

First Family News

February & March 2019



From the Pastor's Desk

**Volume 7, Issue 1
February & March 2019**

The current President of the Southern Baptist Convention, J. D. Greer is encouraging Christ followers across our convention to “Find their one.” What does that mean? It simply means that each of us who have a desire to fulfill the Great Commission should begin praying about who we can reach this year. Pastor Greer invites us to find one person that does not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and who is in one of our circles of influence, (family, friends, co-workers, fishing buddies, employees where we shop and eat out, etc.). Once you have identified a person get intentional about praying for them. Look for opportunities to build a relationship with them. Then watch for any chance to share your faith with them. Remember Dr. Darrell Robinson’s acrostic outline – F.I.R.M. (F = family, I = interests, R = religion, M = message), to help you with having evangelistic conversations with your one.

Imagine if each person in our church were to take on this challenge. Our current average Sunday morning attendance is around 180. How would that change if throughout the year people’s ones were coming to the Lord for salvation? Our average Sunday School attendance is around 120. Could that number double this year if each of our regular attenders found one person to invite to join them for Sunday School and kept inviting them until they came? Would your mission group grow if each member found one person to pray for and invite until they came?

Matthew 9:37-38 reads, “Then He said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’” I believe the Lord was looking through the years and could see the “fields” of Oak Island and could see a “plentiful harvest”. He is still looking for workers. Will you find your one and join in the harvest celebration?

In a related article Thom Rainer posted 10 reasons church members don’t invite others to church. Those reasons are:

1. *“I just don’t think about it.”* I know we are busy, but let’s begin to make it a priority to invite new folks to church.
2. *“I’m afraid I’ll be rejected.”* Ultimately, they are not rejecting you they are rejecting the Lord.
3. *“The music isn’t that good.”* This shouldn’t be an issue here at FBCOI. Pastor Raleigh and the choir work hard to present music that is both pleasing to us and to the Lord.
4. *“The preaching isn’t strong.”* That may be true, but most people are more interested in relationships to begin with any way. Pray for the preacher and maybe he will get better.

5. *"We've got too many church problems right now."* I know this is a problem in other places, but here at FBCOI the Lord has blessed us with a loving group of people who enjoy each other and working together.
6. *"Our church is already too crowded."* We have room to grow because of the advanced planning of the church in years past.
7. *"Nobody ever challenged me to invite anyone."* By all means consider yourself challenged.
8. *"I don't know how to start the conversation."* Refer to the paragraph about the acrostic F.I.R.M.
9. *"It's the Spirit's job – not mine - to bring people to church."* The Spirit desires to use each of us as His instruments.
10. *"It's too far for people to come."* The bridge will not be closed forever so start inviting them now.

If we can get over our reasons for not inviting people Rainer's research shows that about 3/4ths of the people invited by someone they know will come. We just need to get out there and invite them. I know many of you are already inviting others and I thank you and I encourage you not to grow faint – the fruit will come.

If we are looking for our "one" or inviting friends to church it is all about building the kingdom of God and bringing Him glory. As we focus on that I believe the Lord will grow our fellowship here at First Baptist.

Always remember that the Lord loves you and so does your pastor. *Pastor Charlie*

PRAYERS FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

The Voice of the Martyrs is an organization that helps all Christians remember our brothers and sisters around the world that are being persecuted for their faith. Recently they gave a list of ten things we can pray for families that are suffering because of their faith in Jesus as Lord. Let's join together in praying:

- 1. Pray they sense God's presence. (Heb. 13:5)**
- 2. Pray that they will know we are praying for them. (2 Tim. 1:3)**
- 3. Pray they will experience God's comfort. (2 Thess. 2:16-17)**
- 4. Pray that they will see God open doors to evangelism. (Col. 4:3)**
- 5. Pray that they will boldly share the gospel. (Acts 4:29)**
- 6. Pray that they will become mature in their faith. (Col. 1:28-29)**
- 7. Pray that they will be granted wisdom in covert ministry work. (Acts 9:23-25)**
- 8. Pray that they will remain joyful amid suffering. (Acts 5:41)**
- 9. Pray that they will forgive and love their persecutors. (Matt. 5:44)**
- 10. Pray that they will be rooted in God's Word. (2 Tim. 3:16-17)**

