

Encourager

Walker Baptist Church

1350 West Main St., Franklin, TN 37064

615-794-7000

www.walkerbc.org

June/July 2025



“Let us not give up meeting together. . . but let us encourage one another--- and all the more as you see the day approaching.” – Hebrews 10:25

Hopefully by now we’re all getting familiar with the phrase, “Come and See!” It’s an easy way for us to engage with our unchurched family and friends and to initiate conversations about faith and church. If each of us would pray for one or two friends or coworkers and actually invite them to church, imagine what that cumulative effect might look like! My prayer is that we can develop that “Come and See” culture and make it a natural part of who we are.

To that end, the next sermon series is “Whatever it Takes” and begins the first Sunday in June. Truthfully, some of us are actually quite comfortable with our church just the way it is. We like it small. We like it intimate. We want things to stay the same. If we dig a little deeper, however, we learn that that kind of thinking focuses only on ourselves and ignores the tremendous spiritual needs of the community around us. That kind of thinking has never been what Jesus intended for the church.

Yes, reaching the lost can be messy. It can be difficult. It can be uncomfortable. But it’s what Jesus expects. Are we willing to accept our calling and develop an open-minded attitude, a willingness to do “whatever it takes” to see lost people come to know Jesus? Let’s put into practice what we say we believe, and see what God can do with a willing church!

I’ve always heard that summertime isn’t the best time to try to reach people. They’re at the lake. They’re on vacation. They’re involved with sports. That may be true, but they also have more free time. They’re more relaxed. More willing to try something new. Maybe even a little more willing to say “Yes” when you invite them to church.

As I pointed out in last Sunday’s sermon, Ananias was effectively obedient because he was willing to say two things: [1] “Yes, Lord” and [2] “Brother Saul”. How about you? Are you willing to say “Yes, Lord” when he asks you to do something uncomfortable? And are you able to be welcoming, loving, and gracious when someone new shows up? Those are marks of a true follower of Jesus. May they be characteristics of all of us at Walker Baptist Church.

Chuck



Greetings, Walker Baptist Church Family!

At the end of April, I had the opportunity to preach the opening message of the evangelism-themed sermon series That All May Hear. I titled my sermon The Here and Now, and based it on Luke 10:23-42, a passage that contains the words of Jesus, The Parable of the Good Samaritan, and the story of Martha and Mary in their home. The passage opens with a word of encouragement about how blessed the disciples are to be able to see and hear the gospel unfolding before their eyes and then gives two powerful illustrations about the importance of being present for the mission field that is in front of us while not letting ourselves get distracted by preparations, traditions, and convenience. One of the main points of my message was that we are put in this time and this place to minister to the people right in front of us. Martha, as well as the priest and the Levite in Jesus's story, were distracted by things that, while they were probably good, were not the ministries that God had put before them.

The Great Commission is a charge that is given to all Christians; we stand before God without excuse in our fulfillment of His command. Our church is doing a good job as it pertains to regional, statewide, national, and international missions. However, there is a LOT of work that needs to be done to grow our young adult, youth, and children's ministries. It's not financial needs I am speaking about so much as the need for people who are ready to get to work. We need teachers, volunteers, and others inviting families to our church, writing letters, organizing, and on and on. We are not called to do what is comfortable to us. We are not called to only be around our clique. We are called to spread the gospel to EVERYONE, and that means absolutely everyone. Please take encouragement from Paul's message in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NIV:

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize."

In Christ,

Troy Guttormson



MAGNIFIED!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 22-26, 2025

6:00—8:30 PM

CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 THROUGH COMPLETION OF 5TH GRADE

Walker Baptist Church
1350 West Main Street
Franklin, Tennessee 37064
www.walkerbc.org

"OH, MAGNIFY THE LORD WITH ME, AND LET US EXALT HIS NAME TOGETHER"
PSALM 54:3

FOAM PARTY THURSDAY
(registered attendees only)

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND TO PRINT A REGISTRATION FORM

MISSIONS, BIBLE STUDY, MUSIC, SNACKS, RECREATION



WE'RE HAVING A

FOAM PARTY!

