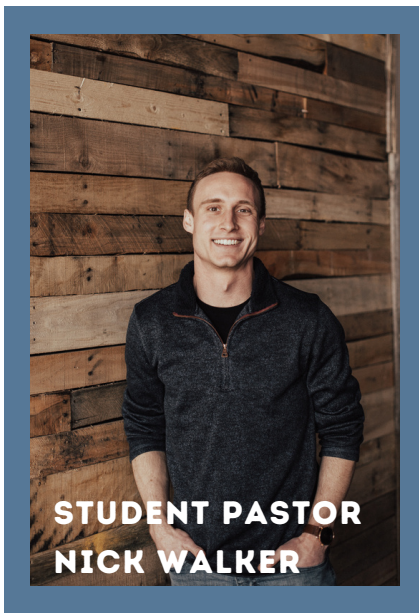
The physical change on the property is important but what is most important is people. We continue to move forward following Jesus not for our name but because of His. We pray for and desire that many will know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We also desire disciples following wholeheartedly after Jesus.

Weariness may come as we do good but we are called to persist. The Word teaches us a harvest will come if we do not give up. The people we pray for matter. You matter. You are part of FBC. You are part of the body of Christ around the world. Our role is to do good to ALL people. Yet, as Paul instructed, our focus will be upon the needs to be caring for and doing good for fellow followers of Jesus.

In the days, weeks, months, and years ahead, I pray that we will continue to pull together. Together in prayer, worship, service, giving, relationships, ministry, and mission.

Again, not for my name, the name of the church, the name of Marshall, rather for the name of Jesus. For He deserves all the praise, honor, and glory.

Pull on together!



What is leadership? It's influence on others. If you're influencing others (positively or negatively), that makes you a leader, whether or not you have a fancy title of "Captain" or "President" or "Manager" or anything else to "make you a leader". You're not a leader if you don't have someone following you (and I don't mean that in a social media sense). Therefore, being a good leader is all about having good people skills. There is of course no better example of a leader than to look at Jesus. While He never really talks about leadership in the Gospels, there are many things we can learn from Jesus and His ministry and interactions with others about how to lead.

We're spending time this month looking at leadership and hearing from our various leaders what God has laid on their hearts to share with us. One leadership principle that has really struck me over the years is one Jesus demonstrates that probably isn't talked about very much. Vulnerability. Good leaders lead with vulnerability. Take a look at the interaction Jesus has with the Father and with His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane in Matthew 26:36-46. He is at one of His lowest points, honestly wondering whether He can go through with what He's about to face, and yet He continues to pray to the Father and surrender to His control while He surrounds Himself with good community. Jesus knew what was demanded of Him, but He was willing to go through with it because He knew what it would bring about. His death brought us life. His love and grace have brought us a renewed sense of purpose and have given us the opportunity for true depth of relationship, knowing and being known.

Be thinking this Easter season how you can be pursuing others in deeper community because of how Jesus has pursued you. It's not easy being vulnerable but good leaders lead with vulnerability. See others, especially as they walk through storms. And let's do a better job being in community than Jesus' disciples did when He was at His lowest: falling asleep on Jesus, denying Him, and running away in His most dire moment. We need to come alongside each other, love each other, and point each other towards God as we provide a safe place for honest, authentic relationship.

### Opportunity To Give & Upcoming Events

Our high school students are taking a mission trip to New York City this July and they need your help! Do you have any work projects around the house that you need help completing? Hire some students for a few hours and donate towards their trip! It's a great opportunity to see your project completed and support them too as they seek to serve God and others this summer and beyond! Email me at [nick@familybible.church](mailto:nick@familybible.church) if you're interested in putting them to work.

Come hang out with us at Youth NERF Wars on Friday, April 28th from 6-8:30pm at FBC! Open to both Middle & High School students, and be sure to invite your friends!



What a great month it has been. We had 49 cars entered in our Awana Grand Prix and it was a huge hit among families. A special thanks to Amy Stults for prepping food for all the families. She's amazing!! Also a shout out to all the other volunteers who made this night possible and gave our regular leaders a much needed night off.

God is good as the gospel was shared. We had quite a few families and grandparents attend who don't normally come to FBC so that is always nice. We have also had 4 kids accept Christ for the first time this Spring season through Awana.

April is a busy month as we start the building project. We know it's a lot of change but we appreciate families being so flexible.

Service Changes: 8:30 & 10:30. Kids classes open at 10:15 to allow for volunteers to arrive and be ready in classes.

#### Upcoming Awana Theme Nights:

- 4/4 Easter Egg Night
- 4/11 Pastor and Popcorn (Nick)
- 4/18 Awana Store
- 4/25 Club Color Night (Blue, Red, Green)
- 5/2 Awards Night/Family Dinner

#### **Easter Services:**

April 9th 8:30 & 10:30 Service

Full kids services for birth-5th Grade in both services.

- Games, snack, special craft
- Baptisms

# April BIRTHDAYS

02 Janene Sowles  
03 Landon Fazekas  
05 Amelia Monaweck, Sarah Smith  
07 Jabin Collins  
08 Raya Dunn  
09 Ann Klauder, Karla Nail, Sophia Edgell  
10 Doug Kiessling  
11 Angie Myers  
12 Brahm Olds, Mary Dabbs  
13 Jim Flora, Mary Pike, Tori VanZandt, Matthew Beck  
14 Andrew Groeneveld, Grace Larder, Makenna Groeneveld  
15 Lucy Gensch, Matt Russell  
16 Yer Kue  
19 Kim Schlehuber  
20 Lori Robinson  
21 Brynley Swallow, Judah Smith  
23 LaNae Peek  
24 Todd Jeschke  
26 Marley Albrecht  
27 Lexi VanLente, Natalee Noel, Wolfe Esser  
29 Phil Deitrich  
30 Hudson Knaus, Johnny Marino, Rodna Stealy, Sandra Sinke

## COMMUNICATION FROM FBC, Stay Up to Date

- Monthly Newsletter-This is emailed and can also be sent to you in the mail by requesting a copy from Mary at 269-781-8400 or [mary@familybible.church](mailto:mary@familybible.church).
- The Weekly-The Weekly is an email published midweek, every week with updated information about groups, events, services, and more. Please contact [mary@familybible.church](mailto:mary@familybible.church) to receive the Weekly.
- Social Media-If you are on social media make sure to “like” us on Facebook and/or “follow” us on Instagram. Search “Family Bible Church”.

You can also find other information at: [www.familybible.church](http://www.familybible.church) and our church app (download Church Center)

## Meal Train:

Interested in providing a meal when there is a need within our church family? Please let **Amy Stults (913) 292-1347** or **Mary Pike (269) 781-8400** know and we'll add your email address to the Meal Train list. This is a wonderful way to bless others as they navigate through different life events.