Island Youth

Reaching for Higher Ground

February

February 3	5:30p	Armor of God Study
February 6	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
February 10	5:30p	Armor of God Study
February 13	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
February 15	6:00p	Parents Night Out!
February 17	5:30p	Armor of God Study
February 20	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
February 24	5:30p	Armor of God Wrap Up
February 27	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission

March

March 3	3:30p	Youth Council Meeting
	5:30p	Intro to Lent Study
March 5	6:00p	Fat Tuesday
		Pancake Supper
March 6		ASH WEDNESDAY
	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
March 10	5:30p	Lent Study
March 13	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
March 17	5:30p	Saint Patrick & Christianity
March 20	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
March 22-23		Youth Council to SLU
March 24	5:30p	Supper & Youth Council Trip Recap
March 27	6:00p	Wednesday Supper
	7:00p	Youth on Mission
March 31	5:30p	Lent Study

December and January were surely jam-packed with opportunities for service, praise, and fellowship! The youth took home 2nd Place in the OKI Christmas Parade best float contest, thanks to Tommy Williamson's handiwork. The youth then hosted their 2nd Annual Advent Prayer Stations with four stations of focused prayer and meditation. After the stations was the Youth Ministry Christmas Party with a white elephant gift exchange, cookie decorating, and a Christmas Wrapping Runway Show! After a couple week hiatus over Christmas, the youth gathered back together for a NYE Lock-In. Their study for the night, looking into 2019, was FAVORED. We plan to dissect Scripture regarding favor of God this year, and grow in spiritual confidence as we grow in His favor! January kicked off with The Armor of God Bible Study for January/February, and the Chili Cook-off with 8 pots of chili and 27 people to taste them (plus 9 youth!). The youth were able to purchase \$303 of underwear and socks for Good Shepherd Center in

Wilmington. In February the Youth will be doing a Valentines Date Night Out, offering childcare from 6:00p-10:00p on Friday, February 15th. The Youth Council will meet February 17th to finalize plans for the 2019 Mission Trip! In March there will be a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner and an Ash Wednesday service preparing for Lent. March 22-23 the Youth Council will head to Raleigh for Student Leadership University, teaching practical, relational, and life skills to change the way they think, dream, and lead! In February and March, as we study Ephesians and the armor we have been provided, we are working on applying this armor to face the world truly confident in our finest and ultimate label- HIS.

- ✓ Missions-packed
- ✓ Worship-FULL
- ✓ Praise-fueled



Baptist Men



The Baptist Men Ministry is going forward in 2019 with hopes of leading the men of our church in Christ's ministry. We want to Exalt, Equip, and Evangelize in the coming year.

We can exalt Christ through our worship and Bible study. We will be looking to schedule a Bible study later this year. We are exalting the Savior and equipping the saints by prayer in our Men's Prayer Group. We currently meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. This is a time devoted to prayer for each other and our church. We hope more men will respond to this opportunity to enrich their lives by prayer time with fellow brothers in Christ.

The Handyman's Ministry is continuing to work on projects big and small. Men and women are invited to help with these projects.

We had Baptist Men's Weekend January 26 & 27th with breakfast Saturday. Then Sunday men led the morning and evening worship service with testimonies from people who had participated in Disaster Recovery and Handyman Projects. Thank you to all who participated in the services.

Also continue to watch for opportunities to participate in Disaster Recovery projects. We hope have at least one a month. Currently we have been working in Brunswick County. Again, men and women are invited to help with these projects. Watch for emails and notices on the announcement slides. If you have not been receiving e-mails from me about scheduling of these projects but would like to, then please provide me your email address.

Upcoming Events: Watch for more information on these.

