



At First Glance

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

One of the joys of my summer has been attending worship with our children and youth at their camps.

Our middle schoolers had a wonderful week at Falls Creek to begin the summer. Our children journeyed east to Camp Siloam in Siloam Springs, Ark., at the end of June. Our high school youth experienced Mountain Camp in Winter Park, Colo., in July with around 200 youth from four states. All three camps provided wonderful and appropriate experiences of worship, discipleship, fellowship and re-creation for all.

Thanks to Rich Lubbers and Crystal Byrd for their leadership in providing these memorable experiences. Thanks to the numerous adults and college students who serve as sponsors and make these trips possible. Summer camps provide a unique opportunity for life changing decisions and commitments. Let us continue to pray for our students and live as Christ before them.

The first week of August marks the end of our SummerScope and FLC summer camps. Special thanks to Staci Rhea, Lisé Simpson, and their team of SummerScope workers. Thanks to Clint Taylor and his team for the wonderful FLC camp experiences. Be in prayer for Chad Smith and his team as SMAK finishes our summer camp ministries.

Connections Sunday is August 21. As part of Connection Sunday we will promote in our children's and youth areas. I am thankful for teachers who commit to teaching and loving our children and youth through this significant ministry.

Our first and sixth graders will

receive their Bibles during the 10:50 a.m. worship.

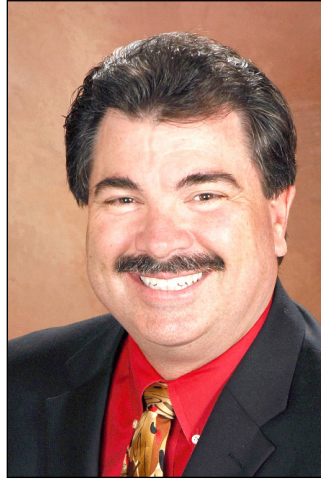
Kirk Hatcher, Minister of Spiritual Formation, will preach and the choir and orchestra will join our praise team in leading worship. A special **Meditations** worship service will be at 8:30 a.m. with Crystal Byrd leading our meditation on connecting. This special Sunday begins a new year of spiritual formation for all of us.

Many have enjoyed our summer journey of worship and reading through the Proverbs. I hope you have been able to read each proverb at least once during the summer and that you will make it a regular discipline to read through them regularly.

We conclude our summer series on August 7 and August 14 with the respective Proverbs. Indeed, the Proverbs offer wisdom for life.

Beginning on August 28, we begin a 6-week worship series titled **The Mysteries of Ephesians**. We will take one chapter a week, focusing on the mysteries of life and faith as the Apostle Paul identifies and sheds light on them. Chapter one deals with the mystery of election and predestination. I look forward to sharing with you.

In recent weeks we have



Dr. Wade Smith

taken moments during worship to remember and pray for the victims of recent tragedies in Orlando, Baton Rouge, and Dallas. In response, I have met with community law enforcement leaders and pastors to talk about these events in light of our own community.

I am thankful that the Church knows how to respond and react in love and mercy when these horrible events occur. However, we must be more proactive in working to prevent these kinds of events in our communities. Yes, let us pray for our community. But, let us rise from our knees with a passion to get involved before something tragic happens.

While the August newsletter signifies the end of summer, it also celebrates the beginning of a new school year. The start of a new school year offers new opportunities to get involved in worship, discipleship, fellowship, and service. I hope that you will find your place in the Body of Christ at First Baptist. Ask a minister how you can get involved. There is joy and meaning in service. How will you serve the Lord this year?

The Smiths have made it our tradition to get away from Norman for a few days before school begins. Mountain Camp provided the opportunity for us to head west for our summer vacation.

We spent several days seeing the beauty of the Tetons and Yellowstone. As our children grow older, we realize the opportunities for the six of us to get away are fewer and fewer. We give thanks for the blessing of one more summer vacation together. We hope that you have had special time with your family and friends this summer.

Summer a busy time for First Baptist ministries

The heat of the summer is upon us and it's another reminder that summer will be over soon and school activities will begin.

The first days of classes are upon us, and a new season of activities at FBC also are upon us. I pray that each of you have had the opportunity to be refreshed during this season and we all look forward to being involved in what God is doing here and around the world.

