

First Baptist *News*

a family of faith

CHILDREN'S CORNER

With the new year comes the opportunities for new beginnings...so what better time than now to unveil our new church logo! Our previous logo (the church building and people) has served us well for 11 years, but it is time for a newer, cleaner look to serve as our identifier in the community. The goal was to have a design that both acknowledges our rich history while communicating that we still have much to offer in today's world and culture. While the resulting logo is simple in style, there are multiple meanings hidden in this new design:

- 1.) Our commitment to Christ: The cross and what it stands for (God's love for and sacrifice for us) is central to who we are and what we believe. We strive to take Jesus and his message seriously in everything that we do.
- 2.) Our liturgical connection: The colors used in the logo are connected to the liturgical tradition that we draw from for our rhythm of worship throughout the year. Different colors are associated with different liturgical seasons – purple is used for Lent and Advent, white/gold/yellow is used for Christmas and Easter, red is used for Pentecost, and green is used for ordinary time. And the blue? Blue is becoming more and more common to use for Advent – while we don't use it yet, we hope to at some point in the future!
- 3.) Our downtown location: If you look closely at the cross, it's not just a cross; it's also an intersection. We are a historic downtown church, known for our location at the intersection of 7th & Walnut.
- 4.) Our mission to go and serve: We come together at this physical location to worship and learn and fellowship, but the light of Christ also sends us out beyond this place to love and to serve. The yellow lines in the center of the cross/intersection and extending beyond it represent the light of Christ that brings us together and sends us out.
- 5.) Our identity as a family of faith: While the image of the logo has changed, we still claim the metaphor of a family of faith. We are connected to each other through the love of Christ, and while challenges and disagreements inevitably arise, it is our commitment to Christ and to each other that keeps us together as we practice grace and forgiveness.

We're rolling out the logo now via our online presence, and it will make its way onto our printed documents. Soon, we'll change it on our signage on site and around town. Who knows – there might even be t-shirts or sweatshirts in our future, if there's enough interest!

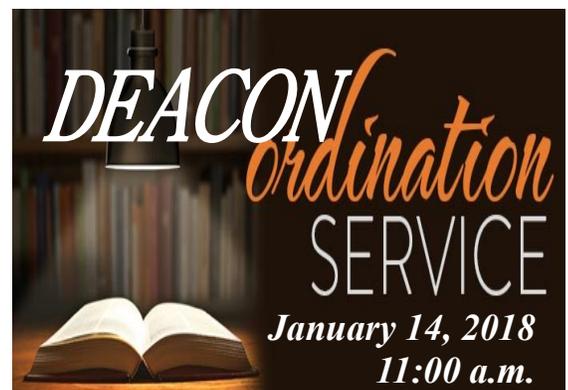
Erin



Preparing for Sunday—

“To See Greater Things” John 1:43-51

Philip was convinced he'd found the Messiah and was eager to tell his friends. He finds and tells Nathanael the good news but Nathanael is skeptical. When Nathanael meets Jesus, Jesus compliments him on his honesty and Nathanael is impressed that someone has heard of him. When Jesus reveals where he first saw and heard him, Nathanael is humbled and confesses Jesus to be the Son of God. Jesus then invites Nathanael to follow and see the greater things of the kingdom. ***To See Greater Things*** we must take the same step Nathanael took. We must step down from pride and self-importance. We must be humble.





This past Wednesday night I shared a devotion entitled “Welcomed Disruptions.” I mentioned that Sandra and I were given a puppy (Bella) for Christmas and while we are thoroughly enjoying her, we are adjusting our schedules and routines.

Some disruptions are more welcome than others and we decide based on what the balance of loss and gain and the duration of the disruption. I went on to say that in Luke 9:23-29 Jesus is the ultimate disruptor when he invites us to deny ourselves, take up crosses and follow him.

It was perhaps providential that I shared that devotion last night because as I sat at my desk on Thursday morning to hurriedly write this article I heard a knock at my door. I was to have a full schedule and did not have a lot of time at the moment for a disruption, but it was a friend who needed to ask a question and to get a little advice. I set my article work aside and listened and, quite honestly, was fascinated by the situation my friend shared with me. We talked for a few minutes and he went on his way and I resumed what I was doing. In this simple experience I heard the Spirit remind me that some of the richest opportunities for ministry are in the disruptions rather than in well-planned programs.

