



At First Glance

First Baptist Church / 211 W. Comanche St., Norman, Oklahoma 73069 / 405-321-1753 / www.fbcnorman.org

I have enjoyed leading our Wednesday night Men's Bible study these past months. We have had wonderful discussions and considered some difficult questions and issues as we have made our way through the first verses of the Bible. The creation stories are rich in theology revealing much about the nature of God, the world and life.

Recently we considered the Sabbath. While some Christians continue to "keep the Sabbath (Saturday) holy," most Christians honor Sunday as their Sabbath.

Whether Saturday or Sunday, the question remains, why did God "set apart" a day of rest? Was God tired? Was God finished? How is "one day" to be different than the "other days?"

Sabbath establishes a healthy rhythm between work and rest. We are created to cultivate and nurture. Six days a week, we are to commit ourselves to this work. But the seventh is different. It is a day to rest, a day to trust in God's love and provision.

The notion of "worship" doesn't become a stated purpose of Sabbath until the 10 Commandments. In Deuteronomy 5:14 we are asked to "Remember" on the Sabbath. We are to remember how God saved and redeemed us from our slavery, a practice that naturally leads to acts of praise and thanksgiving.

In Leviticus 25, the Sabbatic Year and Year of Jubilee expand Sabbath into seasons with deeper applications for rest, remembering and redeeming. The implications for individuals, families, communities and nations are significant. Jubilee is so radical that there is no historic record of it ever being practiced. Yet still, the invitation to Sabbath and

Jubilee exists.

So, how's your practice of Sabbath? Have you set apart a day of the week as "holy" to rest, remember and

redeem? Have you set apart seasons to practice rest, remembering, and redeeming? Holidays are an opportunity for Sabbath. Vacations invite us to rest and "re-create" by breaking away from our normal pattern of work. Retirement offers a life season to rest, remember and redeem the years. Let's reclaim and practice Sabbath!

During the summer we will read and preach through the Proverbs. I invite you to read daily the corresponding Proverb to the day of the month. This will allow us to read through the Proverbs two and a half times during the summer. This will be a great activity for families, couples, and friends to do together. Then, on each Sunday we will hear a sermon from that particular day's Proverb. We begin on June 5, with the Lord's Supper and a sermon from Proverbs 5.

Every summer I am amazed by the number of ministries and opportunities provided through our church. Summerscope and the FLC provide day camps for the children of our church and community. SMAK is a new opportunity through our Worship Arts Ministry for children this summer. Falls Creek, Vacation Bible School, Mountain Camp



Dr. Wade Smith

and Camp Siloam provide special opportunities for children and youth in addition to our weekly summer ministries. Senior adults will enjoy their Blue Plate Specials and look forward to the Nanas and Grampies trip. Kirk Hatcher will lead a Wednesday night Bible study for adults following our Wednesday meal. For the second summer in a row a group will spend a week in Watonga on mission. How will you get involved this summer?

In an effort to better reach our community, we will host our Patriotic Concert at Legacy Park this year on Sunday evening, June 26. We are arranging for food trucks to be there. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a wonderful evening of music and fellowship. Be praying for Chad and our Worship Arts team as they prepare.

On June 5, we will host a Church Conference at 10:15 a.m. in Hallock Hall. We regret having to take time from LifeGroups, but believe this is the best time for the most people to participate. One of the important issues for your consideration is moving our Fiscal Year to match the Calendar Year.

Currently, our ministry team juggles three different calendars. By moving the Fiscal Year (currently April-March) to match the calendar year, we hope to simplify and consolidate our calendar planning.

June marks my ninth year to serve as your pastor. I am blessed by the opportunity to share life and ministry with you. I look forward to this next year as we minister together to Love People, Teach the Word and Live the Journey as followers of Jesus Christ.

Dr. Wade Smith

We together are God's people

When I think of the church and membership as it relates to the church these thoughts come to mind:

- I'm privileged to be part of a body of believers, struggling together to understand our relationship with God, seeking what God is doing and then becoming involved in that with others in my church family.

- I have an opportunity to be involved with the responsibility to pray, support, encourage, give faithfully and be present because I'm part of something larger than just me.

- I understand that this is a life-long journey of learning to become a follower of Christ and I still have a lot to learn.

- In my frail understanding, I believe the Church is God's plan for His people, even with all its faults and with all my scars and faults as well.

- I'm challenged to bring others to become a part.

