



First Baptist Church / 211 W. Comanche, Norman, Oklahoma 73069 / 405-321-1753 / Fax 405-321-2087 / www.fbcnorman.org



appy New Year! The start of a new year is always a good time to remember, reflect, and look to the future. I invite you to take these next weeks to take stock of your life and make any adjustments that you need to make. The Apostle Paul instructs us to *examine ourselves to see if we are living in the faith*. When was the last time you seriously acted upon this instruction? Are you living in the faith that you proclaim?

On January 19 we will begin a worship series entitled *Practice, Practice, Practice.* During the weeks that follow we will explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Using Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline,* we will look to the scriptures to identify the disciplines and practices of Christ-followers. With the 2014 Winter Olympics as a backdrop we will see how athletes practice and prepare themselves to perform their sports at the highest level possible. In the sport's crazed

culture of his day, Paul reminded the early believers that while physical discipline is of some importance, spiritual discipline is profitable for all things. In other words, to benefit from the things of the Spirit, we must practice the things of the

Spirit. The scripture directs us to practice godliness, compassion, kindness, love, hospitality, humility and a number of other spiritual qualities. This "practice" is not about earning your salvation. On the contrary, when you received Jesus as Lord, you were declared righteous in Him. However, this declaration was not the ending, but the beginning of life in Christ. Now, we are called to follow Him daily, working out our salvation by becoming the person He declared us to be. This requires practice! Workouts begin on the 19th.

2014 is the year that we will celebrate First Baptist's 125th anniversary. Founded in 1889, the same year as the Oklahoma Land Run, First Baptist has been a presence for Christ in Norman at Webster and Comanche since 1893. Our Anniversary team is already planning a weekend of fellowship and worship for October 24-26. We are anticipating that many of our former pastors, ministers, and church members will join us. If you haven't already marked your calendar, please take time to do so. It will be a special weekend!

The Annual Sermon is the time I take each year to reflect on our mission as God's People at First Baptist and to share what God is stirring in my heart for the New Year. I will present the Annual Sermon on January 5 in the Classic service and on January 12 at LifeSong. Baptism and the Lord's Supper will be observed at both worship services. Please make every effort to attend. 2013 was a year of transition in some of our ministry areas. The May tornados impacted our church and Family Life Center ministry as we became a hub for volunteer work teams. Ignite has meant relocating offices and classrooms for some and brought an excitement as we look to the completion of construction projects. Our recent conversations about worship have opened the door to consider broader church topics. 2014 is filled with opportunities, challenges, and celebrations as we seek to be and to become the People of God that He is calling us to be. Along the way we will continue to love each other and to share the Good News of Jesus with our neighbors. May God be glorified in our practice and life together!

Grace and Peace, Dr. Wade Smith



From the Pulpit

Annual Sermon: January 5

Classic: Baptism & Lord's Supper LifeSong: Rev. Kirk Hatcher January 12

Classic: Rev. Roy Joe Ham LifeSong: Baptism & Lord's Supper

Sermon Series: *Practice, Practice, Practice, January 19 - March 2, 2014* **January 19**

Practice Makes Perfect January 26 Practice Prayer

January, 2014

All Church News

MARRIAGE REFINED ...A WEEKEND FOR COUPLES JANUARY 24-25

Leaders: former FBC M pastor and wife, Dr. Greg and Priscilla Hunt



Register through the website or church office. \$50 per couple or \$30 for a spouse attending alone. More information? Contact Jim Stewart

THURSDAY JANUARY 14

ou Faculty/Staff/Students Brown Bag Lunch



The

Souper Bowl!

February 2

From Noon to 1:00 in the Wagner Hall Conference Room (Rm 187)

All OU faculty, staff & students are invited to join Brother Wade for a brown bag lunch and fellowship.

Coffee and Conversation: A Time of Fellowship & Bible Study for Women



Saturday mornings from 9-10 at Carol Cawyer's Home, 2400 Northern Hills Road For more information, call the church office.

