



July 2024

Fox River Life



July 2024 Newsletter

The following article was written in February of 2014 for churchanswers.com by Thom S. Rainer the founder and CEO of Church Answers, an online community and resource for church leaders. He is a public speaker and author of numerous books that have been beneficial to the Church.

Five Reasons Your Pastor Should Take a Sabbatical

The word “sabbatical” has different meanings depending on the context in which it is used. It has one meaning in the academic community, another meaning in its biblical

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Usage and still another in many secular settings.

For the purpose of this article, I define sabbatical in simple terms. It simply means time off for rest and/or study. The time can be a few days, a few weeks or, on rare occasions, a few months. The pastor is given paid leave for rest, rejuvenation and, perhaps, deeper study. I would love to see churches of all sizes provide this requirement of their pastor, even if it is only for a few days.

I have the opportunity to work with lay leaders and pastors. I have a pretty good view of both perspectives. And I am convinced that more lay leaders need to insist their pastors take regular breaks even beyond vacations. Allow me to provide five reasons for my rationale.

- 1. A pastor has emotional highs and lows unlike most other vocations.** In the course of a day, a pastor can deal with death, deep spiritual issues, great encouragement, petty criticisms, tragedies, illnesses, and celebrations of birth. The emotional roller coaster is draining. Your pastor needs a break—many times a break with no distractions.
- 2. A pastor is on 24-hour call.** Most pastors do not have an “off” switch. They go to sleep with the knowledge they could be awakened by a phone call at any time of the day. Vacations are rarely uninterrupted. It can be an exhausting vocation, and a sabbatical can be a welcome time to slow down.
- 3. Pastors need time of uninterrupted study.** It does not usually happen in the study at church or home. There is always the crisis or need of the moment. Church members expect sermons that reflect much prayer and study. The pastor’s schedule often works against that ideal. The sabbatical can offer much needed, and uninterrupted, study time.

5. Pastors who have sabbaticals view the time off as an affirmation from their churches. I have heard from many pastors who share with me a sentence similar to this one: “I know my church loves me because they give me a sabbatical.” Pastors need affirmation. Sabbaticals can accomplish that goal. I estimate that only about five percent of churches offer sabbaticals. In almost every case where I am familiar, the relationship between pastor and congregation is very healthy. I do think at least one of the reasons is the sabbatical.

My desire for putting this article in the Newsletter is not to make much of what I do or who I am. Rather it is to help explain why we have sabbaticals and the benefits of them for the shepherd and the sheep. My desire is that this advantageous practice would continue long after I am no longer the Senior Pastor/Elder of Fox River Baptist. Since 2008 we have operated with a sabbatical every four years and I can testify to the value and importance it has been in my life and ministry. I will be on sabbatical from July 1st through the 3rd of September. In my absence the Elders will be the ones who will take care of the day-to-day decisions of the church. If there is an issue you have while I am gone, please let them know and if it needs my involvement they will contact me. Also, the preaching duties for this time will be provided by Scott Smith, Ryan Smith, Ray Rudzinski and Ethan Anders. Please be in prayer for them as they prepare and be supportive of them by your attendance and engagement with them. I am looking forward to this time away and I pray that it will be fruitful for me and the church.

In His Name & For His Glory

Pastor Tim

Deaconess Ministry Update

We had a very successful and fun all church picnic last weekend. It was well attended and the food was delicious. A special thank you to Pat for being our Grill Master. The meat was superb. Thanks to all who brought food and to all who helped set up and tear down. The huge amount of rain we had in the days preceding the picnic caused the yard to be very soggy and muddy, but we survived. The kids enjoyed the bouncy water slide and sandbox. Stay tuned for our next quarterly event in September.

Children's Church

We are enjoying Children's church. Angela teaches the "readers" and Carol teaches the preK-1st graders. We are very excited about their progress in learning about God. These kids retain information very well. We are beginning the exciting task of teaching them the names of the books of the bible in order. It is going well. We are always amazed at the intelligent questions they ask. Jordan had one last week. We had been talking about the disobedience of Israel even after God had made Himself known to them through protection, provision and guidance. Jordan asked, "Why would they be so mean (disobedient) to God when He has been so good to them?" Makes you think, huh?



Sunday Evening Services Schedule

July 7—No Evening Service

July 14—Corporate Prayer

July 21—No Evening Service

July 28—Corporate Prayer



Financial Update 2024

Budget needed weekly: \$ 2836.35



Contact Mark Wildenberg 920-378-3380 with questions.