WITH **FOAM FEVER**

Get ready to play & dance in a giant pile of cool, clean foam!

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

Following VBS Closing Rally 7:30-8:30 pm

Open to registered VBS participants only.

THIS IS A WATER ACTIVITY, SO PLEASE BRING A TOWEL, SWIMSUIT OR CHANGE OF CLOTHES, & GOGGLES.

WALKER BAPTIST CHURCH
1350 West Main Street
Franklin, TN 37064
www.walkerbc.org



JUNE 4th at 6:00 pm



JUNE 11th at 5:30 pm



JUNE 18th at 6:00 pm

JUNE

Freda & Wallace Joslin



GREETERS

JULY

Glenda Daniel



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

June 1	Jennifer & Kody Leonard	July 6	Marie McElhannon, Louise Austin
June 8	Rhonda Gatlin, Marlee Donoho	July 13	Sandy & Austin Godwin
June 15	Rachel Brennan, Volunteer	July 20	Emily Sanders, Debra Mangrum
June 22	Chris & Kelley Wheeler	July 27	Linda Garnette, Kody Leonard
June 29	Freda Joslin, Avery Lunn		

If you are not able to keep your date, please try to trade with someone. If you need assistance, please call or text Jennifer Leonard at 615-604-9457



Operation Andrew Group recognizes Walker Baptist for our contributions to the Cooking Class Project at Johnson Elementary School.

Children are less likely to learn cooking skills by simply watching other people cook. Instead, opportunities must be provided for children to actively participate in meal preparation. This is what teachers at Johnson Elementary set out to do by providing after school cooking classes for their students.

To help offset the cost of the cooking class, which was a deterrent to participation by some students, Walker Baptist Church stepped up and covered the tuition. Students learned to make burgers, parfaits, carrot fries, and so much more. The faculty and staff at Johnson Elementary thank Walker Baptist for supporting such an important initiative that is help change the lives of students, one meal at a time.”

"I was thirsty and you gave me a drink."
(Matthew 25:35)



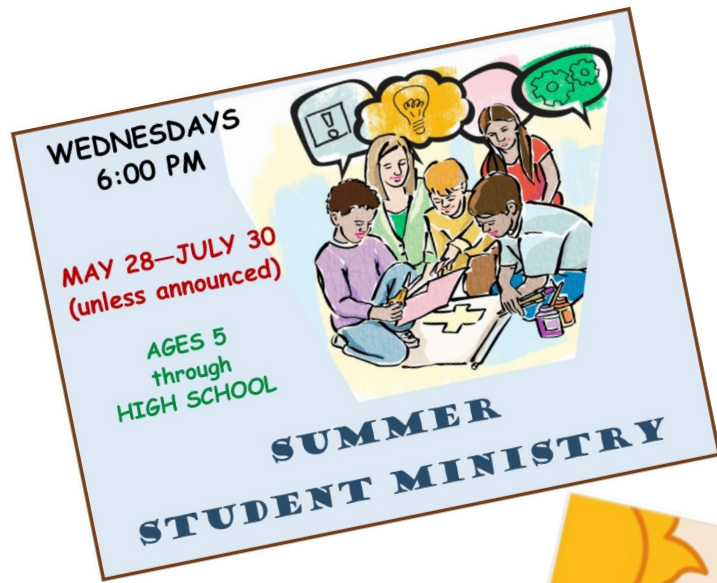
With the temperatures rising, the need for hydration will soon increase also. Help us meet the needs of those who do not have access to enough water. Please bring 24-count cases (40 ct. are too heavy to carry) of bottled water to the Welcome Center for distribution to local community organizations.



