

Volume 11 Issue 6

June 2015

The First Word

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

Start Here Class

June 14

Staff Camp

June 7-12

Fresh Encounter Prayer Service

June 16

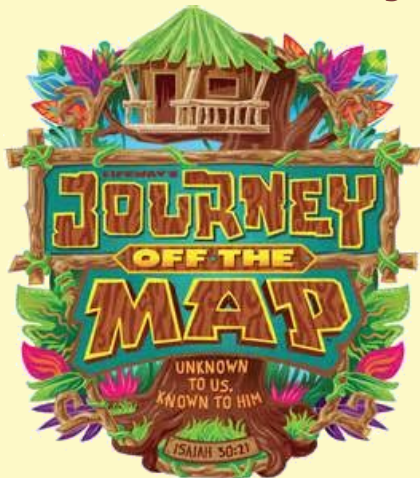
Mullins/Dillon Mission Trip

June 21-26

Student Life Camp

June 29-July 4

Take the Journey!



VBS June 7-11

FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH
FORT MILL

CLEAR AGREEMENT | VISIBLE UNION | EXTRAORDINARY PRAYER



A National Call For Prayer To All Southern Baptists for the Next Great Awakening and to Reach the World for Christ



LED BY DR. RONNIE FLOYD

Senior Pastor
Cross Church
Northwest Arkansas
President, SBC

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 16

WORSHIP MUSIC BEGINS 6:30 PM

**NATIONAL PRAYER GATHERING
FORMAL BEGINNING 6:45 PM**

Fresh Encounter Prayer Service Tuesday, June 16 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Join us Tuesday, June 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center for a special night of prayer. We will have a meal in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. and then we will join thousands of Southern Baptists across the nation as we cry out together to God in prayer. Sign up for the meal at the Registration Center (\$3 each) beginning June 7. Childcare for 5th grade and under provided by request only. Sign up on the website.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LIKE us on Facebook @firstbaptist.childrensministry

Questions or Comments??

Contact FBC: 547-2051

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Mandy Riley
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Marsha Jones
Children's Ministry Assistant
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Vacation Bible School 2015

June 7-11

(Sunday Night will be a HUGE Family Kick-Off beginning @5:30)

6:15-8:30 p.m.

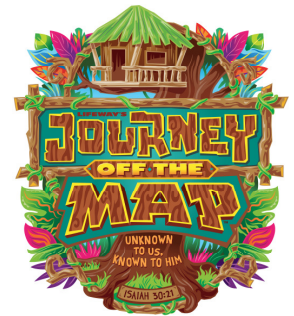
Squads for age 4 through 5th grade

Want to know your squad color? ... register kids?

Print an invite flier?

Get all the great details

at the VBS section on the website!



Donuts With Dads in Uptown

June 21

For K—5th graders and their
dads & grandfathers.

Come enjoy some goodies to help us
celebrate dads! Treats will be
available in the individual Connect Group
Rooms at the beginning of each session.

Parents of rising Kindergarteners

TAKE NOTE!!

Your child will go to Uptown in the fall when
they enter Kindergarten. In preparation for
this, you should have received a packet. It
has super-important information!! Please
take note of the details and the response
card that we need back from you by July
12th.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Annual CM Volunteer Breakfast/Training

Saturday, August 29

8:30 a.m.

We have a super-fun theme
planned for this year's event as
well as some great training during
the main session and in the team
break-outs. And, the food?? Why,
yes, it will be amazing, as always.

We value our volunteers
tremendously. Please do not miss
this important event full of
encouragement, new information,
critical reminders and over-the-top
giveaways.

Make note on your calendar now!

First Step Class

A new Christian class for kids & at least one parent

This one-time class is offered approximately every other month. It is designed for children
ages 7 & up (who have already made a salvation decision) and is an FBCFM prerequisite to
baptism. Content includes discussion, teaching, Q & A on salvation and baptism.

At least one parent should attend with each child. Children are *not* automatically added to the
class list ... it is the responsibility of the parent to sign up each child.

Next Opportunity:

Sunday, June 28, 11:00a.m.

Please call the church office or email Natalie (nsavader@fbcfm.com)
by Thursday, 6/25 if your child plans to attend.
There is a sign-up minimum of 3 children.



Student Life Staff Camp I

On Sunday, June 14, we will travel to Wake Forrest University for a staff leadership camp. This camp is only for those on our high school leadership team. We will attend the 8:15 worship service and leave following the service. We will return at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 19. The cost is \$35 per person.

High School Leadership Team

Applications for next year's leadership team will be available June 21. This is for those who are freshmen-seniors next year. All applications are due in the student ministry office by July 19.

Special Catalyst Student Ministry Meeting

Sunday, June 7, we will have a short parent/student meeting in the Fellowship Hall, following the 11:00 worship service.