We together are God's people, the Church. Our identity as that people in this place are enriched in our togetherness, our work and

worship together and our support of First Baptist Church in fulfilling its mission.

It seems part of our call and our challenge is to grow our family here. If this church is where you understand God is active and calling you to be a part, why wouldn't you want your dearest friends to find that here as well? Or how about a new neighbor, or individual you meet at work or in your leisure?

I know membership may be considered out of date and unnecessary, but isn't it still a part of our identity? Consider a commitment to our family, to our employment family, civic organizations, universities and alumni groups. Does identity as a member add to our commitment and involvement? The Church needs your commitment and you need the identity. FBC Norman invites you to



Roy Joe Ham



be that place to identify with fully.

Summer is upon us and we know that it's easy to get involved with our vacation and recreation time, and deny our time of re-creation with God. Find your times and your places to do that, while at the same time remembering your commitment to your family here. Attend when you can, and give as you always do. Summer always brings a challenge with a high expense season across church ministries.

It is a joy to share identity with you. Praise God for the privilege to do so. See you Sunday in worship.

FBC PATRIOTIC

CONCERT

7 p.m. Sunday, June 26

Legacy Park in Norman

Featuring the
Sanctuary Choir
and Orchestra



This summer

Thank you, Karen Reddell!

Since the beginning of the Dinner for 8 program, Karen Reddell has been at the forefront of it. She sent out letters, gathered volunteers, helped put the groups together, etc.

She's decided that it's time for someone else to take up this mantle and take it to the next level. So...thank you, thank you, thank you, Karen. This would not be what it is today without your leadership.

This summer, I'm going on a journey to discover as much about the idea of Sabbath as I can. I'd love for you to join me. On Wednesday nights, beginning June 1, from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. in B20, we are going to work our way through this topic with as much intentionality as we can. My hope is that by the end of our time together you might join me on a "Sabbath Experiment."

Sabbath comes from the Hebrew word *shabbat*, which means "to cease." Israel's neighboring countries did not recognize a day away from work. After the Israelites left Egyptian slavery, God reminded them of the importance of keeping the Sabbath.

When manna fell from heaven for the Israelites to eat, they were told to gather one day's worth each

morning. On the sixth day of each week they could gather two days worth because none would be there the next day. Everyone was to spend the seventh day inside their home, resting. This picture of Sabbath required each family to trust that God would continue to provide each day what was needed. Sabbath does that for each of us, as well.

Soon, God delivered the Ten Commandments, with the commandment to keep the Sabbath being the longest:

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.



Kirk Hatcher

In the New Testament, Jesus did not say, "Forget about the Sabbath; it's an old, dead tradition." With the coming of Christ, the Sabbath takes on new meaning. This, then, is how we can observe Sabbath that is true to Scripture: Obedience to God's command that we observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy – that we maintain the Sabbath as a day of joyful worship and communion, a day of rest, and a day of reliance upon God.

To act as if the world cannot get along without our work for one day in seven is a startling display of pride that denies the sufficiency of our generous maker.

Dorothy Bass

So, how can we do this? Keeping in mind that truly observing the Sabbath will be a huge disruption on our crazy-busy lives...and THAT'S THE POINT. In our culture, it is very easy for a "day off" to become the day we get things done that we could not get done during the rest of the week. The disruption happens when we decide that we are going to take the time to fully rest. And to celebrate what Jesus has done for us.

When can your Sabbath be? Who will you be during that time?

A love/hate relationship with summer

Summer. As a youth minister, I have a love/hate relationship with summer.

I love it because it's the season of the year when I can see just about any student at just about any time of day. I hate summer because it seems to end so soon.

Some of our students will experience some firsts this summer. Some will come to their first youth camp (middle school is June 13-17, high school is July 16-23. Sign ups are still available at iheartfbcym.com). Some will get their first summer job. Some will get to be a part of the youth group for the first time.

Meanwhile, a great group of students also will experience some lasts. One student will be headed to the Air Force Academy, another will be going to OBU, another student to USAO, and a few others to OU and OCCC. All of them will say goodbye in some way. Others will say goodbye to the friendly confines of elementary school or the cruel awkwardness of middle school. That



Rich Lubbers

last trip to Falls Creek as a student can be particularly sad.

I wonder if you'd be willing to pray for our students. Pray that as they all have increasingly busy summers, that they look for God. Pray that they pay attention to the way that God might be calling them into whatever future is ahead of them. And pray that God would show you how to be a part of that.