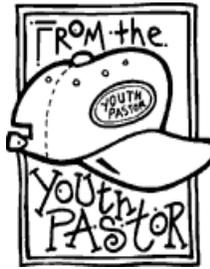
I write a “Do List” every week. I have been doing so for several years and at the bottom of the page is this sentence... “Live from within, walk an authentic path and there will be time and opportunity for all that is important.” I have never completed everything on my weekly Do List and most of my lists have notes about the disruptions that came up in the week and that, I am learning is okay. And my advice to you is to not be so quick to dismiss the disruptions to your schedule. Welcome the disruptions, for in them you may very well meet God.

Peace,
David

2017 Contribution Statements

Please help us cut down on the expense of mailing contribution statements by providing the church office with a valid e-mail address. If your e-mail address has changed, or if we don’t currently have yours on file, please contact Daphne Fletcher at daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org or 739-4336. A paper copy will be printed by request.

Statements will be made available on or before January 31, 2018.



Being in between college and youth ski trips, coming off the holidays, and in the midst of a great deal of planning, I’m unable to focus on one clear subject for an article. Many things are happening. The only common thread is we have reason to be optimistic.

Our college students did a phenomenal job leading worship New Year’s Eve. The message was challenging and the music exceptional. We worshipped together with a unique blend of old and young, different service attendees, and a mix of families and singles I’ve never experienced in a service here. It was beautiful.

Two days later, I was able to embark on a journey with an entirely different group of young adults who also consider FBC to be their church. Their paths were perhaps more varied than the ones who lead our service, but their outlooks are similarly open to embrace what lies ahead. Again, they heightened my optimism.

Lastly, the main reason I have to be optimistic isn’t just our young people. I’ve noticed more smiles, more openness to change, and more willingness to reach across generations from our older adults here recently than I ever have before. God is working on folks of all ages both in and out of our congregation by using us as a tool to open hearts. 2018 and beyond will present us with many challenges and opportunities to trust God to meet them.

Doug

Hot Topic

For the last seventeen months, we have been truly fortunate to enjoy some of the most wonderful and worshipful music available in any church thanks to Mark Andersen. Mark brought beautiful sounds and, more importantly, a loving, Christian spirit to the music in our 11:00 worship service at First Baptist Church. It is with great sadness that I must share with you that Mark will be leaving First Baptist Church to become Choirmaster at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Mark plans to stay involved with First Baptist as it is possible and our two churches will continue to have a great musical relationship as we have in the past, hopefully even better. Mark’s last day with us at the organ bench will be this Sunday, January 14th.

Tim



LUNCH & LEARN

Monday, January 22, 2018
At Noon in Cherry Fellowship Hall

Bring a covered dish to share.
A program on health and nutrition will be presented by Pattie Ramsaur.

Senior Adult Spring Trip Charleston/Savannah April 23-27

Cost: \$850 per person (double occupancy)
A \$75 deposit will reserve your spot.

Featuring: Charleston City Market, a tour of historic downtown Charleston by horse-drawn carriage, Magnolia Plantation & Gardens, Boat Tour to Fort Sumter, historic downtown Savannah by trolley, a dinner cruise, and much more!

For the Record

Budgeted 2017	\$685,000.00
Weekly Need (2017).....	\$12,924.53
Received	
December 31, 2017	\$26,710.96
Need to date	\$685,000.00
Received to date	\$695,947.46
Over (Under) Budget	\$10,947.46
Received all General Funds to date—2017 (including Loose Offerings & Memorials)	\$708,370.62