Begins January 11

Music Ministry

Thank you for allowing us to operate with flexibility regarding worship planning, the printed bulletin, and the implementation of the plan in our Classic service. The aim is to provide important, helpful, adequate information for worshippers and leaders, while allowing for changes and adjustments when needed, all without distraction from the real reason we're together. We've benefited from this flexible working



Don Gilmore Interim Minister of Music and Worship Arts

plan on several occasions during the past 4 months. I've called several audibles. Contrary to what some have thought, this procedure does not represent a lack of planning, but rather an excess of planning so the service itself can flow as smoothly as possible without having to pause and explain why changes are being made. We work hard to plan the service effectively and efficiently, hoping that worshippers will choose to remain engaged with what we're reading, singing, praying, hearing, or pondering. I'll keep working on that.

As you know, our bulletin is now designed for use in both services. We are including announcements and information for the entire church family and are doing so in a more economical manner. In the Classic Service, we'll continue to provide names of the participants and worship leaders on the monitors. The soloists, and the hymns and songs from which we'll select will continue to be listed in the bulletin. The message title, the scripture and a place for sermon notes will be provided.

I would be pleased to visit with any of you personally to provide specific suggestions regarding your specific concerns. I truly do not want your worship experience to be diminished.

> Thanks for letting me serve. Don Gilmore



January 8 at Noon Common Ground \$5 per lunch

REV. DAVID SPAIN

Pastor First Christian Church

Good food and good neighbors in Downtown Norman.

January, 2014

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Family Life Center



Monday-Thursday

8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Friday

Saturday

 FITNESS CENTER ORIENTATION: Mon at 6:00 p.m.

 (Required before using Fitness Center)

 Randy Praytor

 LOW-IMPACT EXERCISE:
 T / Th 10:00-10:45 a.m.

 Parkinson's/Arthritis approved
 Mary Higgins

 PILATES:
 M / W / F 8:00-9:00 a.m.
 Rebecca Darrow

 AEROBICS:
 M / Th 5:20-6:20 p.m.
 Darla Miller

 ZUMBA:
 (FREE)
 Wed 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 Tori Collier

 STROLLFIT:
 M / W / F 9:00-9:55 a.m.
 Sarah Smith

 Fitness for moms, fun for their child.
 Hitter
 Hitter

Call 360-5300 for more information on programs offered at the FLC.



Upward Basketball

<u>Practices</u> are held every M, T & Th evenings. <u>Games</u> are Saturdays starting Jan. 11 and finishing Mar. 1, 2014.

Contra Dancing-January 3

Winter Exercise Programs:

LOW-IMPACT: T / Th 10:00-10:45 a.m	. Mary Higgins
<u>PILATES</u> : M/W/F 8:00-9:00 a.m.	Rebecca Darrow
AEROBICS: M / Th 5:20-6:20 p.m.	Darla Miller
ZUMBA: (FREE) Wed 6:30-7:30 p.m.	Tori Collier



New exercise class for winter! 9:00-9:55 a.m. Meet in the gym on Monday & Wednesday Meet upstairs in the FLC on Friday

<u>Gymnastics</u>



Begins again on Jan. 7.

FLC Holiday Closures: Dec. 31 at 5:00 p.m. Jan. 1 closed all day

FBC Family News

The FBC Family wishes to extend sympathies to...

Carol Chausse and Shane Tooley at the passing of their mother & great grandmother, Grace Moore

Betty Allen at the passing of her mother, Kathryn Brandan Alex & Zandy Allen, Cynthia, Austrud & Paul Reed at the

passing of their wife, mother and grandmother, Ocea Allen

Phil, Peggy, Leslie, Nathan & Haley Moss at the passing of their sister in-law and aunt, Kaye Moss

Jim Yeager at the passing of his brother, John Yeager Carlos, Mary, Jared & Meredith Elwell at the passing of their mother & grandmother, Ethlyn Elwell

