



FIRST THOUGHTS

Living With Love

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 of the year. 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 145 million cards exchanged and over \$27 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 to 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 one day of the year. 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 who were divided and fighting over a number of issues. Among those issues was the role of spiritual gifts in

the church, particularly the usage of the "sign gifts," like tongues, interpretation, and healing. Some were jealous of those who possessed these miraculous gifts, while those who had received them were elevating themselves above the rest. Although 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 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 encourage you to ask God to examine your heart. Ask him if your love for him or others is lacking. 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 around us. I pray that such love will burn in our hearts throughout the rest of this year.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Pastor Justin

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As we move into February, our preparations for the Easter season are beginning. Holy Week invites us to step into the story of Jesus, not as distant observers, but as worshipers who walk with Him through the joy, sorrow, sacrifice, and ultimate victory of the cross and resurrection. It is a sacred journey that begins with praise and leads us to profound hope.

On Palm Sunday, March 29, we will gather at 10:30 AM for a special Palm Sunday musical celebration that marks the beginning of Holy Week. This service will retell the story of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the crowds cried out "Hosanna!" and welcomed Him as

King. Through Scripture, narration, choir, and instrumental worship, we will reflect on how that moment of celebration ultimately leads us to the cross, and beyond it, to the empty tomb.

We invite you to prepare your heart for this coming season of worship, and as always remember we have a place for you in the Music & Worship Ministry! Feel free to reach out to me anytime to talk about how we can get you plugged in!

Blessings,

Pastor Joel

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

- 03.29  PALM SUN CELEBRATION | 10:30 AM
FAMILY EGG HUNT | 12 PM
- 04.02  MAUNDY THURSDAY | 7 PM
- 04.03  GOOD FRIDAY | 12 PM
- 04.05  EASTER SUN | 9:00 AM | 10:30 AM



STUDENT MINISTRY



DNow Student Retreat February 28 - March 1

CONNECT EAST
DISCIPLE NOW WEEKENDS

LEGIT
The Truth Is Out There



<https://fbcdandridge.typeform.com/DNow2026>

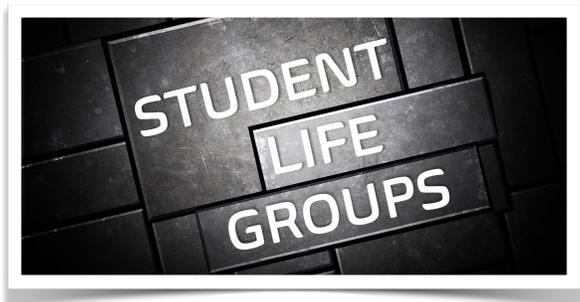
DNow | February 27 - March 1 | Carson Springs

Registration is now open for our DNow weekend at Carson Springs. Cost is \$60 and includes lodging, meals, transportation, and a t-shirt. Former FBC Dandridge Student Pastor Andy Henard will be the speaker for the weekend. Sign up by visiting fbcdandridge.org or by scanning the QR code.



Wednesday Nights | 6:00 PM

Join us on Wednesday Nights at 6:00 PM in the Student Room for games, music, and a message from God's Word. **CONNECTED:** Prayer is one of the most important parts of our relationship with God. However, it's often neglected, overcomplicated, or misunderstood. Prayer is about us connecting with God through having a conversation with Him. This series will challenge students to embrace prayer as a daily, life-giving habit that strengthens them and helps them draw closer to God.



LOOKING for a place to connect, grow, and have fun with friends who love Jesus? Join us for Student Life Groups **every Tuesday night at 6 PM** at the home of Chris and Lindsay Hinchey.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



CROSSINGS CARSON SPRINGS

Storytellers
KIDS

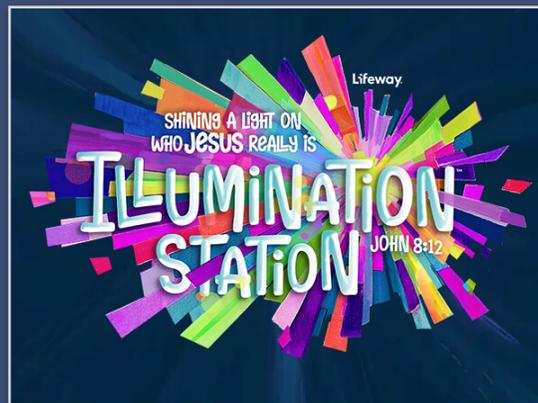
Kids camp registration is Now Open

June 20-23
\$150 before Feb 25
(\$175 after that!)



Crossings Camp - June 20th-23rd

We're so excited to head back to Crossings Camp at Carson Springs! This is always a highlight of the summer—packed with fun activities, meaningful worship, spiritual growth, and opportunities for kids to build lasting friendships. It's an unforgettable experience where children grow closer to one another and deepen their walk with Christ. The cost is \$150 per student through February 25, after which the price increases to \$175. A \$50 deposit is due at the time of registration. Registration is open, so be sure to mark your calendar and save your spot!



Save the Date - VBS: Illumination Station June 8th-12th

Mark your calendars for Illumination Station! Kids will have a blast as we shine a light on who Jesus really is through engaging Bible stories, exciting games, creative activities, and lots of fun with friends. VBS is a wonderful week of learning about Jesus in an energetic, joy-filled environment—and we can't wait to see what God will do! More details and registration information coming soon, so stay tuned!

FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb - 1 9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship 10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service 11:45a - 12:45p Deacon Meeting 4p - 5:30p Financial Peace University	Feb - 2 9a - 10a Staff Meeting	Feb - 3 OFFSITE 6p - 8p Student Life Group	Feb - 4 OFFSITE 9:30a - 10:50a Jefferson Park 4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner 5p - 6p Kids Choir 6p - 7p Adult Bible Study 6p - 7:15p FirstKids 6p - 7:15p FBCD Students 6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal	Feb - 5 10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group	Feb - 6	Feb - 7
Feb - 8 9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship 10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service 4p - 5p Adult Bible Fellowship Teacher Meeting 4p - 5:30p Financial Peace University 5p - 6p Dive! Ladies Bible Study	Feb - 9 9a - 10a Staff Meeting	Feb - 10 OFFSITE 6p - 8p Student Life Group	Feb - 11 4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner 5p - 6p Kids Choir 6p - 7p Adult Bible Study 6p - 7:15p FirstKids 6p - 7:15p FBCD Students 6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal	Feb - 12 10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group	Feb - 13 9a - 11a Quilting Group-FAITH Fellowship	Feb - 14 ALL DAY Valentine's Day
Feb - 15 ALL DAY Focus on WMU 9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship 10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service 4p - 5:30p Financial Peace University 5p - 6p Women on Mission	Feb - 16 ALL DAY Jeff. Co. Schools Closed ALL DAY Lakeway Schools Closed ALL DAY Presidents' Day 9a - 10a Staff Meeting	Feb - 17 OFFSITE 6p - 8p Student Life Group	Feb - 18 4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner 5p - 6p Kids Choir 6p - 7p Adult Bible Study 6p - 7:15p FirstKids 6p - 7:15p FBCD Students 6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 7p - 7:30p Member Meeting	Feb - 19 10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group	Feb - 20	Feb - 21 8a - 4:30p Disaster Relief Training
Feb - 22 9:15a - 10:15a Bible Fellowship 10:30a - 11:45a Morning Worship Service 4p - 5:30p Financial Peace University	Feb - 23 9a - 10a Staff Meeting	Feb - 24 OFFSITE 6p - 8p Student Life Group	Feb - 25 4:45p - 5:45p Weds. Night Dinner 5p - 6p Kids Choir 6p - 7p Adult Bible Study 6p - 7:15p FirstKids 6p - 7:15p FBCD Students 6:30p - 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal	Feb - 26 10a - 11a Ladies Legacy Fitness Group	Feb - 27 9a - 11a Quilting Group-FAITH Fellowship OFFSITE 4:30p >> DNow	Feb - 28 OFFSITE ALL DAY DNow

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Matt & Chasety Morgan
12/21/2025



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, and website. Please make sure your contact information, particularly cell phone number, is up-to-date to receive these important messages. To opt-in to receiving text messages, simply text the word "START" to 423-799-3327.

FBC DANDRIDGE HAPPENINGS



Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.
- John 14:27

Women's Celebration - Save the Date

Ladies, save the date and invite your friends!

Saturday, March 7, 2026

FBC Dandridge Fellowship Hall

Check-in for all is located in main

church lobby Welcome Center at 11:15 AM - use Main Tower Entrance

Lunch/Program 11:45 AM - 2:30 PM

Inspirational Speaker:

Bobby Turner - Former FBC Dandridge WMU Director and TBMB WMU Director.

Worship Leaders: Darla Lewis with Pianist, Susan Haas

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/Women2026> or scan the QR code below to make your reservations.

***All reservations MUST be made by Monday, March 2.**

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



Adult Bible Fellowship Teacher Meeting | February 8 | 4:00 PM

Our monthly teacher meeting is on Sunday, **February 8** at 4:00 PM in Room 228.

Ladies' Dive! Bible Study | February 8 | 5:00 PM

Ladies, we look forward to seeing you **February 8** at 5:00 PM in Room 216. We'll be covering Chapter 4 in *From Gardens to Glory*. 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>.



Quilting Group - FAITH Fellowship | February 13 & 27 | 9:00 AM

The Quilting Group will meet at 9:00 AM on **February 13 & 27** in Room 216. Contact Debbie Murphy for more info at 863-838-2827.

Women on Mission | February 15 | 5:00 PM

Join us on Sunday, **February 15** at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Hannah & Lydia Perrigan will share about their mission trip to Guatemala. Watch for an email from Kendra Davis regarding items to be collected for Isaiah 117 House. Ladies may bring a snack to share and invite a friend!

Disaster Relief Training | February 21 | 8:00 AM

The TBMB's Disaster Relief Ministry is always in need of more volunteers. There is an upcoming training session on Saturday, **February 21** 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.

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 use the following link, <https://fbcdandridge.typeform.com/signup> or scan the QR Code to the right to take you directly to all the available events to get you or your family signed up.





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

Ministerial Staff:

Dr. Justin Terrell, Senior Pastor
justin@fbcdandridge.org
Rev. Cory Hammett, Pastor of Spiritual Growth & Missions
cory@fbcdandridge.org
Rev. Joel Ogle, Pastor of Worship & Counseling
joel@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
Jody Tatum, Custodian/Maintenance
Donna McDonald, Chef/Food Services
Michelle Johnson, Pianist
Susan Haas, Pianist
Jerry Price, Organist

Church Office: (865) 397-3940

Bible Fellowship Report

Average Attendance

	<u>December 2025</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Preschool	18	18
Children	23	23
Youth	29	32
Adult	201	217
Offsite	0	0
Overall average	271	290

Worship Attendance Average for
December – TBD

Financial Report

	<u>December 2025</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budget Fund Goal	\$119,267.84	\$1,550,482.00
Budget Receipts	\$212,332.26	\$1,639,337.73
Building Fund Receipts	7,120.00	55,408.69
Designated Receipts	<u>67,706.95</u>	<u>411,769.74</u>
Total Receipts	\$287,159.21	\$2,106,516.16