Women's Prayer
Wednesdays at 9:30am

Women's Bible Study
Thursdays at 1:00pm
Starting in September

Men's & Women's
Bible Study
Saturdays at 8am
Starting in September

Women's Bible Study
Thursdays at 1:00pm
Starting in September

Connect
WITH OUR
CHURCH FAMILY

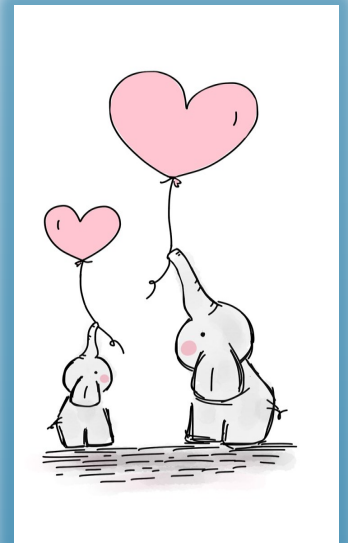


July 7
Jeffery Smith

July 14
Kyle Tubbs

July 21
Bob Abitz

July 28
Scott Smith



Please contact the
Church Office at 920
-734-6162 or Carol
Smith at (920) 475-
8727 to volunteer
for Nursery
Ministry.

Women's Ministry

The women of FRBC had a wonderful time “Crafting with a Purpose” on May 18. The projects are not completed, so we will meet again on Saturday August 10 to continue creating coasters and wind chime sun catchers for Christmas gifts to Brewster Village and Care Partners. If a third day is needed, we will meet again October 12. We hope you can join us for these days of crafting and fellowship.

Missions Board

The Missions Board is happy to report that we will have a visit from the Poriers on July 28. They will be introduced during our worship service, and will speak during our Adult Sunday School class. A small luncheon will be served.

The Hursts are working on their visitation schedule, and the Mashburns will visit us when they are in the states this fall. We look forward to these opportunities to hear first-hand of what God is doing through them in their parts of the world.

The Mission Board's next meeting is August 26. Thank you for your prayers as we continue to search out how to bless our missionaries and to honor our LORD.



Single Women's Ministry

The **Single Women's Ministry** will be meeting on July 7th, at Perkins Restaurant at 2:30 pm.

July 24 at 5:30 pm Single Women's Ministry Meeting at Lois Peeters 's house: 607 Kramer St. Kimberly

Any questions please contact Lois Peeters at 920-419-4921

Fox River Baptist Church

2700 East Henry Street
Appleton, WI 54915

Phone: 920-734-6162

E-mail: office@foxriverbaptist.com

Website: foxriverbaptist.com

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday
& Thursday - 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm



Here at FRBC, we have a prayer chain meant for the sharing of prayer request needs and for sharing praise for the awesome & mighty work God does in our lives. Please feel free to share any praise or request at our new Prayer request email address:

Prayer@FoxRiverBaptist.com

Care to be part of the prayer chain?

Email or call Becky Godfrey at

becl.godfrey@gmail.com —

(920) 277-1526

St. Joseph Food Program

July

TUNA



Help us reach our goal of 1,000 Cans!

July's Birthday

- 03** Rick Hinz B-Day
- 04** Christopher Smith
- 07** Bruce Sowders
- 20** Sheryl Zwerg
- 25** Gary Snortum
- 30** Marilyn Fish

July's Anniversaries

- 04** Pat and Angela Groff
- 07** Bill and Doris Olson



Missions

We will be hosting the Porier's during Sunday School on July 28th. They are our denomination's missionaries to Estonia. Please make plans to stick around on that Sunday to hear about their ministry and get to know them better.

Intentional Discipleship

For the month of July, we will not be having any Men or Ladies Bible Studies as they will be taking a break for the summer. Also, we will be only having Sunday School a couple of times this month, either when we host a missionary or when the Elders decide to do a Puritan Biography. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for these special events. Finally, we will be having only two Sunday Evening services in July on the 14th and the 28th for prayer.

In His Name & For His Glory,

Pastor Tim

Pastor Tim Godfrey

pastortim@foxriverbaptist.com

Young at Heart

Our ministry at Care Partners in Fox Crossing will continue on Thursday June 6th at 10:30 am. Feel free to join us as we share a worship service with the residents.

We are planning a fun outdoor event in July that might include water and food.

Questions please call Lynn Abitz 920-788-9482

