February 2017
Volume 13, Issue 7

First Baptist Church
At First Glance

211 W. Comanche St. • fbcnorman.org • 405-321-1753

Fee Based Ministries
Summer and Fall Enrollment

February 2
6:00-7:00 p.m.
FBC Members and current students

March 2
6:00-7:00 p.m.
Enrollment opens
to the public

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

HALLOCK HALL
FOLLOWING WORSHIP
02/05/2017

9:40 A.M. LIFEGROUPS 10:50 A.M. WORSHIP TOGETHER

sweetheart NIGHT

February 24
6:00-9:00 p.m.
Babies – Grade 5
$5 per child

Bring a sack dinner
RSVP by Wednesday, February 22

Dr. Wade Smith

Souper Bowl Sunday is back! On Sunday, February 5, we will come together for one worship service at 10:50 a.m. Afterward, we will join together in Hallock Hall for a delicious homemade soup lunch.

Souper Bowl Sunday is sponsored by our Missions Team as they offer opportunities to learn and respond to World Hunger. This year our Souper Bowl lunch offering will go to Feed the Children as they work locally, nationally and internationally to feed and nurture hungry children. Here's how you can help. First, Worship and Stay for lunch! Second, Give! Lunch is free, so would you consider giving an offering for the cost of a Sunday lunch for you/your family at a favorite restaurant? Third, Bring Soup! Volunteer to bring your favorite homemade soup or chili. And yes, there is a Super game later that day.

The **Who is My Neighbor?** map of Norman is located in the library hallway. We would like to offer a visible picture of where your FBC neighbors live. We invite you (one per household) to place a pin representing the area you live. Over the next weeks we will begin to see how God has placed us in our community. Wouldn't it be wonderful to build relationships with our church neighbors as together, we learn to be better neighbors to our actual neighbors?

Did you know our Upward Basketball ministry impacts about 150 children and their families? Wilson and I are having a wonderful time coaching the 1st/2nd grade Cougars.

On Thursday nights we gather for practice with our six boys to dribble, pass, and shoot. We always take time to huddle for a few minutes to talk about God and pray for each other.

Two of our boys are part of our church family and the others are new friends, some attending other churches, some not. Our games are on Saturday mornings through March 5. You can be part of this ministry through prayer and by coming out to watch a game or two on Saturday morning. Help us welcome these families to First Baptist's FLC.

Finally, the Deacon Banquet is February 26. I appreciate the way our deacons serve our church. Their presence and wise counsel are a blessing to all of us. The annual Deacon Banquet celebrates their service and also provides an opportunity for them to honor those they shepherd. Gay and I look forward to this special evening with our deacons and their guests.

Grace and Peace,
Dr. Wade Smith

Moving forward

January has proven to be a very challenging and diverse month for weather in Oklahoma! Record low temperatures to record high temperatures, snow and ice leading to or preceded by spring like weather. Looking at the trees wanting to bud out and yet looking like they are afraid to move ahead, all seem to be signs of how the weather has affected our worship attendance.

I write this today on the fourth Sunday of the month and while the wind is blowing, many are expressing great gratitude in coming back to be with their family at First!

As you will remember back in November we began talking about Finishing Well Together as it related to year end giving to meet the financial needs of our church. As I write this report, please understand that first and foremost we must celebrate the $304,636.38 given to the financial ministry plan in December. Each and every gift, whether small or large, is a gift to celebrate as God would call us to do.

Roy Joe Ham

You also will remember that our goal for December was $400,000. While some would say that is quite a lofty goal, it was a goal of reality.

I am excited to say that the amount given allowed us to catch up on mission dollars withheld through the year. The reality every year is to be behind when we enter the late year season of giving.

However, this is the first December in the last eight years that December did not catch us up on all expenses. All this to say, we are beginning a new year and a change in our fiscal year with a deficit position, one which you need to be aware.

