

JUNE 2025

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRANDON

"Back in the 1890s, a pair of Sunday school teachers - D.T. Mills of Hopedale, Illinois, and Virginia Hawes of New York City - both had the same idea.

School kids were off for the summer.

Why not invite them to church to study the Bible? And maybe sing a few songs and have some fun along the way?

The idea was a hit.

Today, Vacation Bible School --Better known as VBS-- remains one of the most popular church programs in America.

Six in ten Americans say they went to VBS growing up. Two-thirds of American parents say they plan to send their kids to VBS this summer--even if they skip church themselves.

And almost everyone involved had a great time, according to a new survey from Nashville-based Lifeway Church.

Lifeway Research surveyed 1,200 American adults about their experience with VBS.

Twenty-two percent say they went every summer growing up, while 14 percent said they attended most summers. Another 13 percent went occasionally; five percent went more than once; forty percent never went.

Many went because of family ties; forty-two percent say they went because their family attended that church; twenty-five percent went because their parent or another family member was one of the leaders; twenty-six percent went because the church was near their home; and twenty-five percent went because a friend invited them.

Among their memories are spending time with kids their own age (46 percent); learning Bible stories (45 percent); singing songs (40 percent); creating crafts (37 percent); and playing games (34 percent). One in 6 kids (17 percent) remembers making a spiritual commitment at VBS.

Most of the young people (88 percent) say VBS helped them better understand the Bible."

Pastor Brandon

www.reseach.lifeway.com

SERVICES

Sunday School (all ages)
Morning Worship
Evening Worship
Children's Worship
Youth Group
Women's Bible Study
Prayer Meeting
Men's Bible Study

Sunday
Sunday
Sunday
Sunday
Wednesday
Wednesday
Wednesday

9:30 am
10:45 am
6:00 pm
6:00 pm
6:00 pm
6:00 pm
6:30 pm
7:00 pm



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FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH OF LA JUNTA

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

BRANDON MILLS

PASTOR

TIM KNABENSHUE

DEACON

JIM COLLINS

DEACON

TYLER COLLINS

DEACON

KATHY BUTLER

**CHILDREN'S LEADER
VBS COORDINATOR**

WILMA COLLINS

YOUTH LEADER

ALLAN LASATER

WORSHIP LEADER

Pianist:

Arlene Watters

Carla Mills

Kim Stricker

JUNE 2025

Date

June 1, Sunday - Church Graduation Celebration- Pot luck after Worship Service

June 2-6 Monday-Friday VBS "Made to Magnified GOD"

June 8, Sunday - Pentecost

June 14, Monday - Flag Day

June 15, Sunday - Father's Day

How to use your Bible

When in Sorrow - Read John 14

When men fail you - Read Psalm 27

When you have sinned - Read Psalm 51

When you worry - Read Matthew 6: 19-34

When you are in danger - Read Psalm 91

If you have the blues - Read Psalm 34

When God seems far away - Read Psalm 139

If you are discouraged - Read Isaiah 40

If you are lonely or fearful - Read Psalm 23

If you feel down and out - Read Romans 8:39

When you want courage for your task - Read Joshua 1

When the world seems bigger than God - Read Psalm 90

When you want rest and peace - Read Matthew 11:25-30

When leaving home for labor or travel - Read Psalm 121 or 107:23-31

If you get bitter or critical - Read 1st Corinthians 13

If thinking of investments and returns - Read Mark 10:17-31

For a great invitation - a great opportunity - Read Isaiah 55

These suggestions are an affectionate gift from Defenders of the Christian Faith.
Wichita, KS



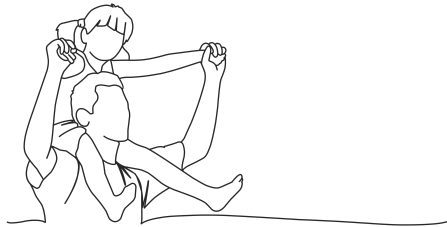
Fathers Day is a day on which people of many different countries express gratitude, love and appreciation for their fathers by giving them gifts or greeting cards. Fathers Day falls on the 3rd Sunday in June in the United States and Canada.

In 1909, Sonora Louise Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington got the idea to set aside a special day to honor fathers after listening to a sermon on Mothers Day. She wanted to honor her father, William Jackson Smart.

