

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2016

The First Word

Glorifying God by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ motivated by a love for God and a love for others.



Churchwide spiritual awakening conference
February 21-24 at FBC!

6 Habits Class Begins • February 7

Parents' Night Out • February 11

Catalyst Ski Trip • February 13

One Cry Conference Ladies' Lunch • February 22



ONECRY

A Nationwide Call For Spiritual Awakening

www.OneCry.com

Churchwide Conference February 21-24, 2016 Fort Mill First Baptist Church

One Cry, the conference, is a 4-day event for our entire church family with age appropriate elements for the every member of your family. It's filled with a worshipful, prayerful, challenging call for God's people to TURN, PRAY and UNITE for spiritual awakening.

This event helps people of all ages walk through the process of personal humility and surrender to God, motivates them to pray earnestly in faith for His presence and power and engages them in the hope of Christ-centered revival. It is designed to help churches re-ignite their passion for Christ, engage in fervent revival prayer, encourage unity and reconciliation and look forward with expectation toward God's supernatural work.

We are excited to host this conference at Fort Mill First Baptist Church that God has been using all over the country! As you prayerfully plan for these days, please note the following schedule:

- **Sunday, February 21**—Regular Sunday morning schedule with the One Cry team leading us in all three worship services. Special activities for the children and preschoolers led by the One Cry Team.
- **Sunday, February 21—Wednesday, February 24** — Special services each evening beginning @ 6:30 pm. While the adults and students are in these special services, there will be special One Cry-related activities for children and preschoolers.
- **Monday, February 22**—Ladies Lunch with the One Cry team. All FBC ladies are invited to attend this special lunch with the ladies of the One Cry team. Watch for details in the worship folder, in the weekly enews and on the website.

We are prayerfully anticipating a mighty movement of God during these days—Plan now to be a part of what God is doing among us!



Children's Ministry

LIKE us on Facebook @firstbaptist.childrensministry

Questions or Comments??

Contact FBC: 547-2051

Joy Canupp

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jcanupp@fbcfm.com

Amy Armeni

Children's Ministry Assistant
CM Teaching Teams, CM Safety/Security, CM Facilities
aarmeni@fbcfm.com

Neely Potts

Children's Ministry Assistant
CM Large Group & FX Live! Teams, Wed. Nights, CM Midweek & Welcome Teams
npotts@fbcfm.com

Marsha Jones

Children's Ministry Assistant
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mjones@fbcfm.com

We ♥ HEART ♥ Volunteers !!!

February is **Children's Ministry Volunteer Appreciation Month** and we want you to know how very much we love you.

If you proudly wear a tie-dye lanyard, then this is for YOU!!

Watch for more details about some great things happening during the month to thank you for your availability and dedication to FBC kids.

YOU are making an eternal difference!

ONECRY

February 21-24
6:30 p.m.

Special event for ALL ages!



Infants-3s: First World Hall



4s-1st Grade: Happy Heart
Camp/Uptown Large Group Room



2nd-5th Grade: Base Camp/
Fellowship Hall

**Watch for all details on the halls and in the weekly eNewsletter.

Don't Miss!

Camp KidJam Sign-Ups

Spaces limited ... sign up & pay deposit online during March.

First Step Class - March 6

Be sure to get on the list by 3/3. Contact Natalie.

Watch for more info on these special events.

FEBRUARY PARENTS' NIGHT ♥ OUT

♥ a special gift to FBC families ♥

Thursday, February 11
6:00-9:00 p.m.