Wade and I agreed to call a group of your elected administrative committee and deacon chairs, to begin discussions, pray and seek God's wisdom in how to move forward. I would ask we join in prayer for the team. Pray that God would make it abundantly clear how we are called to be the best stewards of His blessing and legacy at FBC Norman.

In moving forward in our discussions, recommendations of next steps will be brought to the church for a final decision. Look for updates as they become available, and for meeting dates scheduled in the weeks to come.

If you have questions about this process, please give me a call or come see me. As when we find our personal lives challenged, I am convinced we will be stronger, more committed, and more unified in our call to ministry on the other side of this.

Please join with me in steadfast prayer, always seeking the face of God, expecting His wisdom to be provided, and His plan made known. Then, in unity, follow that plan together.

February Highlights

To see more events and details, visit our online calendar at fbcnorman.org

1 **MannaFest**
12:00 p.m.
Hallock Hall
$5 donation

5 **Souper Bowl Sunday**
12:00 p.m.
Hallock Hall

Friendship Sunday Supper
4:00 p.m.
Hallock Hall

Clothes Closet
4:30 p.m

6 **Brown Bag Lunch**
12:00 p.m.
Wagner Hall

14 **Valentine's Day**

15 **Foundations Begins**
6:30 p.m.
B27

16 **January/February Birthday Bash**
10:00 a.m.
Koinonia Room

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	37	28				

University Ministry ready for spring

We're well into the Spring 2017 semester and several within FBC's University Ministry eagerly look toward spring break, summer break, and perhaps even graduation. As for me, there are a few things about which I am excited.

The first is our focus on intentional Neighboring, which includes meeting — and sometimes interrupting — the lives of actual people who live around us.

The second thing that excites me is the progress made toward our mission trip to Manchester. Our team has undergone initial training exercises, in which we've practiced sharing our faith stories, and we're currently working on raising funds to help cover associated costs.

Chris Canary

In your personal, family and corporate prayer times, I hope you will remember us. Sending a team of college students to Manchester, England, isn't cheap and preparation is difficult work.

I hope you will consider ways in which you, too, might come alongside to encourage and support these efforts. If you find your imagination is blocked and you're lacking ideas, let's grab coffee or lunch and talk it out!

Open enrollment underway for Worship Arts/Music Ministry

Chad Smith

Worship Arts/Music Ministry open enrollment is underway!

It's a perfect time to join the choir, orchestra, or Worship Team as they begin preparing music for our weekly worship services, Easter, the annual Patriotic Concert in June, and the trip to Italy in July.

Preparations are about to begin for our annual Summer Music Activities for Kids (SMAK) camp in August.

For more information, contact me at chads@fbcnorman.org.

Cost: $130
$60 non-refundable deposit due February 12
Cost includes registration, hotel, and transportation
To register, visit fbcnorman.org
Trip sponsored by the FBC Women's Ministry

CAMP SILOAM
Registration Opens
February 1
Completed 3rd through 5th grades only
Camp Dates: June 5 – 9 Camp Cost: $250
For more information, email crystalb@fbcnorman.org

Deacon Banquet
5:00 p.m.
February 26
Hallock Hall

THE Parent CONNECTION
Parents, look for your weekly email update on Thursday from Rev. Crystal Byrd!

KIDS HOPE USA®

Mentors Needed
Information packets, which includes an application, are available outside the church library