Through Sonora Dodd's many efforts, Spokane celebrated the 1st Fathers Day on June 19, 1910. Over the years, many resolutions to make the day an official national holiday were introduced. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed Fathers Day into law.

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

SOME FATHER'S DAY HUMOR



Long Hair

A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father, who was a minister, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to his study and said to him, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your bible a little and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it."

After about a month, the boy came back and again asked his father, if they could discuss use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied your bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut."

The young man waited for a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know, Samsom had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair!" to which his father replied, "Yes, you're right, and they also WALKED every where they went!"

Happy Father's Day



Stewardship of our bodily health

Paul writes, “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?” -2 Corinthians 6:19

God has given each of us a physical body that, like an automobile, is a masterfully engineered, complex vehicle that carries us along our road of life. Like our cars, our bodies need attention and care to function optimally and bring us smoothly down the road of life.

Of course, everybody gets sick sometimes, and many of have health problems that are beyond our control, such as genetics, environment and misfortune. With so many variables over which we have no control, we need to do our best with the variables we can control.

For June, dedicate yourselves to being a better steward of your body. Here are some ideas:

Get a physical. A doctor can evaluate you and advise you on optimizing your health.

Move it! Even small amounts of exercise improve health and well-being. Ask your doctor how to get going.

Diet. Not just eating to lose weight, but watching your diet for healthy living. Learn about the nutritional value of the foods you now eat, and explore choices that are more healthful.

Stop smoking. The number one preventable health risk, smoking causes cancers, high blood pressure, heart disease, etc. Enough said.

Sleep. Eight hours of shut-eye does wonders for body and mind.

Pray and meditate. Spiritual disciplines lower your stress, which improves physical health, too.

God gave us wonderful bodies to carry us through our life’s journey of discipleship. The better we care for it, the more fruitful our journey will be.

--Rob Blezard

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How Much Does a Prayer Weigh

Louise Redden, a poorly dressed lady with a look of defeat on her face, walked into a grocery store. She approached the owner of the store in a most humble manner and asked if he would let her charge a few groceries. She softly explained that her husband was very ill and unable to work. They had seven children and they needed food.

John Longhouse, the grocer, scoffed at her and requested that she leave his store. Visualizing the family needs, she said: "Please, sir! I will bring you the money just as soon as I can." John told her he could not give her credit, as she did not have a charge account at his store.

Standing beside the counter was a customer who overheard the conversation between the two. The customer walked forward and told the grocer that he would stand good for whatever she needed for her family.

The grocer said in a very reluctant voice, "Do you have a grocery list?" Louise replied, "Yes sir." "Okay" he said, "put your grocery list on the scales and whatever your grocery list weighs, I will give you that amount in groceries."

Louise hesitated a moment with a bowed head. Then she reached into her purse and took out a piece of paper and scribbled something on it. She then laid the piece of paper on the scale carefully with her head still bowed.

The eyes of the grocer and the customer showed amazement when the scale went down and stayed down. The grocer, staring at the scales, turned slowly to the customer and said begrudgingly, "I can't believe it." The customer smiled, and the grocer started putting the groceries on the other side of the scales.

The scale did not balance so he continued to put more and more groceries on them until the scales would hold no more. The grocer stood there in utter disgust.

Finally, he grabbed the piece of paper from the scales and looked at it with greater amazement. It was not a grocery list. It was instead a prayer which said: "Dear Lord, you know my needs, and I am leaving this in your hands."

The grocer gave her the groceries that he had gathered and stood in stunned silence. Louise thanked him and left the store. The customer handed a fifty-dollar bill to the grocer and said, "It was worth every penny of it."

It was sometime later that the grocer discovered the scales were broken therefore, only God knows how much a prayer weighs.

IF YOU BELIEVE
YOU WILL RECEIVE
WHATEVER YOU
ASK FOR IN

prayer

MATTHEW 21:22

I CAN DO ALL
Things
THROUGH
CHRIST WHO
strengthens me
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

Church Notes

Newsletter- If you have news for the newsletter, or an announcement, please contact Shirley at benzshirley@ymail.com or call/text 719-469-1870.

Contact Form - If you would like to receive church emails please fill out the contact form on the website.

