

Show Me Your Glory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRFIELD

September 2018

Full Circle

On the way to Kansas City, Missouri, a small church sits on a hill that looks much just like every other church you might pass on the interstate. This church is different though, because in it Catherine Singleton first felt the call to serve the church. Catherine was not a member at the church, but she was serving there as a pianist. Something that day was different and she sought out counsel from a trusted advisor who told her to listen to that call. Recently, Catherine made a road trip to Kansas City, and as that church passed by on the right side of the road, reflection of where God has led her came flooding back.

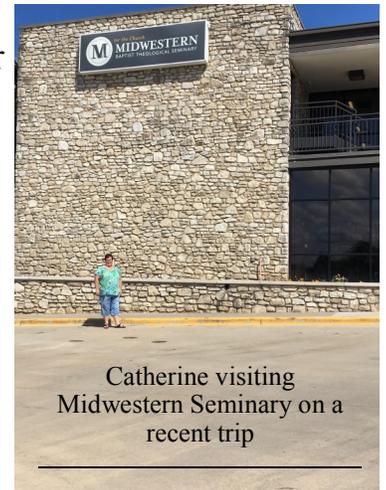
Catherine made her profession of faith as a child in her home church in Missouri. She was active as a teenager in youth activities, and when it came time to go to college, she started at Southwest Baptist University in Boliver, Missouri. Catherine originally pursued Music Education, but she soon realized Elementary Education was a better fit for her. With the change in major, she changed schools to Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. While in Springfield, she was active in the Baptist Student Union activities and served on laity teams that sent students into churches to conduct revivals. As a member of one of those laity teams, she had served at the church in Kansas City that eventually called her to come serve in special music which led to the call to ministry. Catherine graduated from Southwest Missouri State and was working at Famous Barr when that church asked her to serve, and during that time there she felt the greater call of God to pursue full time service.

The advice of her trusted friend led her to become a seminary student at Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City. As one of a few women at the time that pursued Master's degrees at Baptist seminaries, she began her pursuit of God's call

on her life. It was challenging being a woman pursuing a degree there at that time, but Catherine persevered. She finished her degree receiving a Masters of Religious Education with Music Emphasis and began a career teaching middle school. That pursuit did not last very long before she realized God had called her to more, and she sought out a full time church position.

In the years since, Catherine served in two churches. She served at Salem Baptist Church in Missouri for several years before serving here at First Baptist for eleven years.

Catherine says, "I felt that God was no longer calling me to serve in the church," therefore, she resigned her position here. She however did not feel that God was telling her to move to another church. She didn't really ever consider moving or changing churches since she considers this her home now. She knew that God was going to continue to use her in ministry and she trusted Him to guide her path.



Catherine visiting Midwestern Seminary on a recent trip

Just as God has directed her life at every stage, Catherine has come full circle back to where she started, she is teaching and ministering to children every day. Catherine teaches four classes most semesters at Frontier Community College. In addition, she has been the Director of Kingdom Kids from the inception of the program in 2013. Most days you can find Catherine sitting in front of a group of kids listening to her teach Biblical truth. God has prepared her for such a time as this, taking all the prior experience from teaching, theological studies, music leadership, and working with youth and giving her an outlet to use all those skills to continue to serve Him.

We are thankful for Catherine and how she serves with great joy.



*Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our
salvation.*

Psalm 95:1

Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:13-14



Food Pantry Update

Starting in October, we will be expanding the ministry of the food pantry to include an onsite food pantry on the campus of Frontier Community College for students. We are looking for volunteers that would be willing to be a part of the ministry to serve. Please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board for times you can serve.

Women's Fellowship



Jeanette Cloyd is a very talented crafter and this past month she held a card making workshop for the women of FBC. Jeanette brought a portion of her supplies to the church and taught those attending how to design and make cards. These cards are used in the office for the member birthdays that are honored each month. It was a great time of fellowship and Jeanette was very patient in teaching. We will be having another card making workshop soon and we invite everyone to come out and join in the fun. All skill levels welcome.



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FAIRFIELD, IL
PERMIT NO. 30

308 South First St.
Fairfield IL 62837
Phone (618) 842-3764
Fax (618) 842-3704
Bennie Tomberlin, Pastor
www.fairfieldfbc.org
fbcfairfield@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sermon Broadcast on WFIW 1390 at 10:45 each Sunday

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art;
be Thou my best thought in the day and the
night,
both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my
light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true
Word;
be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord;
be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
be Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart,
O high King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright
Sun,

O grant me its joys, after vict'ry is won;
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Mary Elizabeth Byrne translated the poem into English, and in 1912, Eleanor Hull versified the text into what is now a well-loved hymn and prayer that at every moment of our lives, God would be our vision above all else.

Eleanor Hull's versification consists of five verses. Today, most hymnals include four of those verses: 1, 2, 4, and 5, leaving out verse 3: "Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; be thou my dignity, though my delight, thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower: raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power."

This hymn acts as a prayer to our God that He would be the first that we seek after, and continually refocus the direction of our life. This hymn is a particularly powerful prayer of response to God's call for our lives, whether heard in a sermon or a Scripture passage.

[https://hymnary.org/text/
be_thou_my_vision_o_lord_of_my_heart](https://hymnary.org/text/be_thou_my_vision_o_lord_of_my_heart)