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# the MESSENGER

February /// 2025

## FOCUS ON WMU

Making Disciples of Jesus who live on mission



*Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you  
not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.*

—1 Thessalonians 2:8

### Focus on Woman's Missionary Union/Women on Mission

During the month of February we focus on WMU's impact in local churches, communities, and throughout the world.

"WMU, an auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, began in 1888 in the hearts of visionary leaders to pray and systematically raise money for missions. Since that time, WMU has helped lead Southern Baptist churches across the country to give over \$6 billion through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering – efforts begun by WMU to support missionaries.

WMU's unwavering focus is making disciples of Jesus who live on mission. We seek to come alongside the church to accomplish the mission of God. God issued the mandate for us to be involved in missions through the Great Commission. Our desire is to see all ages energized and motivated and equipped for missions.

Our objectives:

- We are passionate about the lost.
- We are compelled by love.
- We are generous in sharing.
- We serve with great delight (joy).

Pick up a prayer guide in the Welcome Center for more information on the WMU groups here at FBC Dandridge and the ministries we help support. For more information on any of the groups and how you can become involved, contact our Women on Mission Director, Kendra Davis.



# FIRST THOUGHTS

## Love as a Lifestyle

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As we enter the month of February, we find ourselves in the middle of winter. And by this point, most of us have had enough of the cold, cloudy days that dominate this season (At the time of writing, the morning low was 9 degrees!). But despite the frigid temperatures outside, there is one particular day in the middle of February that warms many hearts within - Valentine's Day.

The history behind this mid-winter holiday is often debated, but the most popular story of origin dates back to the Roman Emperor Claudius II, when he once imposed a ban on marriages in order to boost the enrollment of men in his army. However, in an effort to protect the importance of Christian marriage, a believer named Valentinus performed secret marriages, which eventually led to him being arrested and sentenced to death. While he was awaiting execution, Valentinus was showered with notes from many young couples commending him for his priority of love over war (which some believe to be the origin of sending Valentine's cards). His life came to an end on February 14, 269, and the rest is history.

Today, Valentine's Day is among the most popular holidays in America, with over 140 million cards exchanged and over \$18 billion spent on flowers, chocolates, and other gifts. The obvious theme of the holiday is love, particularly romantic love, as many couples will spend time together and enrich their marriages. With all of the hearts, balloons, flowers, and other symbols, Valentine's Day is the one day of the year when "love is in the air." But while many of us celebrate love on Valentine's Day, love is not something that should only be highlighted by couples on this particular day. Love should be a lifestyle that believers live out toward everyone throughout the year - and this is the message that Paul shares with us in 1 Corinthians 13.

In what is known as the "love chapter" of the Bible, Paul was writing to believers in Corinth that were divided and fighting over a number of issues. Among those issues was the use of spiritual gifts in the church, particularly the "sign gifts," like tongues, interpretation,

and healing. Some were jealous of those who possessed these miraculous gifts, while those who had received these gifts were elevating themselves over the others. While Paul was eager to teach them God's truths concerning all spiritual gifts, he paused between chapters twelve and fourteen to call their attention to love. He writes, *"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends"* (1 Cor. 13:4-8). Paul's goal was to show them (and us) that our love toward God and one another is supreme over everything else that takes place in the church. It does not matter how many programs and ministries we have, how large and resourceful our budget might be, or how many people attend our services and participate in our events, if we do not display such godly love toward one another, we have nothing.

I want you to ask God to help you examine your heart and see if love toward him and/or others is missing in your life. Think about each of these descriptions of love and see if you are displaying these attributes each day. A successful church is a loving church, one that loves God, his truth, and others. I pray that such love will burn in our hearts throughout the rest of this year.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Pastor Justin



# WORSHIP AND MUSIC

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Dear Church Family,

I'm so grateful for the opportunity to serve as your interim Worship Pastor. Worship has always been close to my heart because it's more than just music—it's a way for us to connect with God, surrender to Him, and be reminded of His goodness. The Bible tells us in Psalm 100:2, "Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!" Worship is a joyful response to who God is and what He has done, and my prayer is that as we gather together, we will experience His presence in a real and powerful way. Worship is more than just something we do on Sundays; it's a lifestyle.

It shapes our hearts, strengthens our faith, and draws us closer to the Lord. My hope is that as we worship together, we will grow in our love for God and for one another, becoming a church that glorifies Him in all that we do. Whether we are singing, praying, or simply resting in His presence, may our worship be pleasing to Him and life-changing for us. I'm excited for this season and all that God has in store for our church.

Let's continue to seek Him, lift our voices in praise, and grow together in faith. I look forward to worshipping with you and seeing how God moves in our midst!

In Christ,  
Joel

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Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 PM  
Meet in the choir room behind  
the sanctuary.