Graduation Celebration - Congratulations to our Graduates!
Sadie Buhr, Kieran Harris, Kate Kissel, Landon Mills, Noah Nunez-Rebel, and Austin Patton.

Concert - Be on the watch for a concert coming soon, working on a date.

OCC- Need flip-flop shoes sized 5,6,7,8.

Hats.

T-shirts size 14, 16 16, 18 -medium, large or x-large **youth**.

VBC - June 2-6, 2025. Guess what? If you read this on June 1, there's still time to volunteer! Just show up! Having the kids seeing men and married couples at VBS, installs in their impressionable minds that worshiping God continues after VBS. Men, please come and just hang out!

Edit: Newsletter will be out on the first Sunday day of every month.

Last day to add or do edits to the newsletter will be the on the 3rd Sunday of the month before.

Example For a June 1, 2025, newsletter, the last day for adds or changes would have been May 25, 2025-which is Sunday #3.

Trying to set up a schedule, has been a challenging, but I think this will work.



FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH CHILD DEDICATION MAY 11, 2025

Mother's Day, 2025 was a special day for our families at First Southern Baptist Church when a child dedication ceremony was held. During the ceremony, the parents publicly committed to raising their child in the Christian faith, and the church pledged to support the families and the children in their spiritual growth.

Please be in prayer for the parents as they raise their children. And also remember the children in prayer that the little ones would come to know the Lord is a personal way at a very young age.

Those taking part in the ceremony were:

Kyle and Samantha Moore and Noble Steele Moore
Michael and Courtney Rouille and Emersyn Peggy Michelle Rouille
Dino and Kaydence Salazar and Baby Beau Amari Kade Salazar
Mark and Snowy Schroeder and Theodore Andrew Schroeder

We, at First Southern Baptist Church, know that the most important influences in a child's life are the parents. But that is not the only influences that a child needs. We, as a Church family, must come alongside the parents and help to teach these precious little ones what it looks like to follow Jesus.

Leading kids to live like Jesus isn't a checkbox on a parenting to-do list. It is an intentional, ongoing conversation that shapes the child and who they are now and who they will become. It is the most important task of parenting.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."



Pictured above:
Left side of table: Norma Glover, Arlene Watters, Connie Shotton and Julie Worley- WWOW leader.
Right side of table: Norma Hauge, and Anita Kuhn, all WWOW bible study members, enjoying the Women's Morning of Inspiration.
 -photo by *Shirley Benz -also WWOW bible study member

WOMEN'S MORNING OF INSPIRATION

The quarterly Women's Morning of Inspiration was held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, and was hosted by the First Baptist Church of Las Animas. Approximately 70 women enjoyed the inspirational morning of beautiful music, speakers and witnessing the Lord's hand through it all.

Becki Busenitz, wife of Pastor Jonathan Busenitz, shared her personal story of a serious health challenge and how the Lord carried her through while still allowing her to be a devoted wife and mother to their six kids.

The Mission Focus highlighted the needed services of the Las Animas Helping hands organization. Director Sharon Barber shared many stories of the extreme need for the organization in Bent County, and that it is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that feeds 1 in 4 families in Las Animas.

On Saturday, September 13, 2025, we will celebrate the 5th birthday of the Women's Morning of Inspiration - which was started through prayer and organization by the Wednesday Women of the Word (WWOW) bible study gals at First Southern Baptist Church.

The September event will feature Rebecca Lavrenz, the J6 Praying Grandma from Falcon, Colorado, as the keynote speaker. Rebecca will be sharing her story of trial, tribulation and triumph through the 2021 J6 event.

The event on September 13th will be hosted by the WWOW Bible Study gals and will be held at the Valley Cowboy Church/La Junta. All women and girls are invited to attend.



2025 VBS

Vacation Bible School June 2nd-6th

Place:

**First Southern Baptist Church
2006 Smithland Ave, La Junta
(across the street from LJHS)
719-384-5185**



**Times: June 2nd-6th
8:30am till 12:00pm**

AGES: potty-trained- 6th grade

To register:

Go to www.fsbclajunta.com/vbs-registration/

**COME ENJOY THE
GREATNESS OF THE LORD
AND THE
MAGNIFICATION
OF HIS GIFT TO US**

KIDS KORNER



I choose to follow JESUS

I follow Jesus every day by

For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.
Romans 1:16

First Southern Baptist Church

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