While many of you have been on vacation, the summer has been an active time here at FBC: Children's camp and VBS; middle school camp at Falls Creek; high school Mountain Camp; Summerscope; FLC camps; our patriotic celebration; activities for all

ages of adults, and our regular worship services and Bible study times. We will finish the major summer activities with the newly added children's music camp, SMAK, which will happen this first week of August.

We are grateful for the way you have supported all of these events with your time, energy and involvement as they have pertained to you. The reality of this number of summer activities are the ongoing expenses to the church. This always



Roy Joe Ham

presents a financial challenge during the summer months while so many are traveling and possibly miss their regular giving opportunities. This summer has been no exception.

Our ministries go on, our attendance and giving are down and we come to the end of summer needing to catch up and gain a new excitement for ministry. Join with me as we seek and participate together in meeting our financial needs.

God continues to make Himself known in so many ways. Look around, see for yourself, and find your place of service and support. This is God's time in this place, and He needs us to respond.

I look forward to this new season of ministry together with you.

WANTED

Your Attendance to the
Worship Arts/Music Ministry
Appreciation Banquet



Put on your boots and
best country and western attire
and mosey on over
for a BBQ dinner, guest speaker,
and a Good 'Ole Fashion
Square Dance

★Koinonia Room at the FLC★

6:30 p.m. Aug. 19

Let the Sheriff know yeah or neigh by
Monday, August 1, at aubrey@fbcnorman.org.
Spouses and significant others are welcome



. KIDS FALL . NIGHT OUT

SEPTEMBER 9

6:00 - 9:00 P.M.

BIRTH - 5TH GRADE




ignite
PASSION FOR GOD'S PURPOSE

CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE: \$3,137,049
LOAN BALANCE: \$135,783

Connections

In our house of three boys, there has been one toy to rule them all. Lego. End of story.

In one of the bedrooms in our house we have no fewer than five drawers and several bins full of Lego bricks. For a few years, Lego kits were the ultimate birthday or Christmas present. Simply put: we have lots of Lego. Here's why I think we enjoy them so much: the fun is in the connecting.

Each Lego brick is great all by itself, but when we start connecting them we end up creating something wonderfully complex. The wonder is found in the connecting.

We bring each brick, with the perfectly selected color and shape, and connect them to others and then we have the creation for which

we have been searching.

Life is like that...

We are each unique individuals, bringing our personality, our skills, and our passions to people longing to be connected. And



Kirk Hatcher

just like Lego... the fun is in the connecting.

At First Baptist, Norman, we have lots of ways for these connections to happen. We can be a part of a LifeGroup that gathers on Sunday

morning. We can be a part of a Dinner for 8 group. We can be a part of the Sanctuary Choir. We can be a part of a team who reaches out to those who

have lost loved ones recently. Where have you connected?

Spiritual Formation really is all about connections – to God, and to each other. On Sunday, August 21, we will experience the beginning of a new season of connecting at First Baptist, Norman. All of our children's and youth LifeGroups will "promote" to the next grade, while our adult LifeGroups will re-start into a new season of connecting with each other.

One of the Lego kits that our middle son received for a birthday took us a total of about 15 hours to complete. It was gigantic. It had way too many small parts that I could barely lift with my tiny fingers. At several points in the build, neither of us thought we were following the directions in the book. And then, all of a sudden, we made a few major connections and it came into clear focus what we had created. And it reminded me that, just like with people...

The fun is in the connecting!



WEDNESDAY **AUGUST**
17



Big Summer Cookout



6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Join Us!

Now registering
for 2016-2017

Fee Based Ministries

- Parent's Day Out
- Kaleidoscope
- Kaleidoscope Jr.



SUMMER SABBATH

NO ACTIVITIES THE EVENINGS OF
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

Fee based

Back to School

night

August 11
7:00 to
8:00 p.m.



Cave Quest
FOLLOWING JESUS
THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
ASSISTANT TEACHERS NEEDED

CONTACT CRYSTAL BYRD FOR MORE INFORMATION

Community Ministry Needs

- Soup or other canned meal items
- peanut butter single serve packs
- pop top meals
- bike locks with key (security level 2 and up)
- large boxes of granola and cereal bars for Lincoln Elementary students who miss breakfast (label these for Lincoln)

All donations may be delivered to the church office or placed in the baskets outside the church library/office.

Just the beginning

You may not know this, but August 1 marks my 1-year anniversary as FBCN's University Minister.

As I consider where we've been these past 12 months, I am thankful. This church's membership has welcomed, supported and encouraged my ministry among you in momentous ways. More than that, you have helped accomplish the goals and the mission for which we set out last year.