Jack & Donna Holt at the passing of their aunt, Bonnie Pappe

Paul, Kellie, Cooper, Carson & Foster Hopkins at the passing of their grandmother & great grandmother, Bernice Davis

Josie Armstrong at the passing of her husband, Gail Armstrong Jerry & Junie Chenoweth at the passing of Junie's sister, Roselan Carr

Letters to the FBC Family

I would like to thank you for the Christmas gifts you helped provide for my children. It helps me out this holiday more than you will know. Thank you very much for your kind act. Sincerely, Brandi Taffies and girls

Thank you church family for prayers, support, cards and compassion! My dad, Reuben, and I attended a meeting five days before his passing, anticipating an Honor Flight to our nation's capital. Yet as my cousin said, "Reuben had a change of orders from higher up – instead of going to D.C. he was to go to J.C." We seek your prayers as we, my Mom and family deal with home/farm/ranch. Ps. 44:1; 22:4-5; 73:26 One of least, Gary, Janet, Matt and Tim Schaffner

Tommy Nakamura's family express sincere appreciation for all the love and kindness shown during Tommy's hospital stay and his passing. Your prayers, visits, cards, flowers and kind words touched our hearts deeply. A special "mahalo" to our Bereavement Committee, Judy Hixson's S.S. class, and other friends for the lovely, abundant lunch served to our large family. Naomi Nakamura

FBC Norman: THANK YOU so much for the sweet reception and Happy Homecoming! It was truly an honor to serve alongside you as your Community Minister! An extension of your love is here in Houston. Thanks again for all of your love and support! Love, Dinah Bolton

Staff Anniversaries This Month

In January we celebrate the 29th anniversary of Jim Stewart, Assoc. Pastor and Adult Minister and the 6th anniversary of Kirk Hatcher, Minister to Youth

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Childhood Ministry

Blessed with a New Year!

Every New Year, people everywhere have a tradition of making resolutions or challenges for themselves. As a family, I challenge you to think about creating a family resolution. Think of one that will help to create a stronger bond within your family life. Here are some ideas:

- Free up your evenings and allow for more free time together
- Family Day of Service once a month
- Morning or evening family devotion/prayer time
- Go outside with your kids, share and enjoy God's beautiful creation together
- Say "I Love You" and "I'm Proud of You" everyday
- Schedule family mealtimes without the distractions of TV, computers, phones, iPads, kindle, etc.
- Create individual dates with each of your children
- Make church a priority on Sunday and Wednesday to enrich your lives with Bible Study and fellowship

Parents Night Out

Kids' Sweetheart Night



Feb. 7, 2014 6:30 – 9:30 PM Birth – Grade 5 \$5 per child



\$15 Family Max

<u>Reservation Required</u> Sign up with Crystal by Wednesday Jan 29

Keep A Look Out!

Don't forget to pick up your Bread Bank for World Hunger. *Return by Feb 2*

Adult Ministry

MARRIAGE REFINED...A WEEKEND FOR COUPLES JANUARY 24-25

Every marriage can be improved. Every relationship requires work, patience and unselfishness. It's a refining process, never a finished project, but always a continuing process.



On January 24-25, 2014, we invite you to join us in a journey to refine and enrich our marriages. It will be our privilege to welcome back to Norman, former FBC pastor and wife, Dr. Greg and Priscilla Hunt. The Hunts are

actively involved in creating a model for healthy marriages and plan to lead us in a Friday evening/Saturday workshop, challenging each couple to use some proven techniques which will enhance their marriage relationship. Friday night includes a snack supper, while Saturday morning offers a continental breakfast.



Child care is also provided by advance request. To register for the weekend, go to our website or register in person at the church office. The cost is \$50 per couple or \$30 for a spouse attending alone. Need more information? Contact Jim Stewart. Space at Common Ground for the workshop is limited, so register early.