We have a great summer coming up for our students. It's one that will end too soon. Are you willing and able to faithfully pray for them every day this summer?

They'll appreciate it, and so will I.

Thank you for serving

During the 2016 To Norman With Love, many joined together in service with their families, LifeGroups, and as individuals. Several helped serve at the Sunday Supper and clothes closet distribution. Classes donated cartloads of food and hygiene items for our food pantry, while others donated money for it. Others collected money for diapers for the baby pantry of Center for Children and Families. Around 50 children and youth distributed potted flowers to residents at Rambling Oaks Assisted Living center. Several classes joined together to tackle projects and host a cookout for the children and families in the cottages at Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children.



Finding God and community in the mountains

For those who follow FBC's University Ministry on social media or receive our weekly newsletter (The Loop!), you know we kicked off this Summer right with a Senior Trip to Manitou Springs, Colo.

Six of us loaded into Van 4 early on May 16 and returned late on May 20, but check out what we did in the middle:

On Tuesday May 17, we started our adventures by visiting the Manitou Cliff Dwellings just a couple miles from our hotel. We arrived late in the morning, getting pelted by rainy drizzle but continuing on anyway. The mountains in the distance sat shrouded in mist and the dwellings themselves were magnificently carved into the cliff face, allowing our grads free reign to run through and explore to their hearts' desire.

Leaving the dwellings, we continued on to the Pike's Peak Cog Railway, which is one of the three cog rails in the U.S. The climb up was stalled out due to ice on the track, so we didn't get to make the summit; however, we did make it far beyond the tree line and were allowed to get off the train for a quick break (and a snowball fight).

Wednesday was the main event of our trip: White Water Rafting down the Royal Gorge. Our guide's name was Berto (pronounced Bear-Toe), a 34 year rafting veteran who lives off the grid in the Canon City hills. He – along with our silly, full body wetsuits – kept us safe through the class

III and IV rapids, made sure we had a great time, and most importantly he was in charge of the GoPro mounted to the front of our raft that recorded everyone's faces as the frigid water doused us at every stroke. I'll tell you where to find the videos and pictures at the end of this article. In the end everyone made it out safe and sound with blistered hands and grinning faces.

Thursday was our final adventure day, so we did what this group of students really loves to do: Explore and spend time together. We started the morning traveling to the Garden of the Gods, which was just down the road from our hotel. It was beautiful – spires of ancient stone towered to the sky, a herd of big horn sheep lazily grazed near the path, and a conglomerate of people from all across the world traveled to see this garden. Simply walking around, I heard at least five different languages and variegate ethnicities. Oh, and people brought their dogs, each of whom the grads had to pet.

That afternoon, we finished our planned itinerary by visiting the Cave of the Winds. Let's just say the caves were awesome and if you ever have a chance to delve into the depths of the earth with our grads, go for



Chris Canary

it. You won't be disappointed. By the time the tour was complete, our guide was crying with laughter at the ridiculousness of what went on in there.

To hear more of what we did on the 2016 UM Senior Trip, just ask any of the following grads: Krystal Harrington, Connor Knudsen, Madison Harner and Jay Harp. I love them all and I am proud to have been their University Minister these past months. Also, this is a great time to give a shout out to Clint Taylor. His help in planning and executing this trip was indispensable and I appreciate his partnership in ministry beyond explanation.

If you know any students who are looking for a church family, or if you yourself feel compelled to dive in deep into this ministry, then let's talk. The 2016-2017 academic year is just around the corner and I believe with all sincerity that God is at work in this church and the students who attend here.

Finally, to best keep up with everything going on in the University Ministry, you can find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (@um_fbc). You also can receive our weekly e-newsletter simply by providing me your email address.

S.M.A.K. Music Camp at FBC

August 1-5

\$100 per camper

For more information, email aubrey@fbcnorman.org

Registration Deadline: July 18

FREE
ZUMBA
with *Monica Siklose*

5:30-6:30 P.M.
THURSDAY
MIRRORED ROOM — FLC

Make a plan for summer

Summer is almost here and I want to encourage you to plan your time. I know, you're thinking that you are already too busy and you have a full calendar.

I know at this point planning is the last thing you want to do. But I still want to encourage you to plan some special times this summer. Take time to enjoy. What are some simple things you enjoyed as a child, a teenager or young adult?