Student Life Camp

Student Life Camp sign-ups are going strong. Camp is June 29 - July 4. We are going to Lee University in Cleveland, TN, this year. The cost is \$260 for each student. If you have more than one student in the same family the cost is \$240 per student. We will have a worship service in the Worship Center on Monday, June 29, and spend the night at the church. We will depart around 4:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning. Your remaining balance is due June 7.

Student Ministry Interns

This summer we will have three interns in the student ministry office. Two are returning for another year and one is new.

Miles Moon, 3rd year, Senior at Clemson

Alec Emenhiser, 2nd year, Sophomore at Charleston Southern University

Danielle Lisk, 1st year, Freshman at Taylor University



Adult Ministries

Experience It!

Upcoming Events in JUNE

June 4 – Last Day of School

June 6 – VBS Volunteer Breakfast / Training

June 7-11 – Vacation Bible School

June 16 – Fresh Encounter Meal & Prayer Service

June 21-26 – VSO Sports Camp (Mullins, SC)

June 29-July 4 – Student Life Camp

VBS – Is It Worth It?

VBS is the biggest and best evangelistic outreach event in the life of most churches. Through VBS girls and boys learn more about God and Jesus. But VBS also provides many unexpected benefits.

1. The Church Becomes Unified - During VBS, participants have a different job; all do their job; and in working together, the lives of children are changed.
2. Men Volunteer for VBS - Whether teaching, leading crafts or overseeing recreation, men seem to make an impact on the lives of kids at VBS.
3. New Leaders are Discovered - Adults and youth who have never held a leadership role will volunteer for VBS because it is a short-term commitment. Many excellent teachers and leaders of other ministries have been discovered through VBS.
4. New Prospects are Discovered - VBS provides an outlet for meeting new children and families in your community, whether they be unchurched or looking for a new church home.



World Changers provides a local mission opportunity for your family, Life Group, or ABF group to serve in our local community.

What: Need 8 teams/groups each to provide a lunch for up to 13 people.

When: Tuesday, June 23 - Friday, June 26

Where: TBD on-site at a Rock Hill location. A menu will be provided.

If you have questions or would like to sign up contact Teresa Conley 803-322-8024 or chrisandteresa@gmail.com

Don't forget about God this summer!



Vacationing can be a refreshing time. However, vacations can also be a trap! You can find yourself vacationing from the wrong stuff. You might be tempted to leave God at home. If regular Bible reading, prayer and church attendance stops in the summer, then you are vacationing from God! Remember, He never takes a vacation from watching over you!



Music ~ Celebrators ~ Media

Music News

The Adult Worship Choir continues to make a joyful noise to the Lord throughout the summer months so if you enjoy singing or being involved with music, please check out the opportunities listed below.

- * The Adult 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-high school through senior adults. Rehearsals are 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights.
- * The Handbell Choir meets on Wednesday evening from 5:15-6:15 p.m. from September to early May. You must be able to read music to participate in this group that plays at some of the 8:15 worship services, the Candlelight service and various community venues.
- * Seasonal Singers sing at special presentations with the Adult Worship Choir such as Easter and Christmas. Rehearsals are 8:15-8:45 p.m. on Wednesday nights. Will resume in September.
- * The Celebrator Choir meets on Mondays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. from September to 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.

CELEBRATORS' (Senior Adult) News

- * Friday, June 12: NarroWay's production of *Samson* for those who purchased a ticket. Show begins at 6:30 p.m. (no dinner). For those riding the church van/bus, we will meet at the church at 5:45 p.m. and leave promptly at 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
- * June 17: Luncheon. Cookout and games.

Upcoming Events:

- * July 15: Luncheon. Sing along.
- * August 19: Luncheon. An update of the town's status will be presented.
- * September 15 & 16: Celebration Jubilee...more details to come. Save the date.
- * October 15: BMW plant tour in Greer, SC
- * December 3: Trip to Billy Graham Library
- * December 9: Christmas banquet

Media News

Audio & Media Needs

~ 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).



WORSHIP ARTS

by Bryan Trotter

Fallen Worship of a Glorious God

Landon Reynolds

www.worshipleader.com

Wonderful theologians, pastors, and Christian leaders have led the Church back to the understanding that worship—while it is a corporate expression of the Church—is not bound by the walls of the Church, and it does not only take place weekly. Instead, worship has been understood to be an individual expression of our love and devotion towards God as well. We worship individually, corporately as families, and corporately as the Church.

While worship is absolutely a life of love and devotion towards God, there is one problem. We are a sinful, fallen people who tend to redirect our love and devotion for God in many other directions. The Bible calls this idolatry, and as God's people, we must keep this word in the front of our minds at all times, guarding our hearts and minds from it.

In the beginning of Genesis, we see a beautiful picture of Adam and Eve with God in the garden of Eden. They are in perfect relationship with God. Their identity is found in their Creator, and they enjoy Him and are devoted to Him. We see a wonderful picture of worship.