Together we have loved university

students, taught God's word to university students, and lived the journey of life and faith with university students.

The best part is, we're just getting started. I am eager for the 2016-2017 academic year because thousands of students will



Chris Canary

flock to OU and other local campuses, and my hunch is there will be many who seek a church like this one.

I believe if we remain faithful to our purposes and mission, then we will continue to expand the reach and scope of our ministry to campus and beyond.

Here's to another year of loving people wherever they are and teaching them to live as followers of Jesus Christ.

THE MYSTERIES OF EPHESIANS

SIX-WEEK WORSHIP SERIES
BEGINNING AUGUST 28

*First and sixth grade
Bible Presentations*

PROMOTION
SUNDAY



Meditation Sunday

with Rev. Crystal R. Byrd

8:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 21

GYMNASTICS

REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, AUGUST 1

FIRST MONTH'S TUITION SAVES YOUR SPOT IN A CLASS

Tuesday Schedule

10:00 to 10:45 a.m.
Ages 3-6 All Levels

10:50 to 11:35 a.m.
Ages 3-6 All Levels

3:40 to 4:40 p.m.
Ages 4-11

At least one year of gymnastics

4:45 - 5:35 p.m.
Ages 3-12 All Levels

5:35 - 6:35 p.m.
Ages 7-14

Intermediate & Advanced

Thursday Schedule

10:00 to 10:45 a.m.
Ages 3-6 All Levels

11:00 to 11:50 a.m.
Ages 5-13 All Levels

3:40 to 4:40 p.m.
Ages 4-11 All Levels

4:45 - 5:35 p.m.
Ages 3-11 All Levels

5:35 to 6:35 p.m.
Ages 7-14

Intermediate & Advanced

Volunteers Needed



Kids Hope USA, a national program that trains caring older teens and adults how to befriend children and help them learn.

For more information, email Angela Atkins, Director kidshope@fbcnorman.org

Many blessings of summer

We have received so many blessings this summer in support of our ministries to those in need in our community.

In June, we received two large groups of food and hygiene donations from Feed the Children. Some of these donations were so numerous we were able to share with Salvation Army and Food and Shelter. I am SO grateful for the volunteers who have helped get the donations to the food pantry and sort them. It has been a huge task – and still ongoing.

In July, another group of volunteers picked up more than 100 bicycles donated to us by OU. Many of these arrived in great condition, allowing a quick turnaround to get them into the hands of those in need of transportation in Norman.

We also learned last month that our proposal for a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Advisory Council

Grant was awarded, providing funds for us to purchase a limited amount of infant formula to distribute each month to at-risk infants in our community, helping mothers struggling to feed their children with few resources.

With all of these gifts to FBC Community Ministry, we also have found a new way to give back to help more children and families in our neighborhood – CarePortal.

CarePortal connects churches with child welfare agencies to help local children and families in crisis. Churches in Cleveland County are joining now, and we will work with them to help meet physical needs in



Angela Atkins

our area.

Our CarePortal point person, Pascha Sanders, will forward requests to our LifeGroups and other individuals who want to help in this ministry. If we can meet the need, we contact that worker and deliver the items.

Needs we have seen so far include: Window a/c unit, washing machine, bus passes, summer clothing for foster children, and work clothing for a mom starting a new job. These needs are real and insurmountable for these families, but together we and other churches in Cleveland County can truly make a difference in the their lives.

In the upcoming weeks we will visit LifeGroups to collect email addresses of all who want to participate. You also can contact me at angelaa@fbcnorman.org or Pascha at pascha.whaley@gmail.com.

Sanctuary Choir Clinic

WITH DR. ROB HEWELL

Chair of the Department of Worship Arts
and Director of Worship Studies Program
Ouachita Baptist University

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

10:00 a.m. to Noon
Choir Room

RSVP

Your attendance to aubreyc@fbcnorman.org
by Monday, August 1

Members of the Sanctuary Choir
are encouraged to attend as well as anyone
who is interested in joining this group

Golf Outing

August 6

Sign-up at the FLC

For more information, call 360-5300

Growing in Christ

Classes



September

11, 18, 25

Sign up with
Crystal Byrd
starting August 1

3rd - 5th grades only



ADULTS 55 +

LUNCH
AND LEARN
WITH JAY WILKINSON

September 23 at the FLC
Cost: \$5
Includes lunch
and honorarium

Holidays
in
Branson

December 6-8
Detailed itineraries
available at the FLC

Senior Seminary
.....