February Birthdays

February 1: Kim Caldwell, Lois Johnson, Jackson Love, Sharron Nelson, Robyn Stapleton
February 2: Crystal Byrd, Donald Carter, Nicholas Carter, Seth Hardage, Jim Jewel, Emily Rehkop, Ralph Wampler, John Wirth
February 3: Elizabeth Beam, Wayne Cockerham, David Glabas, Brenda Goodspeed, Delmer Hardesty, Kate Lefler, Dee Powell
February 4: Kelly Henderson
February 5: Hannahlaine Harris, Jillian Holderby, Maggie Marcum, Debra Skinner, Dale Wade
February 6: Linda Bibb, Kelly Callahan, Jerry Hobbs, Savannah Scott, Otis Smith, David Turley
February 7: Audre' Carter, Dorothy Foster, Susan Williams
February 8: Sage Beck, Angela Cole, Allen Morain, Tiffany Noble, Barbara Pennybaker, Georgette Racolta, Mary Robinson, Tyler Rohring, Rebecca Sigler
February 9: Heather Benedix, Kyle Ferguson, Nikki Kepford, Gale McMurphy, Clint Taylor, Audrey Villani
February 10: Gary Askins, Kathy Bowen, Jack Holt, Phil Moss, Shirley Rider, Mariya Vasileva
February 11: Jessi Rigney
February 12: Justin Davis, Jeff Jimerson, Sally Reist, Fred Vinson
February 13: Donnie Jones Sr., Ben Lane, Julie Mitchell, Anneli Walsh
February 14: Audrey Brumage, Debbie Burchfield, Karlinda Gravel
February 15: Robert Arrington, Patricia Askins, Reba Duncan, Tim Milliron, Sherry Moore, Curren Myers, Garrett Wood
February 16: Jerry Chenoweth, Mindy Deal, Robert Fredericks, Connie Jensen, Sheryl Mitchell, Lundy Prater, P.R. Ramey, Tracy Ratzlaff, Mickey Williams, Beth Windes
February 17: Troy Cheshier, Heather Moore
February 18: Dusty Hill, Don Jonason, Donna Kile, Mike Wilson
February 19: Glenn Foster, Ted Haxel, Frances Lee, Scott Linn, Stacy Lubbers, Allison Valentine
February 20: Helen Floyd, Chris Nott
February 21: Jennifer Baker, Melissa Davis, Kelly Fisher
February 22: Angela Atkins, Russell Cole, Ann Rhea
February 23: Carol Golden, Vickie Kersey, Ashton Seratte, Elaine Tiller, Brady Williams, Cassidy Williams
February 24: Gail Cotton
February 25: Karen Anderson, Kelly Fredericks, Peggy Moss, Sarah Redwine
February 26: Ann Deal, Paul Hopkins, G. Lewis
February 27: Martha Axton, Marilyn Craighead, Myron Cunningham, Brian Diehm, Michael McClure, Doris Perryman, Perry Young
February 28: Lacey Cates, Alan Durham, Kirk Hatcher, Chris Knight, Megan Webb

Letters to FBC

Dear FBC,

Thank you! Thank you! The staff of Dimensions Academy South have very full hearts because of your generosity and kindness.

The food was fabulous, the gifts were amazing and the spirit of love was witnessed.

Please accept our deepest thanks for all that you have done for the students and staff here. Because of you, students who may not have had a Christmas were able to experience some holiday joy!

The staff and students of Dimensions Academy South

Adults 55+ New Summer Tour

Join us in June for the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in Kentucky plus two major league baseball games!

Itineraries available soon.

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

Sympathies

The First Baptist Church family wants ot extend sympathies to:

Family & friends of Lisa Brown at her passing

Family & friends of Elizabeth Parrott at her passing

Jim, Patti, & Adam Drennan and Emily Drennan-Lopez at the passing of Scott Hayes

Charlie & Brenda Gass at the passing of Elmer Phillips

Family & friends of Celia Phillips at her passing

Jim & Vicki Stewart, Matt, Joy Beth, Lynlee & Stewart Robinson at the passing of Margie Bryan

Kathryn Malthaner at the passing of her brother, Phil Sapp

AT FIRST GLANCE (USPS 008-741) is published monthly by the First Baptist Church, 211 W. Comanche St., Norman, OK (405)321-1753. Periodical postage paid at Norman, OK. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AT FIRST GLANCE, 211 W. Comanche, Norman, OK 73069-5698.