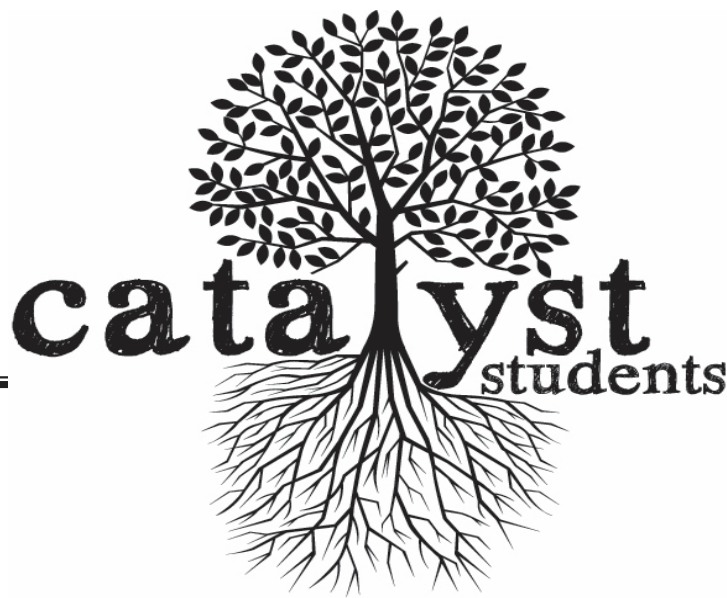
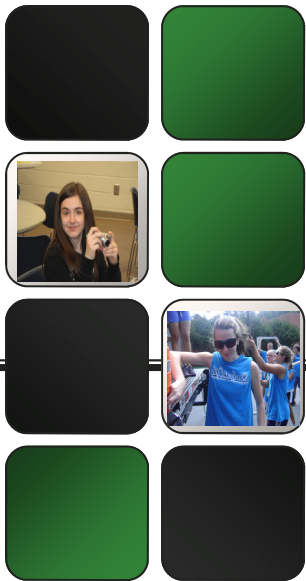
Infants - 5th grade

Kids will be fed & have lots of fun while you're out celebrating or enjoying a quiet evening with your spouse or friends.

** It's FREE ... but ... envelope registration is REQUIRED by Feb. 7**

Do you LIKE us on Facebook ??

—> Hint: a special giveaway will happen on FB just before this event. You don't want to miss it!!!



Ski Trip

On Saturday, February 13, we will venture to Banner Elk, NC, to ski for the day. We will depart at 5:30 a.m. and return around 8:30 p.m. All parents will be called when we finish dinner so you will have a more accurate time of our expected return to the church. This trip is for students and families. Every person under 6th grade must be accompanied by a parent. Everyone that has not skied at least twice will need to take a ski lesson. The prices are as follows:

Lift Ticket, Equipment, and Lesson	80.00
Lift Ticket and Equipment	55.00
Lift Ticket	35.00

If you are going to snow board you will need to get a snow board either here or on your own. The cost is \$30.00 on the mountain. If you snowboard you have to leave a deposit with a credit card. It may work better to rent a snowboard in Charlotte and carry the board with you.



Super Bowl

There are no scheduled evening activities on Sunday, February 7, because of the Super Bowl.

High School Destination Unknown

On Sunday, February 28, we will have a High School Destination Unknown. We will meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. and return to the church at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$20.00 per person. If you have a friend that is unchurched or does not know the Lord they come as our guest and there is no charge for them to participate.

D-Groups

D-Groups continue to meet. Come be a part of a small group environment. High School D-Groups meet in homes on Sunday nights - see Johnny for locations. Middle School D-Groups meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30 above the lobby. Hope to see you there.



Adult Ministries

Experience It!

Upcoming Events in February

Feb 5 - MOPS
Feb 7 - 6 Habits Class starts
Feb 11 - Parent's Night Out

Feb 17 - Celebrator Luncheon
Feb 21-24 - One Cry Conference (Church-wide)
Feb 24 - No Midweek Connection classes



Basic Spiritual Growth Habits

6 Habits Class (February 7 - March 13)

6 Habits is a practical, hands-on class designed to help strengthen your relationship with the Lord through learning and practicing spiritual habits of 1) Bible Reading, 2) Meditation & Journaling, 3) Bible Study, 4) Prayer, 5) Serving and 6) Stewardship. This six-week class starts February 7. The class will meet at 9:30 a.m. in room 202-F for six Sunday mornings and is open to all adults.