## INDIANAPOLIS CHURCH PLANT

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Exciting news! We have prayerfully decided to partner with a church in Indianapolis to help plant a Providence Church in the small town of Speedway, IN. This is an incredible opportunity to be part of God's work in reaching new people with the hope of the gospel—let's pray, give, and GO TOGETHER. We will be sharing ways to get involved very soon.



## STUDENT MINISTRY



Our Winter DNOW this year will be MoTown Madness! This is a local youth conference held at FBC Morristown. This is a great time for your student to get away from the norm to grow in their love for Jesus and invite others who do not know Jesus as Savior and Lord. Get all the info and sign up at [fbcdandridge.org/students](http://fbcdandridge.org/students)

**Want to serve?** Contact Pastor Josh for ways to get involved in MoTown!

### 2025 LIFE GROUPS:

Hinchey Life Group resumes **February 4**

Ogle Life Group resumes **February 9**



**GET TO THE BEACH!**

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

This summer we are going back to the beach for summer camp! We believe this will be an incredible week filled with sand, waves, worship, Bible study, fellowship, late night events and more. The cost is \$275 with a \$50 deposit due at registration. Register at [fbcdandridge.org/students](http://fbcdandridge.org/students)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### Crossings Camp - June 21st - 24th

It's already time to start thinking about camp! We're going to have an awesome time at Carson Springs playing games, eating good food, studying God's Word, and making memories! This camp is for children going into grades 3-6 (currently 2nd-5th). The cost of the camp is \$175 with a \$50 deposit due at registration. Register by February 26th to get \$25 off! Registration is open.



### Magnified! - June 9th - 13th

#### Save the Date!

Magnified! VBS will encourage kids to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God. God made us, cares about us, loves us, forgives us, and is faithful to keep all His promises to us. We can praise God together! We were made to magnify God!

### Firstkids Memory Verse

Hear, O Israel: The LORD  
our God, the LORD is  
one.

Deuteronomy 6:4



# FEBRUARY

## 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan - 26	Jan - 27	Jan - 28	Jan - 29	Jan - 30	Jan - 31	Feb - 1
Feb - 2	Feb - 3	Feb - 4	Feb - 5	Feb - 6	Feb - 7	Feb - 8
9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship	9a - 10a Staff Meeting	OFFSITE 6p - 8p Hinchey Life Group	OFFSITE 9:30a - 10:50a Jefferson Park	10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group		
10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service			4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner			
11:45a - 12:45p Deacon Meeting			6p - 7p FBCD Students			
4p - 6p Grief Share			6p - 7p Adult Bible Study			
			6p - 7:15p FirstKids			
			6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal			
Feb - 9	Feb - 10	Feb - 11	Feb - 12	Feb - 13	Feb - 14	Feb - 15
9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship	9a - 10a Staff Meeting	OFFSITE 6p - 8p Hinchey Life Group	OFFSITE 9:30a - 10:50a Jefferson Park	10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group	ALL DAY Valentine's Day	7:30a - 4:30p Disaster Relief Training
10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service			4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner			
4p - 5p Adult Bible Fellowship Teacher Meeting			6p - 7p FBCD Students			
4p - 6p Grief Share			6p - 7p Adult Bible Study			
5p - 6p Dive! Women's Bible Study			6p - 7:15p FirstKids			
OFFSITE 6p - 8p Ogle Life Group			6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal			
Feb - 16	Feb - 17	Feb - 18	Feb - 19	Feb - 20	Feb - 21	Feb - 22
9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship	ALL DAY Jefferson County & Lakeway Schools Closed	OFFSITE 6p - 8p Hinchey Life Group	OFFSITE 9:30a - 10:50a Jefferson Park	10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group	4p >> DNow	ALL DAY DNow
10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service	ALL DAY Presidents' Day		4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner			
4p - 5p Women's Prayer Group	9a - 10a Staff Meeting		6p - 7p FBCD Students			
4p - 6p Grief Share			6p - 7p Adult Bible Study			
5p - 6p Women on Mission			6p - 7:15p FirstKids			
OFFSITE 6p - 8p Ogle Life Group			6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal			
			7p - 7:30p Business Meeting			
Feb - 23	Feb - 24	Feb - 25	Feb - 26	Feb - 27	Feb - 28	Mar - 1
<< 12p DNow	9a - 10a Staff Meeting	OFFSITE 6p - 8p Hinchey Life Group	OFFSITE 9:30a - 10:50a Jefferson Park	10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group		
9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship			4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner			
10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service			6p - 7p FBCD Students			
11:45a - 12:30p VBS Volunteer Interest Meeting			6p - 7p Adult Bible Study			
4p - 6p Grief Share			6p - 7:15p FirstKids			
OFFSITE 6p - 8p Ogle Life Group			6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal			

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Paula Watkins  
1/12/2025

Photo  
Coming  
Soon!