NEW CLASS FOR NEARLY/NEWLY MARRIED COUPLES BEGINS JAN. 12

Come join leaders Mike Wilson and Russell and Angela Cole as we begin a new class for Nearly/Newly Married couples on Sunday mornings. This class will focus on stories of the Bible, giving special attention to the marriage relationship. If you are planning to be married, or recently married, we invite you to join Mike, Russell and Angela for Bible study, refreshments and fellowship. N/N Class will meet in Room B-7.

IRON MEN PRESENTS THE RESUMPTION OF I.S.I. BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY MORNINGS

Many of our men will remember the great food, inspirational testimonies and

fellowship with other guys from past years at the "Iron Sharpens



iron Breakfast." New coordinator Dale Wade and his team of volunteers will host us for the next breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 8:00 a.m. in the FLC. Cost remains a nominal \$5 per person. Plan to come and bring a friend to join you. I.S.I. Breakfast will be offered on alternate months, beginning in February.

NEW LETTERS FROM DAD SESSION TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 18!

Coffee and Conversation: A Time of Fellowship & Bible Study for Women

Saturday mornings from 9-10 a.m. beginning Jan 11 at Carol Cawyer's home. Call church office for more information.



January, 2014

Ignite Challenge



and are now ready to face a new year with great, positive anticipation. As we begin anew, I hope that we can look at the past year and celebrate it, learning from both the victories and the challenges that we faced. Consider the losses we experienced and felt, as well as seek to find how God has been at work through it all.

Happy New Year! I pray that each of you has had a wonderful season of Advent and Christmas

Roy Joe Ham Minister of Administration

New Beginnings bring all sorts of opportunities (and challenges) our way. In my experience some of those beginnings I can be excited about and some I am challenged to face. But isn't

that true in life? And yet, without those new beginnings, life would be a challenge to move through. New beginnings give us an opportunity to see God working in new and exciting ways. New beginnings allow us to take a deep breath and gain the strength to take new steps into new opportunities. New beginnings provide us a chance to let bad feelings and grudges be removed and restore relationships. New beginnings allow us to see the sun shine again as new hope arises.

As I reflect on last year, I learned much about new beginnings again through my knee replacement surgery. It allowed me to understand that it is really ok not to be able to do everything the ways I always have. It allowed me to admit my vulnerability in needing assistance and allowing that to happen. It reminded me again that hard work and commitment to recovery is part of life. It allowed God to show Himself in new and fresh ways as He offered His healing hand to my journey of recovery. It allowed me to understand the need and the benefit of quiet time again in the hurried life of ministry.

As a church family, I see God continuing to move among His people in powerful ways. I see grand opportunities for us to experience Him and each other in bright new ways as we enter the New Year. I see His continued hand in your generosity. I see a new breath of desire to grow in numbers, spirituality and

relationships. I see new energy building around the renovation to our facilities, possibly as it renovates our own attitudes and optimism.

I know that we have challenges, both as individuals and as a church family. I hope that we can take a breath, a time of quiet and seek the very face of God together; to understand His desire to bless us and use us. It is my prayer that together we are renewed in this New Year of New Beginnings and that we allow God to work through us together.

> In His Great Peace and Hope in New Beginnings Roy Joe



Youth Ministry

Sunday, February 2, 2014 5:30 p.m., FLC



Krystal Harrington, Youth Ministry Associate, as she begins another semester at OU in a few weeks.

iheartfbcym.com



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Community Ministry

As we look back on 2013, through all the changes and transitions in our community ministry, one thing was constant—your support and compassion for those in need in our community.

In 2013 (as of mid December):

4708 meals served at Friendship Luncheon and Sunday Supper

183 bicycles given to individuals in need of transportation

25 children meeting each week with Kids Hope USA mentors

A bag of food to over 280 families and emergency food bags to about 120 individuals

Meals served each week at Food and Shelter for Friends through our First Friday and Sunday Lunch opportunities

Over 600 individuals getting clothing for themselves and their family

50 families with a basket of food for Thanksgiving

74 elementary children with Christmas presents

Behind these numbers are individuals and families whose lives were improved because you lived out the calling to be the hands and feet of Christ. Continue to be in prayer for God's guidance as we seek to show His mercy and justice in our community this year.