God allowed Adam and Eve to rule over the land; however, He made plain the understanding that they were not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for if they did, they would surely die (Genesis 2:17). We know what Adam and Eve ultimately did eat of the fruit as a result of a conversation with the serpent and a conscious choice to disobey God. Adam and Eve willfully disobeyed God by choosing to eat of the fruit. Adam and Eve chose to believe they knew more than God, and therefore, they chose to ultimately worship themselves instead of God. Sadly, the pride in their hearts led to them idolizing themselves, and from the moment of their disobedience, sin came into this world, creating separation between God and His creation. Since Genesis 3, we have been debating worship of God because sin messed up the perfect created worship of God that was taking place in the garden of Eden.

Since Genesis 3, we have been trying to determine an exact definition of worship; we have been trying to determine an exact where; we have been trying to determine exact how; and we have been trying to determine an exact when. While all of these questions are vital, it seems as though we have missed the *who* of our worship, and when we understand the *who*, everything else makes sense.

In Genesis 3:15, God says, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel." Theologically this is known as the Protoevangelium or the first gospel. God makes it clear that there will be enmity between people—the offspring of Eve—and the offspring of the serpent. While there is a literal understanding here as to why people hate and kill snakes and snakes bite people, this also is God's first declaration of redemption for sinful people. This talking serpent is none other than Satan. And God makes clear that there is a battle between Satan (evil) and God's created people, and ultimately there is One who will crush the head of Satan, and His name is Jesus! Jesus lived perfectly, died sacrificially, and rose powerfully from the grave to crush the head of Satan. Praise the Lord! Jesus is the redemption plan, and God had no plan B.

Now the question is: what does this all have to do with worship? And the answer is: EVERYTHING! When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, Scripture teaches us that each of us are inheritors of sin from Adam (Romans 5:12-14). Therefore, we are all separated from God on our own merit, and because of this truth, Genesis 3:15 means everything to us. Jesus Christ is the only One who causes us to not be separated from God, if we have faith that He is our Savior and Lord. Without Christ, our worship is absolutely pointless. We can never come into the presence of the Holy God of the universe apart from Christ. He is the *who* of our worship, and if we remove Him out of our worship, then the *how*, *when*, and *where* absolutely do not matter. Jesus Christ must be central to our worship. If Jesus is not our adoration and praise, then we have landed into idolatry.

When we focus upon what we want in our worship, whether it be corporately or individually, we are no different than Adam and Eve standing in the garden eating the fruit of which God commanded them not to eat. God's ways are always better than ours, and we must understand that in our sinful flesh, we cannot worship God on our own. The writer of Hebrews teaches us that Jesus is our Great High Priest (4:14-16). If Christ were not mediating for us, we could never worship the Almighty God of the universe. This is why we should constantly marvel at the fact that we are even allowed to worship God.

Worship of God has always been on His terms, and it will always be on His terms. He is God. Always rejoice in Jesus and keep Him central to your worship of God, because without Him, our worship is fallen and ultimately idolatrous. Thank God for a resurrected Savior, and always, always seek to worship God only in the name of Jesus, because He is the only way to the Father.

created for connection

GOSPEL-CENTERED COMMUNITY

I was reading in a book titled *Gospel-Centered Community* and came across a section that I really want to share with you as we seek to develop meaningful relationships in our church body. These relationships need to be transformational and in order to get there we must do the hard work necessary to develop that level of relationship. I hope this challenges you.

“The Scriptures call me to community. As I try to obey that call and move toward others, I encounter barriers that keep me from loving others as God has loved me. Those barriers reveal that I’m more needy, broken, and sinful than I thought! My natural response is to ignore, avoid, or excuse my brokenness. But Jesus invites me instead to acknowledge my sin and turn to him in repentance, faith, and worship. As I do this, I am changed. I begin to see how desperately I need to depend on God moment by moment. I start to trust that my Father loves me and wants the best for me. And I’m freed to love other people – my faith expresses itself in love for others.

Still, all this ‘I’ and ‘me’ talk is misleading. This isn’t a process that happens alone as I pursue Jesus by myself. The whole thing happens in community. I need others to help me see my sin and point me to the gospel. And they need me to do the same for them. Being in community shines a light on my need for change. I’ll need to repent, believe, worship, and love many, many, many more times in community than I would if I could just be left alone to pursue ‘Jesus and me.’

So what does a healthy, vibrant Christian community look like? How does it avoid being shallow and superficial? It’s honest. Struggling. Loving. Failing. Clinging to Jesus. Repenting to each other. Forgiving each other. Placing others ahead of ourselves. Helping point each other to the cross. This is the beautiful mess of gospel-centered community.”