Janice Lyon  
1/19/2025



## Online Sign Up Information

Have you asked the question, I wonder how to sign up for that event? To get the latest on the FBCD Event Sign Up information, simply click the following link, [\*\*https://fbcdandridge.typeform.com/signup\*\*](https://fbcdandridge.typeform.com/signup) or scan the QR Code above to take you directly to all the available events to get you signed up.



# FBC DANDRIDGE HAPPENINGS



*I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!* - Job 19:25-27

## Women's Celebration - Save the Date

Ladies, save the date and invite your friends!

Saturday, March 8, 2025

FBC Dandridge Fellowship Hall

Check-in for all is located in main church lobby Welcome Center at 11:30 AM - use Main Tower Entrance

Lunch/Program 11:50 AM - 2:30 PM

Inspirational Speaker:

Mrs. Janet Hooten, retired  
IMB missionary

Worship Leaders: Michelle Johnson  
& Jama Coker

Join us for lunch, worship, inspiration, prayer time, testimonies, tablescapes, fellowship and door prizes!

Cost is \$15. Please pay in advance (preferred) or at the door. Visit <https://fbcdandridge.typeform.com/Women2025> or scan the QR code to make your reservations.

**All reservations must be made by Sunday, March 2.**



Please indicate dietary restrictions or child care needs at time of registration. Contact Kendra Davis or the Church Office for more information.

## Ladies' Dive! Bible Study

Ladies, please join us for our next Dive! study as we discuss truth when we feel unaccepted by looking at Ephesians 2:8. If you are reading along, please read Chapter 5 of *Dwell Differently*. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, **February 9**, at 5pm in Room 216! Check out the Dive! Women's Ministry Resource page where you can access study notes and session recordings from our monthly studies at <https://www.fbcdandridge.org/dive>.



## Prayer Group and Women on Mission

These groups will meet on **February 16** in the Fellowship Hall beginning with the Prayer Group at 4:00 PM followed by Women on Mission at 5:00 PM. Please bring a batch of home-baked cookies to share with our unchurched neighbors. All ladies are invited!

## GriefShare

No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful, confusing process. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At GriefShare, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief in all its unpredictability and gain support each step of the way. At each meeting, you will view a video featuring respected counselors, pastors, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics. After that is a small-group discussion to allow people time to talk, share support, and personally apply what they learned on the video. GriefShare will meet on Sundays (through March 30) at 4:00 PM in the Conference Room.

## Disaster Relief Training

The TBMB's Disaster Relief Ministry is always in need of more volunteers. There is an upcoming training session on Saturday, **February 15** from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, here at FBC Dandridge. For more information, contact Danny Newman at 865-604-4990. Learn more about the Disaster Relief Ministry at [www.tndisasterrelief.org](http://www.tndisasterrelief.org).

## Winter Weather Policy

FBCD will hold all services and activities as scheduled, weather permitting, and make decisions to cancel activities on a case-by-case basis. Should it become necessary to cancel an activity, members of that group will be notified via Realm which will include both an email and a text message. For a church-wide cancellation, all methods of communication will be used including text, email, social media, Realm, telephone, and website. Please make sure your contact information, particularly cell phone number, is up-to-date to receive these important messages.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**D A N D R I D G E**

951 Hwy 92 S - PO Box 246  
Dandridge, TN 37725

**Current Resident or**

## General Information

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**Ministerial Staff:**

Dr. Justin Terrell, Senior Pastor  
justin@fbcdandridge.org  
Rev. Cory Hammett, Pastor of Spiritual Growth & Missions  
cory@fbcdandridge.org  
Rev. Josh Ogle, Pastor of Students & Families  
josh@fbcdandridge.org  
Rev. Joe Hanks, Pastor of Children & Families  
joe@fbcdandridge.org

**Support Staff:**

Lauren Opeil, Ministry Assistant  
lauren@fbcdandridge.org  
Alicia Linsley, Ministry Assistant  
alicia@fbcdandridge.org  
Diane Marshall, Church Accountant  
diane@fbcdandridge.org  
Chauncey Burr, Maintenance & Grounds Manager  
Jody Tatum, Custodian/Maintenance  
Donna McDonald, Chef/Food Services  
Michelle Johnson, Pianist  
Jerry Price, Organist

**Church Office: (865) 397-3940**

**Bible Fellowship Report**  
**Average Attendance**

	<u>December 2024</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Preschool	14	15
Children	23	26
Youth	34	30
Adult	212	211
Offsite	0	0
Overall average	283	282

Worship Attendance Average for  
December – TBD

**Financial Report**

	<u>December 2024</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budget Fund Goal	\$142,069.76	\$1,477,524.00
Budget Receipts	\$247,709.21	\$1,546,094.55
Building Fund Receipts	309,834.80	351,504.80
Designated Receipts	<u>70,983.35</u>	<u>429,004.35</u>
Total Receipts	\$628,527.36	\$2,326,603.70