For me, summer always brought simple adventures in the outdoors. For example, finding the biggest oak tree and resting under it with a mason jar full of cold lemonade, quart size-not pint; wading in the clear waters of the creek; driving with my dad to the Dairy Dip; chasing June bugs with

my trusty sidekick Poochie; capturing fire flies in a jar; collecting cattails, grapevines and sunflowers and then making a crafty creation; picking fresh vegetables or strawberries from the garden; eating watermelon followed by a seed spitting contest; or a Saturday night weiner roast.

What are the simple pleasures you have enjoyed through the years? Think of something you can do alone, or with a sibling, a spouse or with a friend. Maybe something you have not done in a long time. Then I want



Vickie Riggs

to hear what simple pleasure you indulged in this summer. Plan to do it more than once.

Hope you have these events on your calendar as you plan your summer. Invite a friend and come join us.

June 1 and June 22: Blue Plate Special luncheon at 11:30 a.m.

June 15: Life Story class at 10:00 a.m.

June 27: Painting 101 at 6:30 p.m.

June 28: Nanas and Grampies Day Adventure at the Jenks Aquarium

September 12-16: Missouri Medley More than Baseball. Visit Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Genevieve, Mo., Abilene, Kan., and more.

Detailed itineraries available at the FLC Office.

PART-TIME COOK NEEDED

Immediate opening with flexible schedule

For more information, visit Robin in the church office

CAMP SILOAM

Cost includes camp and transportation fee

Pick up registration forms with Crystal

June 20-24

Cost: \$250

3rd through 5th grades

FLC JUNE CAMPS

June 6-9
Jr. Science Camp
(4-year-olds to first grade)
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Cost: \$75

Science Camp
(Second-fifth grades)
Time: 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$75

June 20-23
Gymnastics Camp
(3-14-year-olds)
Three class times: 3:15 p.m.; 4:15 p.m. or 5:20 p.m. Cost: \$40/\$45

MEDITATIONS ...

— On Liberty —

With Chris Canary

Early Worship

July 3

Sanctuary

Amanda Payne joins Family Life Center as Operations Manager

Since the first of May, Amanda Payne has been busy learning the ropes of her new job at the Family Life Center as Operations Manager.

"It's going really well," Amanda said. "I really like the variety of people that come in and it's neat to be a part of a facility that offers so many things to the community."

Payne, who succeeds Deborah Linn upon her retirement, is a native to Norman and has worked in many administrative positions during her career.

When she's not working, Amanda

spends her time with her 4-year-old twins.

"I would love to think of the things I do besides be a mom, but really that's it," Amanda said. "I love to make jewelry and camping and being outside. My children and I started a garden this year. We planted watermelon, corn, squash, tomatoes and peppers."

Amanda admits that she has had



Amanda Payne

a large learning curve since taking over the position at the FLC, but she has really enjoyed her time getting acquainted with staff, volunteers and visitors.

"I love watching the kids that attend the FLC. I love being involved with the volunteers, they are precious. I really like being a part of what the Family Life Center offers. You couldn't ask for sweeter people to work with. They have really held my hand every step of the way and have been very supportive." Amanda said.



COME HANG WITH US AT VBS

July 11 - 15
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Ages 4 through Completed 5th grade
Register at fbcnorman.org

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Contact Crystal Byrd



CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE: \$3,097,810

LOAN BALANCE:
\$158,862

FBC presents

SUMMER THEME NIGHTS
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Pre K - 5th grades

<p>JUNE</p> <p>JUNE 1 Movie Night and Ice Cream Room 204</p> <p>JUNE 8 Swimming* and Popsicles Melissa Long, 3551 Crystal Spring Dr.</p> <p>JUNE 15 Science Night with Mr. Russ Comanche Street Green Space</p> <p>JUNE 22 Movie Night and Pizza Room 204</p> <p>JUNE 29 Swimming* and Popsicles Robyn Stapleton, 4224 Water Front Circle</p>	<p>JULY</p> <p>JULY 6 Swimming* and Popsicles Melissa Long, 3551 Crystal Spring Dr.</p> <p>JULY 13 Vacation Bible School 6-8 p.m. July 11 - 15 Register Online, Family Fun Night, July 15</p> <p>JULY 20 Painting Night with Mrs. Brittany Room 204</p> <p>JULY 27 Swimming* and Popsicles Melissa Long, 3551 Crystal Spring Dr.</p> <p>AUGUST</p> <p>AUGUST 3 No Activities</p> <p>AUGUST 10 No Activities</p> <p>AUGUST 17 Big Summer Cookout FBC Playground</p>
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*If your child needs transportation to and from the pools, our van will leave the breezeway at 5:45 p.m. One signed transportation waiver is needed. Contact Crystal at crystalb@fbcnorman.org to reserve your child's seat at least one day prior to swim night.



