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# MEET THE FAMILY Ron and Pat Fannin



The parents of Pastor Kyle Fannin relocated to Georgetown from Northern Virginia in July 2011 to support the fledgling Bluegrass Baptist Church, after both retiring from Federal government service.

Pat was saved in 1960 at Sciotoville Baptist Church in Ohio. Ron was saved in 1973 at Calvary Baptist Church in Chillicothe, OH. They met at the Ohio Department of Transportation in 1969 and were married two years later. When they relocated to Frankfort, KY in 1979, they became involved in the groundwork for the establishment of Capital Baptist Church. Then in 1984 they moved to Northern

Virginia where Ron worked for the Department of Transportation and Pat joined the CIA. At the same time, they joined Fairfax Baptist Temple, where they served for the next 27 years.

In all, Ron has served some 44 years as a Deacon in three different churches, including BBC. Pat has been equally active. At BBC she was the first full-time pianist, started the first Choir and Special Music program, coordinates the Women for Christ and Secret Pal programs and serves in the Nursery, Sunday School and as a VBS worker. Ron recently retired as a Deacon but remains active in security, ushering, counting offerings, discipleship, and caring for the church grounds.

In his many years of church service he has always been a faithful supporter of community outreach programs, including visitation and Gospel Blitz.

Ron and Pat have two children, Pastor Kyle, his wife, Jessica, and their three children, and a daughter, Cassandra, who lives in Virginia with her husband John and their three children.

## **Doug Jackson**



Doug is from the Bardstown-Bloomfield part of Nelson County. He moved to Georgetown to work at Toyota, where he retired after 33 years.

His neighbors, Mark and Debbie Woods, invited him to visit our church. Doug was raised in a Christian home but got away from church. A recent accident made him think about where he would spend eternity. Pastor Fannin spoke to him after he attended the October revival meetings with Evangelist David Sommerdorf. Doug later prayed at home to receive Jesus as his Savior.

His passion since childhood has been flying, and in 2009 he at last bought his own plane, a Piper Cherokee.

## **Trampus and Lee Offutt**

From Stamping Ground, KY, where they still live, the couple met at a birthday party in 1993. Trampus had just arrived back from a two-year army deployment in Germany and Lee was a Junior in high school. They were married in 1996 and now have two sons, Brady (newly married) and Jonathan.

Trampus works at Ryder Integrated Logistics in Georgetown, where he is a Certified Driver Trainer. Lee is a Community Access Specialist at Quest Farm.



They came to our church during the Covid pandemic while looking for a place to worship in person. Lee's sister, Jenna Vance, encouraged them to attend here.

### PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

## **Building Towards a Bright Future**

The Christmas offering this year will be used to improve our 18 acre property at the corner of Ironworks Road and Coleman Lane.

The site was bought in 2015 with an anonymous gift from a church family who believed our continued growth would one day require us to look beyond our present location that fronts on Lexington Road. That day has come! It's time to begin planning in anticipation of building a bigger facility that will provide a comfortable new home. As a small first step, we have been removing shrub growth and leveling the property so that we can erect a picnic shelter surrounded by playing fields.

Our philosophy whenever we have moved (four times through the last 15 years) has always sought to answer three key questions: Why are we building? How will be build? What will we build?

The "Why?" always focuses on people. Jesus did not die for a building. He came to die and was resurrected for the redemption and regeneration of sinners who would form His Body, visible as the local church. This means that a facility where we gather as the Body of Christ must have a functional benefit to the people of Bluegrass, catering for our times of worship, preaching, teaching, fellowship and church-wide outdoor activities. We are running out of room in our present facility to do all that for our age-diverse, constantly growing congregation, and so we must begin to think about building again.

As to "How" we finance improvements or new builds, we strive to do as much as possible free of debt. The best use of God's money is not in interest payments to a lender! This means we do a good part of the work ourselves, relying on the skills and experience of our own people, bringing in contract workers when necessary.