One Cry Conference

Church Wide Conference: February 21-24
Sunday, February 21 - Regular Sunday schedule
The One Cry team will lead in all three services
Sunday, February 21 - Evening service - 6:30 p.m.
Monday, February 22 - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, February 23 - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 24 - 6:30 p.m.



Looking for a Bible study group during the week?

You are invited to be part of a weekly Bible study that meets in room 113-WC (A) each Wednesday morning.

2 Corinthians: The Church's Ministry Handbook
(Wednesday: 10:00-11:30 a.m.)

☛ The study does not meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month because of the Celebrator luncheon.



2016 Midweek Connection

Wednesday Classes (6:15-7:45 p.m.)

☛ Looking for a place on Wednesday? Come check out one of these classes. These classes do not require the attendance from the previous week.

ADULTS

1. **First Serve** – Neely Potts
2. **Christian Beliefs** – Shannon Ford
3. **Survey of Spiritual Beliefs** – Eckert/Freemon



Music ~ Media



Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD. Psalm 150

Music News

The role of music in the church is much the same as it was when King David organized a choir of singers thousands of years ago - to glorify God and assist the congregation in worshipping Him. Please check out the ministry opportunities listed below.

- * **The Worship Choir:** sings most Sundays at the 8:15 worship service throughout the year and is a major part of Easter and Christmas worship celebrations. We have singers of all ages-youth through senior adults. Rehearsals are 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights.
- * **Seasonal Singers:** sing at special presentations with the Worship Choir such as Easter and Christmas. Rehearsals are 8:15-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights. (If childcare is needed for worship choir practice, whether choir member or seasonal singer, you must let Diane Dulin know by 10:00 a.m. on Monday via email at ddulin@fbcfm.com for the current week.)
- * **The Handbell Choir:** meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:15-6:15 p.m. in the old choir room. You must be able to read music to participate in this group. The Handbell Choir performs at some of the 8:15 worship services, the Candlelight service and various community venues.
- * **The Celebrator Choir:** meets on Mondays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. September through early May. This group enjoys singing at various community venues and also sings on Sunday mornings a few times a year. This group is comprised mostly of adults who have retired and enjoy singing.

If you are interested in learning more about these music opportunities, contact Diane in the church office.

Celebrate Easter: The Worship Choir and Seasonal Singers will present special music on Palm Sunday, March 20, in all three services. Please plan to join us in the celebration of Jesus, our Savior.

Celebrators' Choir News

- * Meets on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the choir room.
- * Trip to Valdese FBC in NC in April.
- * Potential trip to SC Baptist Retirement Home; date to be determined.

Media News

~ Training will be provided for those willing to serve in the areas of audio, ProPresenter and camera. Contact Tim Gale (tim@tmgale.com), Bryan Trotter (btrotter@fbcfm.com) or Diane Dulin (ddulin@fbcfm.com).



His Mission, My Place!

Opportunities to Serve

There is no end to the needs and opportunities around us and around the world. How do we move forward? What is the best use of our resources (time, money, talents, etc.)? How do we find time to add anything to our already packed schedules? I want to present to you several opportunities where you can join others in serving together.

We were created to serve God and each other. We will not be at peace in our spirits unless we find ways to make serving a part of our lives. "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

Below I have listed some of the ways you can serve through FBCFM. I will be expounding on these in the weeks ahead, sharing more details and specific needs. I want to get these before you so you can join together in prayer for wisdom, direction and for God's blessing in and through each opportunity. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and sign up for these in a couple of weeks. Email me for any immediate information (bfreemon@fbcfm.com).

The information here is still somewhat tentative, but feel free to contact me with questions. Also, this list is not exhaustive and I would welcome information about other opportunities you know about that are not listed.