Mission Rally Region 3 Hope Mills February 21

Disaster Relief Training Region 3 Wilmington March 8-9

In Christ's Service,

Ken Palmeter, Director of Men FBCOI

Women's Ministry

“Unshakable Pursuit” – this is the 2018-2020 theme for WMU. Our goal is to know God more, show His love unconditionally, and make disciples who make disciples. From children to adults, each of our mission groups is striving toward this goal.

Thank you to everyone who brought diapers and wipes for the Diaper Bank of NC Lower Cape Fear during January. Thanks also to those who helped to staff distribution at the Brunswick Baptist Association office on Wednesday mornings.

February brings our Women's Ministry Weekend the 9th and 10th. Saturday morning girls, youth and ladies are invited to “Spread God's Love” with our Pinterest with a Purpose event and brunch. This would be a great opportunity to invite “Your One” to join you. Sunday morning our ladies will be leading in worship. We will also welcome Amy Pardue Boone, Executive Director/Treasurer of North Carolina WMU as our guest speaker for morning worship. Our GA's will end February with a sleepover on the 22nd.

During March the Mission Action Group will be making a trip to the Baptist Children's Odum Home in Pembroke. They will be collecting used printer cartridges, computers, and cellphones to take with them. These items are recycled to help raise funds for the Children's Homes.

In March and April, we will be “Sending Hope” through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions. Our offering goal is \$8,500 with \$6,500 going to North American Missions and \$2,000 to True Vine Church, our partner church plant in Saugus, Massachusetts. We will have a special ingathering on Sunday, April 7.

As we travel through 2019, I invite you to join us in the “Unshakeable Pursuit” of our loving Father with all our heart and to make Christ known to everyone we meet so they will come to know and follow Him as well.

**Joan Carter
WMU Director**



It's an exciting time to be a child of God at First Baptist Church of Oak Island! The fall and Advent Season held so many opportunities for our children to learn and grow in their walk with Christ.

Thank you to everyone who participated in or donated to Trunks of Treats. We were able to welcome over 200 children and their families to our campus and love them through that outreach. I appreciate your support and participation in making this annual outreach a success. We had a wonderful time of fellowship at the Cape Fear Kite Fest and visiting the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher. You haven't truly lived until you've taken a bus load of children on a ferry ride. A stop at Krispy Kreme wrapped up our fun day together. We were blessed to have many of our children participate in the Living Nativity. I may be biased, but I think they were some of the cutest sheep ever made. Our children did an amazing job presenting "The Christmas Express" through the After School Music Club. I am incredibly grateful to Pastor Raleigh for leading that wonderful outreach program and for all the volunteers who make it possible each week.

Looking ahead, our focus this year is on connecting with the whole family. I will be reaching out to many of you to assist in making connections with caregivers of children who participate in our programs. We are grateful for so many ministry partners within our church who provide opportunities for our children and their families to come together in worship and fellowship.

The WMU event on Saturday, February 9, is an opportunity for our girls and their mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and friends to come together in service. We are grateful the youth are hosting a Parents Night Out on February 15. Our girls are excited about the GA sleepover on February 22. Thank you to each of these ministry partners for providing these opportunities.

On March 15, from 6-8:00, our children will have an opportunity to serve others in a March Missions Madness. In our weekly events, our Sunday morning Children's Church continues to provide a child-focused worship service. Thank you to each volunteer who makes that time possible. Our Sunday night TeamKID is teaching us how to go vertical and relate to God on a personal level. Our Wednesday night Bible Study is focusing on the life of Jacob. We continue to grow in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man. Thank you for your prayers and support of our children and Children's Ministry programs. I love and appreciate you.

Respectfully submitted in His love,

Beth Key



What kind of car did the disciples drive? A Honda - it says there were all in one accord.

Who was the biggest sinner in the Bible? Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible? David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.



Can you name the little boy in this picture? The picture was most likely taken around 1956 or 57. The first person to call the Church Office -910-278-9511 and correctly identify the boy will win a DQ gift card!

(In order to ensure fairness, you must call the church office and speak to- or leave a message for- Michelle. Telling other staff or telling Michelle outside of the Church Office will not count toward prize.)