DR. MACK ROARK

SEPTEMBER 2
9:30 A.M. — NOON AT THE FLC
COST: \$5
INCLUDES LUNCH AND HONORARIUM

Painting 101

AUGUST 29

WITH CHERYL THE ARTIST
SAMPLE PAINTING AT THE FLC
COST: \$20

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER

**BIRTHDAY
BASH
LUNCHEON**

AUGUST 18
11:30 A.M.
FLC
INVITE A FRIEND
COST: \$5

MISSOURI MEDLEY
TRIP

Sept. 12-16

DEADLINE FOR SIGNUP IS AUGUST 5
DETAILED ITINERARIES
AT THE FLC

August Birthdays

August 1: Tucker Pace Randy Satterlee

August 2: Don Adkins, Nancy DeGraff, Chris Kennedy

August 3: Stephen Bratcher, LaDonna Hardesty, Joan Shockley

August 4: Judy Addison, Jordan Beene, Anthony Pennybaker, Ricky Stapleton, Laurie Ward

August 5: Sally Elkinm Pearl Haxel

August 6: Gary Knight

August 7: Delores Allen, Lanelle Averyt, Susan Beam, Willis Small, Graeme Wilson

August 8: Isaiah Dustman, Abbi Gravel, Yvonne Mounce-Royse, Paula Swing

August 9: Alex Taylor, Patricia Wiggs

August 10: Virjama Lassiter, Tom Leon

August 11: Carol Cawyer, Trudy Martin, Rosemary McCord

August 12: Wristen Arnold, Amy Arrington, Ellen Deal, Al McCord

August 13: Kim Milliron

August 14: Grace Atkins, Cindy Gray, Sayre Stapleton, Theresa Strevett

August 15: Angela Caddell, Ronald Evans, Dorothy Faison, Asa Haworth, Marty Hubbel

August 16: Isla Bowles, Johnnie Hardage, Mary Eve Summers

August 17: Gavin Cherry, Cara Kao

August 18: Beverly Bailey, Doris Whinery

August 19: Jane Close, Jennifer Graham, Fred Hilliard, Anna Lee Hixon, Kathy McNeal, Judy Sullivan

August 20: Philip Crawford, Abel Jones, Julie Myers, Darlene Yousey

August 21: Gwenn Hare, Josh Haxel, Donna Hays, Grace Anne Marcum, Jack Pinion, Betty Romero-Spaulding, Marla Valentine, Michael Vincent

August 22: Riley Beery, Christa Miles, Loyce Morain

August 23: Laura Chamberlain, Beniah Diehm, Glenda Smith

August 24: Carol Kinney, Bonnie Penny, Dinny Vishanoff

August 25: Camille Pinion

August 26: Victor Grider, Eli Weatherholt

August 27: Randy Richison

August 28: Larry Brown, Deanna Carter, Krista Henderson, Sam Knight, Tricia McCarty

August 29: Shannon Atkins, Cindy Burchfield, Darlene Cagle, Ruth Gattis, Brason Kao

August 30: Dawson Harris, Kathleen Kelly, Curt Masters

August 31: Larry Burroughs, Don Hull, Anne Roberts

Sympathies

Wayne, Kate, Nicole, Colleen & Philip Parrish at the passing of Diana Foster

Family & friends of Louise Thompson at her passing

Sallie & Chris Kennedy at the passing of Sallie's sister, Bobbie Powell

Gaylord, Deborah, Pablo & Marco Fisher at the passing of Deborah's mother, Phyllis Logan

Betty Enox at the passing of her sister, Dorothy Lilley

Blanche Johnstone & Jack Hewitt at the passing of their sister & husband, Mary Lou Hewitt

Doris Whinery at the passing of her brother, Albert Dean

Ministry Staff

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pastorwade@fbcnorman.org

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@iheartfbcm

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Chad Smith, Minister of Worship Arts/Music

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Clint Taylor, Minister of Recreation and Community Outreach Ministries

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

Letters to the FBC Family

Dear FBC Family,

My family wants to thank First Baptist for the kindness shown after my mother's passing. We appreciate the food brought by the church and for it's use of the sanctuary for my mother's final needs. She would have enjoyed having the service at First Baptist, a place many years ago she would sing solos when Preacher Hallock preached. Thank you again.

Deborah Fisher
and the entire family

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