ESL on-going every Tuesday at FBCFM

Loving Our Muslim Neighbors conference March 18 – 19, FBC Spartanburg, SC; cost \$35

Registration: <http://www.fbs.org/ministries/missions-mpact/loving-our-muslim-neighbors/>

FBCFM Men's Mission Breakfast March 19

Victory Sports Camps (six camps on three different weeks)

Mullins and Dillion, SC; June 26 – July 1

Fort Mill, Lancaster and Buford, SC; July 11 – 15

St George, SC; July 24 - 29

Nicaragua with Chosen Children

January 30 – February 6 and June 11 – 18

India trip with students June 14 – 23; cost \$2200

Alaska with Bodolosky's July 3 – 9; cost \$500 plus airfare

VBS Follow-up end of June - August

Disaster Relief Training - three dates

Registration: <http://www.scbaptist.org/2016-disaster-relief-training-events/>

February 20 - First Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant

March 19 - White Oak Conference Center, Winnsboro

April 16 - New Prospect Baptist Church, Anderson

Engage Fort Mill for students August 8 – 11

Reading Buddies with Fort Mill Elementary Fall Semester 2016

Mission Specific Prayer Groups on-going at FBCFM

Women On Mission for ladies every 3rd Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor

Unreached/Unengaged Peoples every other week at 9:30 a.m. in the Prayer Room

Join me in celebrating with co-labourers that have seen 92 baptisms this year and 30 more people scheduled for this month among an unreached people group near where our students will go this summer!

Brett Freemon bfreemon@fbcfm.com

Minister of Evangelism and Missions, FBC Fort Mill

WORSHIP

ARTS

by Bryan Trotter

5 Pointers for Staying Spiritually Fit with the Psalms

John D Witvliet

www.worshipleader.com

All who long to lead biblical worship discover a rich and vital gift in the Bible's longest book. In the words of one early church leader the Psalms are like a "gym for the soul"—just as valuable for our spiritual health as LA Fitness or your local YMCA is for physical health. The Psalms have been a source of worship renewal for 100 generations of Christians! Here are few pointers for "working out" in this spiritual gym.

Use the Psalms both Expressively and Formatively.

Sometimes we scan the Psalms for verses that convey what we already feel. The Psalms then become our way of expressing ourselves to God. But throughout history, Christians have concluded that this is not enough. We also need the Psalms to teach us to pray things to God that do not come naturally to us. The Psalms give us models for conveying the whole range of human emotion to God—anger and joy, sorrow and gratitude, patience and impatience, anxiety and trust. A healthy worship service today will give us a chance both to express what we already feel and—like a good gym—the chance to strengthen our weaker modes of prayer, across the spectrum of human experience.

Learn from Both Excerpts and Whole Psalms.

Most often, we use only excerpts of a Psalm in worship—a verse here or there that seems fitting to what we want to sing or pray. That can be good. But it also misses so much. Most Psalms convey meaning through how they move from beginning to end.

Psalm 73 tells a story of someone who was converted from envy to trust in God.

Psalm 13 (and many other laments) pivots from despair to prayer to hope.

Psalm 105 tells the story of the highlights of God's dealings in history. It not only says "remember God's works," but it actually does so!

Psalm 19 savors creation (vs 1-6), then God's word (vs 7-12), and then concludes with prayer for true piety ("may the words of our mouths..."). That last verse is fine by itself. But the whole Psalm teaches us that this kind of prayer arises from a new awareness of God's creation and revelation.

A good songwriter can write a memorable song on a Psalm excerpt. A genius songwriter—and there are many!—can convey the thrust of an entire Psalm in ways that an entire congregation can sing.

Multiple Points of View.