Angela Atkins

Clothes Closet Needs:BlanketsSleeping bagsGloves & hatsCoatsMen's and boys' clothing and shoesSocks

We still need several mentors to work one on one with at-risk students at Lincoln Elementary.

Just one hour a week is all it takes to change a life! Email Angela at kidshope@fbcnorman.org for more information.



Adults+55



Welcome to the New Year!

What's coming up in January?

Health and Fitness Seminar with Michael Wigington January 14

Basic Beginners 9:30-10:15 a.m. Our beginning class will acquaint you with the Family Life Center Fitness Center and basic exercise and wellness tips to begin the New Year. January 14

<u>Intermediate</u>

10:30-11:15 a.m. Our intermediate class will include time in the fitness center and more advanced exercises.

> OKC Museum Madness January 24 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Check at the FLC for a more detailed itinerary.

Coming in 2014 A Gentle Touch Grief Seminar Nanas and Grampies Camp Bluebonnets and Presidents Trip Midwest Baseball and More Arkansas Fall Get-A-Way Grandparents/Grandchildren Adventure Thursday Outreach Playground Pals Community Outreach Mobile Game Days Wednesday Worship Koinonia Outreach Luncheon Telling Your Life Story Workshop Summer Senior Seminary

Make reservations and payments at the FLC Office for all 55+ events and programs.

January, 2014

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Missions Ministry

The Souper Bowl! **On Super Bowl**



Sunday, February 2, we will meet after the morning worship service to enjoy a free soup lunch together.

Each year, our members bring homemade soups to share on Sunday morning. While we enjoy our abundance, we take up an offering for world hunger. There will be offering envelopes provided and you may give during the service or place your offering in the pot at the meal.

Please call the church office to let us know if you will bring a soup on Sunday morning, Feb. 2. 321-1753



Growing In Christ Class Feb 9, 16, 23, and Mar 2 5:30-6:30 p.m. $3^{rd} - 5^{th}$ grade welcome to sign up **Register Today!**

"Sweet Thursdays"

"A New You for the New Year" Thursday, January 16 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. **Common Ground** Join us as Fitness Trainer **Ashley Armstrong** shares nutrition and fitness tips and a portable workout for the new year.

University Ministry

Congratulations to our **CONNECT** college students on the end of a great Fall semester 2013 and the beginning of a great Spring 2014!

spring calendar

February 2 Super Bowl Part'ay March 17-20 Spring Break trip to AR! May 12-15 Finals week extravaganza

<u>UniversityMinistry.com</u> <— Take a gander at what else we are doing on our website.



Belong to a Family

Follow Christ

UNIVERSITYMINISTRY.COM

Sunday

Morning 9:15 a.m. at Common Ground (BYOM Bring Your Own Mug) Sunday Night Thing 5:30 p.m. at church family homes (check the website for the address each Sunday)

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NormanUM facebook. oeya@fbcnorman.org

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Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Worship Services 10:30 a.m. Classic Blend Worship 10:30 a.m. LifeSong Worship Bible Study

9:15 a.m.	Sunday School Life Groups
5:30 p.m.	Pastor's Bible Study, HH
5:30 p.m.	Home Life Groups
	*

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Dinner—Hallock Hall
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/Devotional, HH
6:00 p.m. Youth & Children's Ministries
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Studies Choir & Orchestra

