



**Volume 7, Issue 8
August Newsletter of Petal First Baptist**

Dear <<First Name>>,

Wow, what an incredible month we just experienced at Petal FBC with a lot of excitement and celebration right in front of us for the month of August. It's been a super busy month with student events, training for our Petal Family Health and Resource Fair and the actual Fair itself, Backyard Kids Club, hosting the new teacher breakfast, feeding lunch to the PPS school family and working on our 2nd floor student ministry space to name a few. We've been busy engaging people with the hope of the gospel to see lives transformed.

Let me say thanks to all the folks who helped make our 3rd annual fair a huge success once again. Thanks to Whitney McDonald and Kristen Lowery our local missions coordinators as well as many others who have spent countless hours getting ready for this Huge event. In cooperation with our community partners and friends, we were able to see over 300 children screened, over 125 haircuts, lots of manicures, and by the time this next week is up we will have given uniforms, shoes, socks, backpacks and more to almost 400 children all done in Jesus' name. Remember Jesus said in Matthew 25 that when we give a cup of cold water in His name, feed someone or cloth someone, then we've have done it to Him! I'm so proud and humbled to watch our Church invest lots of time and resources to loving our on community by not just saying that we care but by showing it! We've heard from several folks who attended and those who worked it and they were simply blown away. We pray that the Gospel seeds that were planted will bloom & flourish in the weeks & months to come.

In the middle of all that we were of course preparing for the Fall which is just around the corner. We start back this Sunday night with our bi-annual prayer walk at PPS and our Kick-off/Back to School Celebration is SUneday August 11th followed by the launch of Family Friendly Wednesday nights on August 14th. I will also launch a new seires on the 11th entitled The Imperfect Family. It's going to be a great month and I hope that you will be a part!

Finally, we've almost completed the 2nd Floor Student Ministry Space of minus a few finishing touches and we anticipate having everything ready for our students to launch on their first Wednesday night back. There have been countless folks who've helped over the past year, but let me stop and say a special thanks to Andy Simmons who has helped coordinate and contract all of this work. He has saved the church a lot money and has invested a lot of time and energy to see it to completion. I'm so thankful for his and many other's servants hearts to work tirelessly to help our resources stretch as far as they can so we can accomplish so much more.

Let me close by saying as the first piece s of flooring were going down almost 18 years after the shell of the building was completed, I couldn't help but think of the sacrificial giving of many before who aren't here to see it's final completion. They passed the baton to us and we have picked it up and started to carry the next leg. What part will you play as we continue ahead in OutLive Your Life Phase 2? I pray that you will be a part by giving, helping, and serving.

I look forward to seeing each of you this Sunday and I can hardly wait to see what the Lord does in our midst! I hope that you will invite someone to join you. Church, I believe our best days are yet to come and I look so forward to seeing what He will do in and through us.

In Christ Alone,

Brad





Be sure to join us for our Back to School Sunday Celebration/Fall Kick-Off

- Blessing of the Backpacks (Bring your child's backpack and place it on the steps in the worship center that morning)
- Promotion of Preschool & Children to new LifeGroups
- Praying over our students, teachers and administrators of all schools
- New Family Message Series Begins
- Pizza Lunch for the entire family right after Worship (\$10 per family or \$5 for a single)
- Inflatable water slides, jumpers and small pools for preschool and children following Lunch



Join us each Sunday morning @ 10:30 a.m. starting August 11th for a brand new message series! Whether it's a perfect family picture someone posts on social media or a family TV show, we all know a perfect family doesn't really exist. The reality is no family is perfect. Problems and challenges aren't usually solved in 30 minutes either. Even when you look at the Bible, there were no perfect families. We know families come in all shapes and sizes, whether traditional, blended or single family homes. Our perfect Heavenly Father designed marriage and families to be the primary place of love, joy, faith, and unity. Over the next several weeks we'll take a look at God's design for marriage, parenting, and family. Come join us!



Summer Update on OutLive Your Life Phase 2

The 2nd Floor space is almost complete except for the main lighting and the stage and technical booth!! It will be able to be used for the students fall kick off night on Wednesday, August 14th! What a transformation. We were able to use it last week for our Petal Family Health & Resource Fair and it was incredible! Watch your email this week for an Outlive Your Life Phase 2 update and what projects are on the horizon. I want to thank those of you who continue to give each month sacrificially and challenge those who've not yet jumped on board to do so this month! Your giving is making a difference!





FAMILY FRIENDLY WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES will resume August 14th for everyone! We will have a simpler new meal schedule that will rotate meals that most families enjoy for the same prices that begins at 5:30 p.m. Then at 6:15 p.m. there will be activities for the entire family. Watch for some exciting changes coming in September for kids and adults and of course the students will be upstairs in their brand new space!



EVERYONE is encourage and challenged to attend our bi-annual prayer walk this **Sunday** at Petal Primary School as we pray over the entire campus and leave encouragement notes on the doors throughout the school. It begins at 5 p.m. and you can come go as fits your schedule. We are usually there until about 6:15 p.m. This is one of the most important things we do in our partnership with PPS. Bring the whole family and come pray!



Our bi-annual blood drive is Sunday, August 18th from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This blood drive is done in memory of Toni Marino, a member of our church who battled leukemia bravely and passed away in December 2016. There is always a need for blood so please sign up to give the gift of life either online or in the foyer of their church.



Our first Petal FBC Tailgate is Saturday, August 24th at 5:30 p.m. and the Kelley LifeGroup is in charge. Come out and join in the fellowship and fun - it's a great opportunity to invite a friend to come hang out with us. We also can help support our Petal Panthers too. We ask every person bring a snack food, dessert, etc. It's going to be a night of fun!



Text PFBC to 970-00 to sign up for our **NEW** texting platform! Be on the lookout for more information about how you can receive updates for more specific categories. We need everyone who would like updates via text messaging to sign up, even if you were signed up for our previous platform.

rightnow MEDIA

We are excited to share that our church now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

Some LifeGroups are using RightNow Media as their curriculum. If you are in a LifeGroup, you should have received an official invitation email to give you FREE access to RightNow Media. **If you have not received an email but you would like a link, please let the church office know.**

Once you find the email, simply click the link, sign up for an account, and you're all set to explore more than 20,000 videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!



By **Baptism:** Kinsley Sims & Reed Kelley

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Click the link to access the monthly church calendar!



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