We can sing many Psalms from several different points of view. We can sing a lament, like Psalm 22, remembering the plight of David fleeing his enemies, or on Good Friday, remembering Jesus' anguish on the cross. Or we can pray it as our own lament during especially difficult or tragic times. Or we can sing this psalm in solidarity with Christians who suffer—even when we gather in comfortable congregations who do not experience this suffering directly. This one psalm can function in at least 4 different ways.

Pay Attention to the Nuances of Language.

Psalm 100 can be prayed or sung in ways that feel very cliché (praise, praise, praise). The Psalm's own emphasis ("it is he who made us, not we ourselves") tells us that it was written not only to express praise to God, but also to resist idolatry. It calls us to sing both "praise God from whom all blessings flow" and "down with the gods from whom no blessings flow."

Both Old Testament and New Testament Perspectives.

The same psalm often resonates with different parts of Scripture. Psalm 72 fits with the anointing of David or Solomon. But Christians can't help but sing it without reference to Jesus (that's why Isaac Watts took Psalm 72 and turned it into "Jesus Shall Reign").

In these ways the Psalms are useful "for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). They are an indispensable training gym for every worshiper and every worship leader.

In the past few years, I have had the joy to participate on a team that has reviewed over 2,000 musical settings of the Psalms written for use in worship. We've chosen 700 of them (at least one on each Psalm) for a book entitled *Psalms for All Seasons: A Complete Psalter for Worship* (Faith Alive/Baker). Our work convinced us that we live in a time of renewed interest in the Psalms—with new Psalm settings, of even whole Psalms, in many styles and musical forms. The best of this music—in any style—features not just a good groove or memorable tune, but also an angle on the text that helps us all grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus our Lord.

IN OUR FELLOWSHIP

Welcome New Members



Steven & Christy
Shepard



Debra Stillwell

Update on *The First Word*

The First Word has been in publication since January 2005. Since that time we've seen the advancement of many forms of communication. As we've considered how we share information with our church family we've recognized that many folks have moved to electronic communication to receive their information. In 2012 we began sending an electronic newsletter called the *Weekly Enews* to share information on a regular basis and to keep you up-to-date with important events, etc. Most items shared in the monthly *First Word* are shared in other types of communication including the Sunday worship folder, the weekly enews, the website, ministry-related emails, etc. In light of that, the decision has been made to stop publication of the monthly, *The First Word*, after the March 2016 edition. All the information in the monthly edition will continue to be available through other avenues. Please continue to access the information in those formats.



Top 5 Ministry Opportunities

1. Camp KidJam Registration Coordinator
2. Uptown Set Designer
3. Coffee Ministry Team
4. Contemporary Worship Band (bass, drums, electric guitar or keyboard)
5. Connect Group Leaders

More information about these positions is on the church's website and in the Worship Center lobby.

Articles for the March *First Word* are due in the church office by February 15.

February Deacons

- Sunday, February 7 ~ Dohn Davis & Gordon Folz
Sunday, February 14 ~ B. Jay Bogan & Buddy Prince
Sunday, February 21 ~ Dave Kirby & Ron Reynders
Sunday, February 28 ~ Paul Taggart & Danny Jugan

In Sympathy

Our fellowship of faith extends the deepest love and sympathy to the following who have lost loved ones during the past month:

The family of Joy Hughes
Kay Kirk on the loss of her brother
Kay Dabney on the loss of her sister
William Lawless on the loss of his sister

ONECRY

A Nationwide Call For Spiritual Awakening

www.OneCry.com

One Cry is a movement of believers who are urgently crying out to God to revive the church and transform the culture. It isn't an organization, program or event. It's a movement of like-minded people, churches and organizations who agree that our nation needs a dramatic turnaround—but not the kind that comes from different politics, more education or a better economy. Instead, it's a cry to God for spiritual transformation of our hearts, homes and communities. We believe that extraordinary things will happen as we turn from sin and seek God together!

Join us February 21-24 as we Cry Out to the Lord for spiritual revival and awakening. Please see our website for more information or go to OneCry.com for access to prayer requests, blogs and more information.