Want to have your picture submitted for the contest? Just see Michelle in the office. We will do a new picture each newsletter.

“PRAYING THE HEART OF GOD”

We will hold a one-day conference titled *“Praying the Heart of God”* on Sunday, April 28, 2019. Dr. Chris Schofield will be our guest speaker of this conference.

Conference Schedule:

Session 1 - 9:45 am – “Kingdom Prayer Principles for Every Believer” (All Sunday School classes- Youth through Adult will meet in the Sanctuary.)

Session 2 – 11:00 am – “Are Your Eyes on the Lord?”

Lunch – 12:00 pm – This will be provided by the church.

Session 3 – 1:00 pm – “Praying Your Neighbors to Christ”

Please make every effort to be a part of this prayer event sponsored by our Evangelism Committee.

OPERATION INASMUCH

Our desire is for our church to have another Operation Inasmuch in 2019.

Operation Inasmuch is a one-day mission blitz of our community. In the past we have had as many as 25 different projects that we could choose to participate in on that day. We have had projects that all ages and all ability levels could be a part of. Operation Inasmuch is a great way to impact our community for the kingdom of God.



The first thing we need is an individual to lead this effort. We will then help that person organize a team to plan the projects and recruit the volunteers to accomplish the work. There is good “how to” information available so this team does not have to begin with no information.

Please be in prayer and ask the Lord how He would have you be involved in Operation Inasmuch – Oak Island 2019.



Let me say thank you to Dale Blake and Joan Carter who filled in for me, (Pastor Raleigh), during the last week of December and the first week of January, 2019. I appreciate the church giving us the opportunity to be away and to recharge for the new year.

Our music ministry finished 2018 with two great musical productions. Our ASMC presented The Christmas Express on Sunday, December 2 and followed it with a church wide reception. Our church responded with plenty of snacks and food and a great time was had by all in attendance.

On Sunday, December 16th, our Celebration Choir presented the musical Tonight, Heaven Touches Earth.

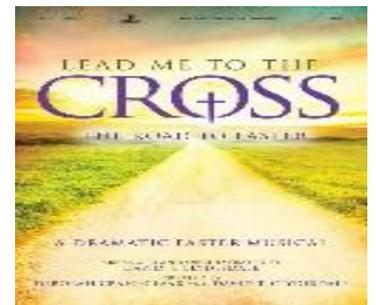
Our thanks to all who participated and provided our church and community with a truly meaningful service.

We now shift our gears and begin preparation for Easter and our Spring activities.

Our Celebration Choir will be presenting the Musical Lead Me to the Cross by David Clydesdale. We will be presenting it on Saturday night, April 13th, and Sunday morning, April 14th.

We will kick off our preparations with an introductory rehearsal this coming Sunday, January 20th, from 1:30 – 3:00 P.M.

Those interested in being a part of this musical should contact Pastor Raleigh and plan to attend this Sunday.



Our Spring session of the “After School Music Club” has just begun and we currently have 30 kids. Our musical for this session is titled KIDZ Under Construction. Registration for this session will remain open through February 10, 2019.

We are also in need of help with the choreography. If you have any experience and would be available to help on Mondays, please let Pastor Raleigh know.

One final note! Praise the Lord, PTL, for the financial gifts we have received with each of our previous ASMC presentations. With this money we have purchased additional microphones and most recently a new portable sound system for use in the fellowship hall with our weekly rehearsals.



SPORTS CAMP

After taking last year off, we will be holding a Spring Break Sports Camp again this year. The dates are April 22 – 25. The times will be 9:00am until 12:00pm each day and Thursday evening we will conclude with the recognition banquet. The sports we will teach during the camp are Baseball, basketball and soccer. In addition to teaching rules and skills that children also get a gospel presentation each day.

We also provide a Bible Camp for the younger children and the children who are not interested in sports. This camp is similar to a Backyard Bible Club. Participants will do crafts, play games and have a Bible story each day.