Ministry Staff

Dr. Wade Smith, Pastor pastorwade@fbcnorman.org Jim Stewart, Associate Pastor Education and Family Life jims@fbcnorman.org Joey Armstrong, University/LifeSong Minister joeya@fbcnorman.org @FBCN_UM Angela Atkins, Interim Community Minister communityministry@fbcnorman.org Crystal R. Byrd, Minister to Children crystalb@fbcnorman.org @iheartfbckids Don Gilmore, Interim Minister of Music and Worship Arts musicministry@fbcnorman.org Roy Joe Ham, Minister of Administration royjoeh@fbcnorman.org Kirk Hatcher, Youth Minister kirk@fbcnorman.org @iheartfbcvm Brad Price, Minister of Missions and Graphic Design bradp@fbcnorman.org Vickie Riggs, Pacesetter Minister vickier@fbcnorman.org Clint Taylor, Minister of Recreation and

Community Outreach Ministries clintt@fbcnorman.org

Facilities

Main Church Building 211 W. Comanche 405.321.1753 Office hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Email: office@fbenorman.org Twitter:@fbenorman Web: www.fbenorman.org

Family Life Center 300 W. Comanche 405.360.5300

Common Ground 324 W. Main

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Happy Birthday! Marjorie Lewis, Donna Queen, Judy Spearman

- Marjorie Lewis, Donna Queen, Judy Spearman
 Brad Copelin, Trey Gaylord, Elvis Mahan, Megan Myers, Hope Turley
- 3: Max Murphree, Colonel Richardson, David White
- 4: Maxine Cunningham, Robin Nipper, Arlando Reed, Jordan Reed, Julie Skinner
- 5: Rick Miller, Stacy Strevett
- 6: Sue Overton, Robert Roy
- 7: Joy Satterlee, Buddy Williams
- 9: John Bedwell, Mark Dale, Floretta Logan, Genese McCoy, Haydn McDade, Cynthia Reed
- 10: Conrad Gardner, Melanie Jonason, Jennifer Leber, Kim McDade Torres, Justin Mullinax, Jack Shadle
- 11: Cody Caddell, Rusty Grice, Margues Vontress
- 12: Shirley Haskin, Max Singleterry
- 13: Patti Barr, Johnathan Goebel, Carrol McConnell, Carmen Goodspeed-Sinclair, Courtney Soltero
- 14: Jamie Fields, Shirley Geis, Anita Reed, Don Shandy
- Lauren Axton, Thavory Kchao, Caden Long, Mark Long
 Stephen Durham, Steven Graham, Mary Haning, Alison Horstkoetter, Andrea Neal, Ada Sewell
- Kevin Bloss, Betty Buyten, Alice Coker-Camp, Lynn Foreman, Nancy Roley
- 18: Eli Adams, Byron Tanner
- 19: Sophie Dillon, Jacob Dvorak, Lisa Edge, Mary Elwell, Mary Gorton, Pat McCoy
- 20: Kathy Bills, Luke Davis, Priscilla Fennell, Andrew Marang, Gaitha Milligan, Terry Shaw
- 21: Nicole Antonio, Harry Hopkins, Marva Meador, Aaron Treadway
- 22: Joyce Marley, Cassidy Sullivan
- 23: Francine Barnard, Jordan Blackburn, Kenny Sullivan, Neva Weaver
- 24: Barbara Anderson, Kara Hill, James Hirst, Beth Jackson, Colin Marang, Sheila Myers, Vanessa Trammell
- 25: Milam King, Alan Thrower
- 26: Sallie Kennedy, Wanda Reid, Shanda Scott
- 27: Peggy Alexander, Geary Hunt, John Smist
- 28: Franklin Seratte, Cody Williams
- 29: Sue Brown, Vicky DeLany, Clay Pattison
- 30: John Cole, Becky Leon, Jordan Probst, Sage Rasmussen

Pastor's

31: Joey Armstrong, Jodi Beery, Chris Carlson, Don Farris, Brittney Hall, Caeden Hatcher, Tom James

Bible Study Resumes Sunday, January 12 5:30 p.m.

Hallock Hall

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

Closures: January 1

Wednesday Night Activities Activities resume on January 8



REMINDER: YEAR END

GIVING must be received in the church office on or before close of business December 31, or postmarked by the same date. For your convenience the church office will remain open until 4:00 on December 31.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

January, 2014