

Fear is a liar. Fear is a thief. Fear is a razor wire fence. Fear is a bestseller.

The Bible speaks about fear over 300 times. It is a topic that comes up over and over again. In Deuteronomy God tells the people not to be afraid. He tells Joshua to be strong and courageous. Psalm after psalm reminds us to trust in God so that we do not have to fear. In John, Jesus tells his followers to have peace and not let their hearts be troubled.

God is constantly, all throughout the Bible, reminding his people to not be afraid.

I think this is because we are all, as a people, prone to fear. It is human nature to be afraid. Not only that there are lots of scary things out there and there are lots of good reasons to be afraid. And yet God in the middle of all of that speaks peace to our hearts.

John 14:27 (CSB)

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful."

God is walking with us. We do not have to be afraid. But trusting in God is hard for all of us, and Christians are no exception to that. So here are some things about fear that I think are helpful to remember.

**Fear is a Liar.**

It will make things look worse than they are. It will make you feel smaller than you are. It will tell you that you are alone, that no one cares, that it is all up to you. Fear is a liar that keeps the truth of God from you.

**Fear is a Thief.**

It will steal your joy, steal your hope, steal your peace. Fear wants to make you anxious, wants to set you on edge. It will steal your peace. It will also steal your joy. It wants to keep you afraid forever, so it steals all other emotions.

**Fear is a Razor Wire Fence.**

It keeps people out and away. Christianity is about welcoming people in. It is who we are. We are made to open our hearts and doors to others. We are made to invite people into fellowship with us. Fear keeps people away. Fear chases off everyone, especially people who aren't like us. Fear keeps us isolated and alone.

**Fear is a Bestseller.**

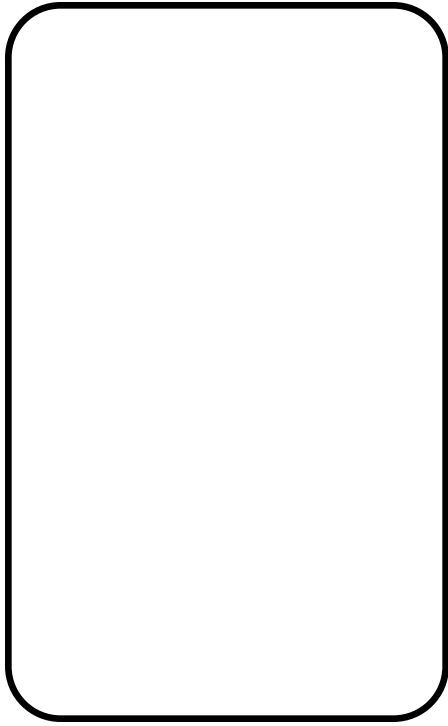
This is probably the most dangerous part of fear. Fear is easy to sell. Fear is easy to pass on. It is orders of magnitude easier to get a group of people to follow you if you make them afraid rather than if you inspire them to greatness. Fear sells, and right now it seems like everyone is selling it.

Right now in a world that seems like there is so much to be afraid of let us as Christians be the ones who remember the words of Isaiah.

Isaiah 43:1b (CSB)

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.

**Shane**



**Weekly Activities**

**SUNDAY**

Sunday School - 9:30 am  
Worship - 8:15 am & 10:45 am  
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm  
Children's Bible Study - 6:00 pm  
Youth Bible Study - 6:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY**

Prayer Service - 6:30 pm  
Youth Bible Study - 6:30 pm  
Kids Choir - 6:30 pm

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** Help us spread the Good News to children around the world by participating in Operation Christmas Child year-round. Item for AUGUST is: **SCHOOL SUPPLIES.**

Box provided in KidZone for OCC items



**COOKIE BRIGADE**

**August 4**  
Kelly Dixon  
**August 18**  
Beth Simmons

NOW FAITH  
IS BEING SURE  
OF WHAT WE  
HOPE FOR  
AND CERTAIN OF  
WHAT WE  
DO NOT SEE.

Hebrews 11:1

Phone: 270.534.1900  
www.friendshiponthenet.org  
www.facebook.com/friendshiponthenet  
Dr. Jason Browning, Pastor  
Rev. Shane Yancey,  
Minister to Students & Children  
Rev. Chad Davidson,  
Minister of Music & Worship

**Budget Receipts**

Required to Date: \$ 322,132  
Received to Date: \$ 309,450

**Nursery Volunteers**

**August 4**

8:15 am — Billie Stuber  
10:45 am — Spencer & Melissa Hawkins (BB)  
Matt & Miranda Scott (T)

**August 11**

8:15 am — Tori Ramsdell  
10:45 am — Vicky Fox & Rachel Martin (BB)  
Carol Fields & Lakyn Noland (T)

**August 18**

8:15 am — Amanda Triplett  
10:45 am — Gene & Deborah Reaney (BB)  
Kathy Goodman & Kathy Baucum (T)

**August 25**

8:15 am — Masami Smith  
10:45 am — Pam Samuels & Vickie Turley (BB)  
Laura Hughes/Meredith Yancey (T)

# The LINK

## Friendship Baptist Church

146 S. Friendship Rd.  
Paducah KY 42003

Volume 24

AUGUST 2024

Number 7



You are invited to our annual Ice Cream Fellowship! Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and delicious ice cream.

**•Date: August 28**

**•Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**•Location: FBC Fellowship Hall**

We encourage everyone to bring their favorite homemade ice cream to share (sign up in the worship center). Cookies & Drinks will be provided. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with each other and enjoy some sweet treats. We look forward to seeing you there!





“Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to His great mercy  
has caused us to be born again  
to a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead...”  
(1 Peter 1:3)

**Hope for West Kentucky** is a series of evangelistic events held in Paducah in November of this year. These events include a youth rally, school assemblies throughout the region, spiritual surveys on the campus of Murray State and regional community colleges, and an evangelistic crusade. The crusade will be held at the McCracken County Expo Center and is scheduled for Sunday, November 10, at 6:30 p.m. We are praying for 4,000+ people to hear and respond to the Gospel! We have cancelled evening activities at Friendship on November 10 so our church family can participate in the crusade. Our youth will participate in the youth rally held on Wednesday, November 6.

The purpose of **Hope for West Kentucky** is to partner with churches in our region to impact west Kentucky through evangelistic efforts, mobilizing the churches in prayer, and enlisting local church members to serve. You might consider serving in one of the following areas...

**Decision Counseling Team.** This team of volunteers serve on the night of the crusade to provide counsel to individuals responding. Training will be provided.

**Mass Choir.** During the Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> event, a 300-person choir will join and sing with Jason Lovins Band. Volunteer choir members will participate in scheduled rehearsals prior to the event.

**Prayer Team.** This team commits to pray for all aspects of **Hope for West Kentucky**.

Contact the church office for more information. If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, you can register to serve at <https://kbc.regfox.com/hope-for-west-ky-teams>.

In the coming weeks, the Friendship Family will be called to pray for **Hope for West Kentucky**. We will provide several opportunities for church members to pray for our community and for the lost. In addition, we will be challenged to invite our lost friends to attend the crusade.

Will you join me now in praying for spiritual renewal and revival to spread across our community?

God is good! All the time!  
Jason



**JOY Club** — Will go to Adagio Pasta & Grill in Mayfield on Tuesday, August 6. Meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. to ride the bus.



**Family Night Supper** No Family Night Supper in August. Suppers will resume in September.

# August

- 4 9:30 a.m. — SS Promotion for Kids
- 6 11:00 a.m. — JOY Club
- 6 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 2
- 7 6:30 p.m. — Youth 6th Grade Welcome Party
- 11 7:00 p.m. — Deacons
- 13 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 3
- 18 4:15 p.m. — Deacon Ordination Council
- 6:00 p.m. — Deacon Ordination
- 20 10:30 a.m. — Women on Mission
- 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 4
- 21 5:30 p.m. — Finance Team
- 6:30 p.m. — Business Mtg.
- 25 6:00 p.m. — Small Group Discipleship Classes Begin
- 7:00 p.m. — Ice Cream Fellowship
- 27 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 5
- 28 6:30 p.m. — Ministry Team Night

Tuesdays @ 6:30 a.m. — Men’s Prayer Group  
Saturdays @ 8:00 a.m. — Men’s Prayer Group

Deacon  
ORDINATION

Sunday, August 18 at 6:00 p.m. for Steve Thaggard. The Ordination Council will meet at 4:15 p.m. All ordained men of the church are encouraged to participate.

SMALL GROUPS

Small Group Discipleship Classes for adults begin Sunday, August 25 at 6:00 p.m. Be watching for more information. There’s a class for you!

Sunday, August 4, 2024

PROMOTION  
SUNDAY  
Children  
& Youth

## Upcoming Events

- August 4 — SS Promotion for Students
- October 19 — Fall Festival
- October 27 — 25 Year Celebration of Ministry
- November 10 — Hope for West KY Crusade
- November 17 — OCC Packing Party



John 6:37 NASB

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.”

She was an embittered woman, Charlotte Elliott of Brighton, England. Her health was broken, and her disability had hardened her heart. “If God loved me,” she muttered, “He would not have treated me this way.” Hoping to help her, a Swiss minister, Dr. Cesar Malan, visited the Elliotts on May 9, 1822. Over dinner, Charlotte lost her temper and railed against God and family in a violent outburst. Her embarrassed family left the room, and Dr. Malan and Charlotte were left alone. “You are tired of yourself, aren’t you?” Dr. Malan asked. “You are holding on to your hate and anger because you have nothing else in the world to cling to. Consequently, you have become sour, bitter, and resentful.” “What’s your cure?” asked Charlotte. “The very faith you are trying to despise.” As they talked Charlotte softened and finally asked, “What would I do?” Dr. Malan replied, “You would give yourself to God just as you are now, with your fightings and fears, hates and loves, pride and shame.” Charlotte replied, “I would come to God just as I am? Charlotte did come to Jesus just as she was, and her heart was changed that day. As time passed Charlotte claimed John 6:37 as a special verse for her “... he who comes to Me I will be no means cast out.” A few years later Charlotte penned the poem “Him That Cometh To Me I Will No Wise Cast Out.” That poem has become one of the most famous invitation songs in church history: “Just As I Am”

“Just as I am without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
Just as I am though tossed about,  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.”

(Taken from hymnary.org)

Under the Master’s Baton,  
Bro. Chad

Ministry  
Team  
NIGHT



As the new church year begins, Ministry Team Night allows teams to select a chair, begin planning the budget process, and make plans for the 2024-25 church calendar. All Ministry Teams will meet on Wednesday, August 28 at 6:30 p.m., with the exception of Personnel, Finance, Nominating & Youth. There will be Bible Study in the Worship Center for those not involved on a ministry team.

WITH DEEPEST  
Sympathy

Bro. Jason & the Friendship Family express Christian love & sympathy to Donna Schmidt and family in the death of her mother, Wylma Ficco.