This camp takes a large number of volunteers so we need each church member to pray about how they can be a part. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Welcome Area.

2019 MISSION TRIPS

We are planning two mission trips this year. The first will be a trip to the greater Boston metropolitan area. We will be working once again with our friends at True Vine Church in Saugus. The dates for this trip are July 12-21. The plan, at this time is we will hold a Sports Camp in a park near the church Monday through Thursday. The camp will be from 9:00am until 12:00pm. We will end with a cook-out for the kids and their families on Thursday at noon. As a part of the Sports Camp we also provide a Day Camp for the younger children and those not interested in sports. We may also have some other projects in the afternoons on these days. On Friday we will take the entire day to do some touring in the area.

We are still working on the cost and will let those that are interested in the trip know as soon as the information is available. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Welcome Area. Please sign up if you are interested and as more detailed information becomes available you will be notified.

The second trip in the works is a return trip to Kenya. The dates will be October 3 – 13, 2019. Hopefully we will have two seminary trained team members that will teach at the Kenya Baptist Theological College while the rest of the team builds houses. The plan is to build four houses through the Houses of Hope ministry. The work will be done Monday through Thursday. There will also be opportunities to speak in a few schools and work at the children's feeding program. We will end the trip with the entire team going to the Masai Mara Game Park.

The cost for the trip is still not fully determined, however, the cost should be in the \$2,000 - \$2,500 range. This amount will cover airfare and in country expenses. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Welcome Area. Please sign up if you are interested in this trip and as more detailed information come available, we will pass it on to you.

Happy Birthday

February

02 *Sue Dotson*
05 *Rosalie Wilson*
06 *Barbara McConaghie*
9 *Don McDaris*
11 *Faye Cashwell*
12 *Jeff Gibby & John Overpeck*
14 *Patricia Clark & Lisa Anderson*
15 *Gracie Duncan & Don Yeoman*
17 *Adele Poston*
20 *Hugh Nobles*
22 *June Stephens*
23 *Randy Wilson*
27 *Gordon Browning*
29 *Jennifer Gilbert*

March

01 *Kat Adams; Doris Windham & David Justice*
03 *Ken Kiser*
04 *Janis Whitley*
06 *Jane Todd*
07 *Justin Hyer*
09 *Susan Heafner*
11 *Chris Benjamin*
17 *Rebekah Gibby; Ken Palmeter & Helen Robinson*
21 *Jessica Faircloth*
23 *Onie Dennis*
25 *Steve Clark; Tammy Johnston & Janie McDaris*
27 *Marge Stanton*
31 *Justin Page*



February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 ASMC- 4pm	5 Property & Space- 7pm	6 Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	7 Lena Early- 7pm	8	9 Women's Brunch-9am
10 WMU Sunday	11 ASMC- 4pm Deacons- 7pm	12 Youth Pancake Dinner-6pm	13 Mission Action- 11am Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	14 Mary Greene- 6pm	15 Parent's Night Out-6pm	16
17	18 ASMC- 4pm	19 Evangelism Committee- 7pm	20 Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	21 Piecemakers- 10am Region 3 Missions Rally	22 GA Sleepover	23 GA Breakfast
24	25 ASMC- 4:00pm	26 Stewardship- 7pm	27 Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	28 Men's Prayer Group- 7pm		

March 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 ASMC- 4pm Church Council- 7pm	5 Youth Pancake Dinner- 6pm Property & Space- 7pm	6 Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	7 Lena Early- 7pm	8	9 
10 April/ May Newsletter Info Due	11 ASMC- 4pm Deacons- 7pm	12	13 Mission Action- 11am Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	14 Mary Greene- 6 pm	15	16
17	18 ASMC- 4pm	19	20 Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	21 Piecemakers- 10am	22	23
24	25 ASMC- 4pm	26	27 Supper- 6pm Children's Bible Study-6:30pm Prayer Mtg./ Bible Study Mission Friends; RA's/ GA'; Youth- 7pm	28	29	30
31 Let's Taco "Bout VBS- 12pm						