"What" we build depends on the offerings we present to the Lord and the affordability of necessary structures and general facilities. Our initial development over the next 12 months will be a picnic shelter, a playground, and some playing fields. These will provide for outdoor LifeStage activities, church softball and soccer games, youth and children's sporting events, and an expanded "Bluegrass Olympics".

The final question is "When" will this begin? The short answer is soon! We have already cleared the property and have had meetings with civil engineers to determine what changes need to be made from our "Master Plan" that was approved back in 2015.

With these exciting possibilities in mind, I hope that you will be able to give a little of your time and talent and treasure towards the first step, not to the church, nor to a cause, but to the Lord in support of what He is doing here.

As always, thank you for your faithful stewardship of the life God has given you for His glory, and for your ongoing support that sustains and expands the work of Jesus Christ here in Central Kentucky!

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING!

# The Family Got Together and Gave Thanks









On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, over 200 dads, moms, boys, girls, young singles, college students, Grandpas, Grandmas and friends of the family gathered at the church for joyful fellowship around the traditional feast of turkey-with-all-the-fixings. The food was wonderful, the deserts were spectacular, and despite our best eating efforts there was plenty left over at the end. We remembered how good the Lord has been to us this year, and we look forward to more blessings in the year ahead.

# Visit the Church Library

We don't have a big church library but it does provide a good range of books to suit every taste, from theology to bedtime stories for children, and a lot in between.

Linda Craft was our first librarian, helping to catalog all the books and produce a reference list. She recently handed the reins to Dana Thal, so talk to Dana if you're interested in knowing what is available for relaxed reading, inspiration, or serious study.

There are reference books (commentaries, concordances, and guides to the Bible), books about church life, books on theology, Christian leadership, a wide range of Bible studies, books on preaching, books about marriage and Christian family life, Christian Classics, devotional books, Christian biographies, and Discipleship. There are also Christian fiction books and books for children to read.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF PERSONAL REVIVAL

# **Amazing Grace: From Slave Trader to Saint**

John Newton was born in London, England, in 1725, the only child of John and Elizabeth Newton. His mother read often to him from the Bible and prayed he would become a minister. She died when he was only seven and he soon accompanied his father, a British Navy ship's captain, on his sea voyages.

Newton later enlisted in the Royal Navy, but rebelled against the harsh discipline and deserted. He was captured, flogged, chained in irons, and kicked out of the Navy. Describing his life at that time, he said he was arrogant, rebellious, and living as a reckless sinner. It wasn't long before he took a job with a slave trader on an island off the western coast of Africa, but after a year of living in abusive conditions he escaped the island on a ship full of slaves. A violent storm threatened to sink the ship and Newton was convinced that he would die. Remembering his mother's teaching about God's grace towards sinners, he whispered a desperate prayer for help, promising to serve the Lord if he survived the storm. For the remainder of his life, he remembered that day as the anniversary of his conversion—"the hour I first believed."

In 1750, he returned to England and married his childhood sweetheart. He began attending church meetings in London, where he became acquainted with the "Great Awakening" preachers, George Whitfield and John Wesley. In 1764, at age 39, Newton was ordained a minister of the Church of England and thrived as pastor of a small rural parish for the next 16 years, sometimes writing his own hymns to complement his sermons. Some of Newton's most notable hymns include "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken," "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," and "Amazing Grace."

As his fame spread, he became pastor of a large church in London. People flocked to hear him preach, sing his hymns, and receive his spiritual advice. Newton served there until his death in 1807 at the age of 82.

"Amazing Grace," is his life story. He never stopped marveling at the amazing grace of God that had changed his life so radically. As he grew old and his health faltered, friends encouraged him to slow down and retire. But in reply, he declared, "My memory is nearly gone, and I can't see very well, but I remember two things that I can preach: I am a great sinner, and Christ is a great Savior!"