JUNE MISSIONS PROJECT



Participants in the Cooking Class Project

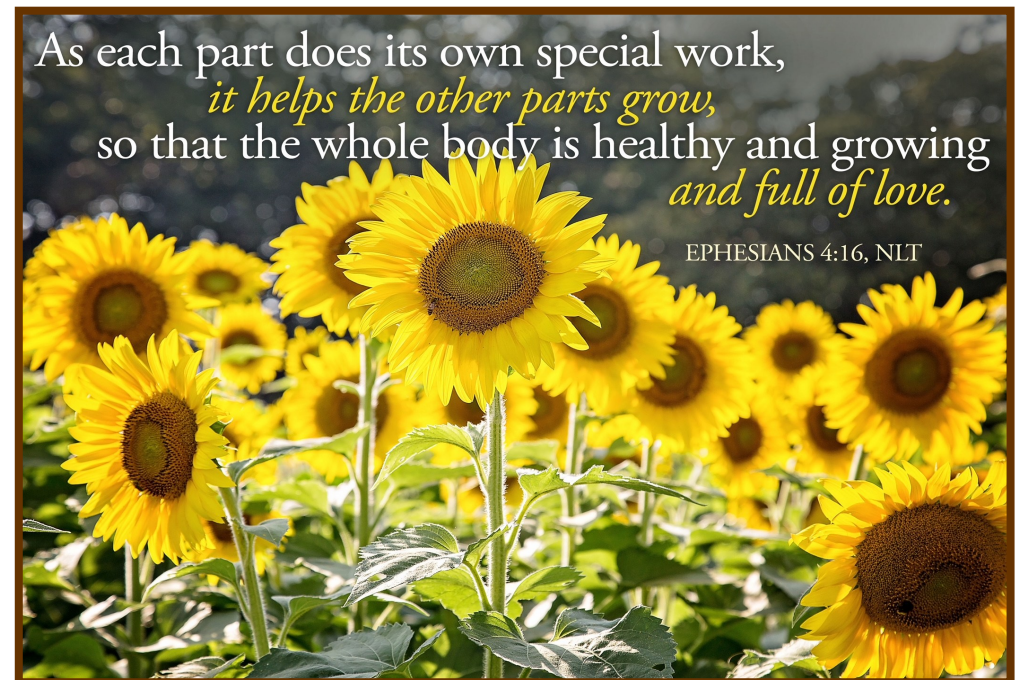


STAFF

Chuck McElhannon	Senior Pastor
Wally Whidby	Youth Pastor
Troy Guttormson	Worship Pastor
Connie Bernard	Bookkeeper/Admin. Asst.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Telephone	615-794-7000
Church/Connie	ask@walkerbc.org
Chuck	chuck@walkerbc.org
Wally	wally@walkerbc.org
Troy	troy@walkerbc.org



June 2025

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am Sunday School
10:15 am Worship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 YOUTH FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON 11:45 AM	2 Mary Hargrove Andrew Wheeler	3	4 Gene Austin GAME NIGHT	5 Henrietta Whidby	6	7
CENTRIFUGE CAMP UNION UNIVERSITY						
8 Carolyn Stinson	9 Barbara Madden	10	11 Laura Powell	12	13	14 Nick Lunn III
						
15	16	17 Elizabeth Lee	18	19	20	21 Bill Reitmeyer
						
22 Glenda Daniel Kate Lee	23	24	25 Paige Massey-Rielly	26 Kay LaFever	27	28 Kelly Lee
						
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 6:00—8:30 pm						
29 10:15 am VBS Celebration	30				REGULAR WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE	
					5:30 pm Pot Luck Supper 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm Student Ministry	

July 2025

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am Sunday School
10:15 am Worship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
REGULAR WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE 5:30 pm Pot Luck Supper 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm Student Ministry		1	2 Matthew Donoho NO ACTIVITIES	3 Emily Cox	4  HAPPY 4 TH OF JULY	5
6	7	8 Charlene Williams	9	10	11	12
13 4 PM Team Meetings 5 PM Ministry Update	14 Cherry Jackson	15	16 Nick Lunn IV Chris Wheeler  HOT DOG DAY SUPPER	17	18 Jami Lunn	19
20 10:15 am Mitchell Karnes preaching	21	22	23	24 Henry Jefferson	25 Helena Guttormson  RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 1 - 6 pm	26
27  HYMN SING 6:00 PM	28	29 Joyce Pardue	30	31	July 16 5:30 pm HOT DOG DAY SUPPER 6:00 pm STORY TIME AT WALKER	