June Birthdays

June 1: Charles Burris, Junie Chenoweth, Tony Gardner, Wanita Salyer, Amy Williams

June 2: Mike Beery, Carol Fisher, Jay Jimerson, Becky Porter, John Smith, Howard Woodruff

June 3: Sandi Devore

June 4: James Bryson, Richard Buchanan, Bonnie DeLany, Pamela DeVoss, Kody Ferguson, Rex Floyd, Mary Lee Foor, Benton Ladd, Jenny Roby, Ben Warren, Ben Wood

June 5: Vivian Anderson, Matthew Chamberlain, Scott Couch, Pat Dickinson, Taylor Jones, Marilyn Lassetter, Molly Pattison, Beverly Theige, Zoe Zachary

June 6: Melisa Lesser, Ken Spalding

June 7: Amber Beardsley, Melanie Gladhill, Andy Stephenson, Sherry Sullivan

June 8: JoHannah Star Bowling, Lin Copelin, Sheridan Johnson, Julie Richardson, Doris Thrower, Vance Worten

June 9: Carol Halley, Grace McCloskey, Rhonda Wood

June 10: Jane Callison, Cooper Hopkins, Colleen Ryan

June 11: Sheri Bower, Michelle Durham, James Price, Juni Worten

June 12: Lexie Campbell, Kelli Hoyt, Charles Valentine, Brock Wright

June 13: Marty Farris, John Hughes, Kathryn Malthaner, Leon Reed, Karl Sinclair

June 14: Ann Eaves, Michael Higgins, Gwendolyn Shilling, Keith Strevett, Dondi Thompson, Lynette Vinson

June 15: David Deering, Catherine Dvorak, Sarah Johnson, Robert Lehr, Tyler Tadlock

June 16: William Freeman, Judy Osburn, Michael Robins, Josh Wright

June 17: Alan Cheshier, Brandon Kelly, Gari-Leah Kmiecik, Frank Marks, Virginia Odell, John Shaw, Joe Windes

June 18: Nate Ellis, Zac Ratzlaff, Loynita Spillmeier

June 19: Margaret Barbour, Norma Brown, Jerry Dickinson, Mittie Durham, Judy Hixon, Kevin Murphree, Null Conner, Mike Rose

June 20: Tollie Bibb, Sierra Brown, Billy Busse, Jo Ellen Hayes, Eric Holderby, Grant Schwabe, Kenneth Womack, Larry Wright

June 21: Nyla Gibson, Laney Mullinax, Kathy Ray, Stewart Robinson, Mark Williams

June 22: Delayne Dye, Teri Hamra, Inara LeBlanc

June 23: Cathe Fox

June 24: Jim Drennan, Anthony McCree, Lyn Paschal, Gay Smith, Even Wagner

June 25: Lance Chapman, Doug Childers, Dorothy Claxton, Rusty Sullivan

June 26: Luke Fields, Gina Fong, Samuel Hwang, Cindy Ramey, Mark Zachary

June 27: Sarah Carter, Jack Davis, Veronica Deplois, Ronald Elkin, James Hall, Harper Harris, Lydia Haworth, Warren Klima, Dave Lewis, Karen McCloskey, Jean Sisson, Dale Sullivan, Scott Terrell, Abbie Veal

June 28: Kelsey Childers, Cheryl Jones, Barbara McGuckin, Nick Napoli, Carol Roberts, Harold Woods

June 29: Phillip Conley, Kailey Diehm, Sandra Gourley, Ben Haning, Jeannie Hitchcock, Steve Scott

June 30: David Goodspeed, Paula McBee, Kathy Smith, Bradley Valentino

At FIRST Glance
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211 W. Comanche St.
Norman, OK 73069
Address Service Requested

Sympathies

The FBC Family wishes to extend sympathies to:
Chad, Tara, Addison & Ainsley Smith at the

passing of Chad's grandmother, Betty Almond.
Family & friends of Mona Gardner at her passing.

Letters to the FBC Family

First Baptist,

Thank you for giving your resources and space to shape the future of students in the Loveworks High School Leadership and Service Program.

We are beyond grateful for your generosity.

Loveworks Team



@fbcnorman



fbcnorman.org



/firstbaptistchurchnorman

Ministry Staff

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Roy Joe Ham, Minister of Administration

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