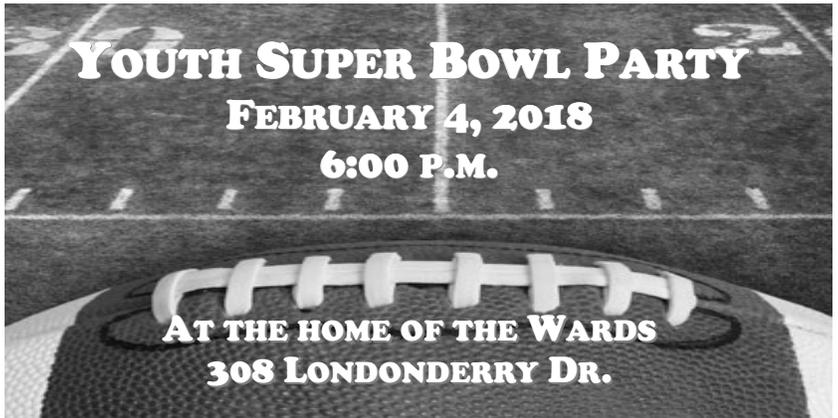
Friends of Jesus Christmas Party

Goal.....	\$5,700
Received to date	\$5,295

Children's Christmas Party

Goal.....	\$7,000
Received to date	\$8,517

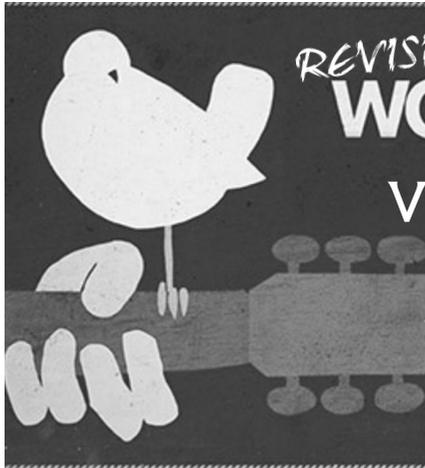
Sunday School Attendance, Jan. 7—151



YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY

FEBRUARY 4, 2018
6:00 P.M.

AT THE HOME OF THE WARDS
308 LONDONDERRY DR.



REVISIT WOODSTOCK

Valentine Banquet

February 10, 2018
Cherry Fellowship Hall
Tickets go on sale next week!
\$10 each (\$5 Senior Adults)

Coming up. . .

- January 13-16— Youth Ski Trip
- January 15— Martin Luther King Day—Schools Closed
- January 19— Teacher Work Day
- January 20— Community Café hosted by Asbury United Methodist
- January 21— Youth Summer Mission Trip Meeting. 6 p.m.
- January 22— Lunch & Learn
Finance & Deacons Meeting
- January 24— Quarterly Church Conference
- February 4— Youth Super Bowl Party
- February 5— Baptist Women's Luncheon
- February 8— Fun & Fellowship
- February 10— Valentine Banquet
- February 11— Children's Sunday
- February 12— Friends of Jesus Valentine Party
- February 13— ECM Registration for currently enrolled families begins
- February 14— Ash Wednesday
- February 16— Teacher Work Day
- February 17— Community Café
- February 19— Finance & Deacons Meetings
- February 26— Early Childhood Ministry Registration opens to FBC Members
- February 27— Early Childhood Ministry Registration opens to Public

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Cookbook Update!

It's not too late to submit your favorite recipes for our church cookbook! Presently we have over 200 recipes for our publication. Way to go! The cookbook committee has decided to extend the date for submitting recipes until January 17th. Don't have a recipe form? No worries, just give us a copy of your recipe, and we will be sure it gets in the cookbook.

Please take a minute to look through your treasured dishes one more time, and share your favorites with us. Please feel free to share as many recipes as you want. Any number of submissions is fine! Thank you for your help with this project!



Flower Calendar-Contact the church office at 739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org to place flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one. Dates are available throughout 2018.

Community Café Volunteers Needed!

Groups are needed to host our Community Café on the 3rd Saturday each month. Host groups provide a meal, devotion and fellowship for Community Café guests. If your Sunday School Class, Mission Group, etc. would like to host please contact the church office (739-4336 or daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org).

Family Night Supper Menus January 2018

January 17—Spaghetti, String Beans, Texas Toast, Salad, Strawberry Shortcake

January 24—Pork Loin, Green Bean Casserole, Baked Potatoes, Salad, Fruit Pie

January 31—Hamburgers, Baked Beans, French Fries, Chocolate Cake



Happy **NEW YEAR**

*You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance.*

PSALM 65:11

CHURCH STAFF

Contact us at 739-4336 or
daphnefletcher@fbclumbertonnc.org
www.fbclumbertonnc.org

Mrs. Nancy Bass—Financial Coordinator

Rev. Erin Collier—Minister to Children

Dr. David Elks—Pastor

Mrs. Daphne Fletcher—Administrative Assistant

Ms. Dorothy Hunt—Building Superintendent

Rev. Tim Little—Minister of Music

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey—Administrative Assistant

Rev. Doug Reedy—Minister of Youth