Regular Sunday Schedule

- 8:15 a.m. ~ Blended Worship
9:30 & 11:00 a.m. ~ Contemporary Worship/ABF and Serving Opportunities
6:00 p.m. ~ Sunday Night Live (begins Jan 24)

Regular Wednesday Schedule

- 5:15 p.m.—Midweek Meal
6:15 p.m.—Midweek Classes
6:17 p.m.—Middle School D Groups
7:30 p.m.—Worship Choir/Wind Ensemble Rehearsal

FEBRUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 10:30 Celebrators' Choir	<i>2</i> 9:30 ESL Classes 9:30 Women's Bible Study 2:30 CM Connect Team Trng 6:30 SM Supervision Groups 7:15 CM Connect Team Trng 8:00 AA/Al-Anon	<i>3</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 10:00 Bible Study 5:15 Handbell Rehearsal 5:15 Midweek Meal 6:15 Midweek Classes 6:15 Middle School D Groups	<i>4</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 6:00 MOPS Set-up 7:00 Ladies' Prayer Group 8:00 AA	<i>5</i> 9:30 MOPS 7:00 NA	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 9:30 6 Habits Class	<i>8</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 10:30 Celebrators' Choir	<i>9</i> 9:30 ESL Classes 9:30 Women's Bible Study 8:00 AA/Al-Anon	<i>10</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 10:00 Bible Study 5:15 Handbell Rehearsal 5:15 Midweek Meal 6:15 Midweek Classes 6:15 Middle School D Groups	<i>11</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 6:00 Parents' Night Out 7:00 Ladies' Prayer Group 8:00 AA	<i>12</i> 7:00 NA	<i>13</i> 5:30 Catalyst Ski Trip
<i>14 Valentine's Day</i> 9:30 6 Habits Class 6:00 Catalyst Sunday Night Live 6:30 High School D Groups	<i>15</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 10:30 Celebrators' Choir	<i>16</i> 9:30 ESL Classes 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 SM Supervision Groups 8:00 AA/Al-Anon	<i>17</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 11:30 Celebrators' Lunch 5:15 Handbell Rehearsal 5:15 Midweek Meal 6:15 Midweek Classes 6:15 Middle School D Groups	<i>18</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 6:00 MOPS Set-up 7:00 Ladies' Prayer Group 8:00 AA	<i>19</i> 9:30 MOPS 7:00 NA	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> 9:30 6 Habits Class 11:00 Overflow Orientation	<i>22</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 10:30 Celebrators' Choir 12:00 One Cry Ladies' Lunch	<i>23</i> 9:30 ESL Classes 9:30 Women's Bible Study	<i>24</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 10:00 Bible Study	<i>25</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 7:00 Ladies' Prayer Group	<i>26</i> 7:00 NA	<i>27</i>
One Cry Conference ~ February 21-24						
6:30 One Cry Conference	6:30 One Cry Conference	6:30 One Cry Conference	6:30 One Cry Conference			
<i>28</i> 9:30 6 Habits Class 4:00 High School Destination Unknown 6:00 Catalyst Sunday Night Live	<i>29</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 10:30 Celebrators' Choir					

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT Through December 2015

We are celebrating God's faithfulness through His stewards within the First Baptist Family! We are so thankful for the many folks who week by week honor God with the first fruits of all that God has entrusted to them. Your continued faithfulness is making an eternal difference! Here's a quick financial snapshot through December 31, 2015.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Budget	\$ 2,441,892.13	\$ 2,385,274.00
Budget Income	\$ 2,391,393.69	\$ 2,452,285.43
Budget Spending	\$ 2,230,270.48	\$ 2,329,298.60

You can monitor your year-to-date gifts by going to the church website and clicking on "member login."
Follow the instructions for creating a username/password if you don't have one.
Contact Karen in the church office if you need assistance.



The First Word

Published Monthly by the First Baptist Church
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