Want to learn more about Life Groups, the Host Team, or our Link Team?
Contact Matthew Cavin at mcavin@fbcfm.com

IN OUR FELLOWSHIP

Welcome New Members



Matt & Susanne Elzie

**Not Pictured: Craig, Michelle & Emma Zielinski;
Laura Grant and Steve & Debbie Goff**

Fresh Encounter Prayer Service Tuesday, June 16 ~ 6:30 p.m.

It is time to call out to God for the next Great Awakening and to reach the world for Christ. On Tuesday night, June 16, join us for a special evening of prayer as we join the SBC Annual Meeting live via web. We will join together in the same room and around the world via technology for this one epic night of prayer. We will gather to experience the presence of God based upon the Word of God. We will be challenged briefly by some of America's great pastors, then launch into prayer sessions in response to God and His Word. We will also express our worship and praise to God together through music and singing.

Congratulations To:

Andy & Kelsey Hedrick on the birth of their son,
Olson Taylor, on April 28.

In Sympathy

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

Chris Shivel on the loss of his grandfather
Shelley Casolare on the loss of her grandmother
The family of Ralph Morrison
Sally Boyer on the loss of her father
Ashlyn Howard on the loss of her grandfather
Maggie Farag on the loss of her uncle
Billie Robinson on the loss of her sister
Neely Potts on the loss of her great-aunt
The family of Boyce Mullis



To find out more about this ministry, please contact one of the Stephen Leaders listed below:

Jerry Lape, 704-219-1626

Sam Treadaway, 803-802-3025

Ken Terry, 727-512-0920

Karen Morrow, 803-547-2051

Carolyn Lape, 704-989-0284

Tony Bishop, 803-548-4109

Hannah Bates, 704-644-9681

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!



June Top 5 Ministry Opportunities

1. CM August Event Team
2. One-time Prayer Service Volunteers
3. Link Team
4. Coffee Team
5. Pastor's Prayer Partners

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

Articles for the July *First Word* are due in the church office by June 22.

June Deacons

Sunday, June 7 ~ David McWilliam & Brad Chatham

Sunday, June 14 ~ Michael Wright & Jeff Collins

Sunday, June 21 ~ Cam Johnson & Larry Ashworth

Sunday, June 28 ~ Scott Mingonet & Scott Motsinger

Regular Sunday Schedule

8:15 a.m. ~ Blended Worship

9:30 & 11:00 a.m. ~ Contemporary Worship/ABF and Serving Opportunities

Regular Wednesday Schedule

7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir/Wind Ensemble Rehearsal



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT Through April 30, 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 April 30, 2015.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Budget	\$ 813,964.04	\$ 795,091.32
Budget Income	\$ 700,615.55	\$ 862,304.00
Budget Spending	\$ 757,056.83	\$ 768,840.11

Balance on Building Loan 04/08/2015 \$ 0.00

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

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JUNE 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Missions Prayer Group	<i>2</i> 6:30 Stephen Leader Meeting 8:00 AA/Al-Anon	<i>3</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:00 VSO Mission Trip Mtg 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>4</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 8:00 AA	<i>5</i> 7:00 NA	<i>6</i> 8:30 VBS Breakfast & Training
<i>7</i> 5:30 VBS Family Kick-off	<i>8</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group	<i>9</i> 10:30 Priscilla Group	<i>10</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting	<i>11</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 2:00 Celebrator Comm. Mtg 6:15 VBS	<i>12</i> 6:00 Celebrators' Trip 7:00 NA	<i>13</i>
Vacation Bible School ~ June 7-11						
<i>14</i> 11:00 Start Here Class 4:00 Deacons' Meeting	<i>15</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Missions Prayer Group	<i>16</i> 5:30 Fresh Encounter Meal 6:30 Prayer Service 8:00 AA/Al-Anon	<i>17</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 11:30 Celebrator Lunch 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>18</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 6:30 Stephen Ministry Info Dinner	<i>19</i> 7:00 NA	<i>20</i>
Catalyst Staff Camp ~ June 14-19						
<i>21</i> 11:00 Overflow Volunteer Orientation 12:15 VSO Mission Team Lunch	<i>22</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group	<i>23</i> 11:00 World Changers Lunch 8:00 AA/Al-Anon	<i>24</i> 6:30 Prayer Meeting 11:00 World Changers Lunch 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>25</i> 8:30 Prayer Meeting 10:00 Community Blood Drive 11:00 World Changers Lunch 8:00 AA	<i>26</i> 11:00 World Changers Lunch 7:00 NA	<i>27</i>
Mullins/Dillon Mission Trip ~ June 21-26						
<i>28</i> 11:00 First Step Class	<i>29</i> 6:30 Men's Prayer Group 9:30 Missions Prayer Group 6:00 Student Life Camp begins	<i>30</i> 8:00 AA/Al-Anon				
Student Life Camp ~ June 29 - July 4						