



FIRST BAPTIST *At First Glance*

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



Dr. Wade Smith
Pastor

Our *Worship as One* journey continues in April as we move closer to Easter Sunday. Beginning with creation we have considered the *Mighty Acts* of God in Scripture. As April begins, we move into the New Testament to witness the Incarnation—the Word becoming flesh; God with us! Through Jesus the Son, God reveals Himself as completely as possible. Jesus explains to His disciples that when you see Him, you see the Father. So, as we experience the emotions of Holy Week, let us seek to have better awareness and understanding of what God has already revealed through His Son at the cross and empty tomb.

As **Easter Sunday approaches**, let me encourage you to prepare yourself through several worship opportunities. First, continue to be prayerful and present on Sunday mornings. On **Palm Sunday**, Dr. Hulitt Gloer, preaching professor from Truett Seminary, will be our pulpit guest. In addition, our choir and orchestra will lead us in a powerful worship experience called *Tenebrae*. This emotional journey will stir your heart, mind and soul. It will prepare and leave you wanting for a glorious Easter morning. Second, we host the Norman Ministerial Fellowship's **Lenten service** at noon on Wednesday, April 2.

Rev. Doyle Pryor of Bethel Baptist Church will be our pulpit guest. Lunch will be served immediately following in Hallock Hall. Let's be good hosts and welcome our community and Rev. Pryor to worship and fellowship. Finally, make every effort to attend our **Maundy Thursday** and **Good Friday** services during Holy week. These services offer unique worship expressions that invite the Spirit of God to encounter you in meaningful, transforming ways. They will enhance and deepen your Easter Sunday worship.

We are blessed to cooperate and partner with the broad spectrum of Baptist life in Oklahoma. On April 11-12 we will host the Annual Meeting of CBFO. Our worship choir and orchestra will participate in worship Friday evening and there are several interesting break-out sessions and events planned. Let us be good hosts as we welcome CBFO and fellow Baptists from across our state.

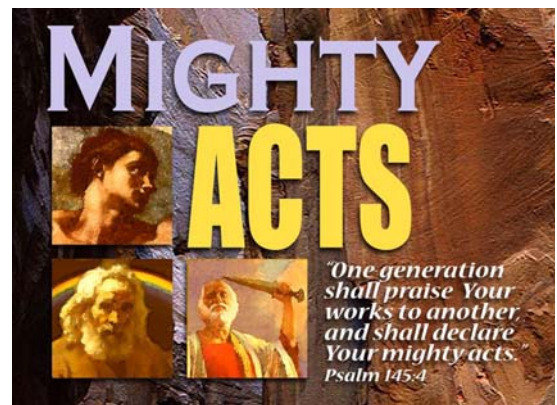
It has been a blessing to watch our **Sunday Supper** ministry continue to grow. Even after canceling several suppers due to weather, word continues to spread about Sunday Supper. We had 30 first time guests at our March supper. In addition to a meal and table fellowship, our clothes closet and food pantry are open for each Supper. Thanks to Angela and the Community Ministry team for all your hard work. Contact Angela if you would like more information about volunteering or simply join us one Sunday for supper.

April is the beginning of our new church year. This means that we begin a new budget year and rotate our committee and ministry team leadership. Thank you to all who served this past year and all who will be serving for the upcoming year. A special thank you to David Hopper who served faithfully as our Deacon Chair. I look forward to working with Harold Brooks as he begins his service as Deacon Chair. Our life together depends upon each of us finding our place of service. Likewise, we all share in the financial stewardship of our church. Thank you for your generosity through your giving to the Ministry Plan (budget), Ignite, and to the special offerings we take throughout the year. Without your faithful tithes and offerings we would not be able to support our ministries, missions, staff, and facilities as needed.

Do you enjoy a good movie now and then? I am struck by the number of movies being released with "Christian" themes. Yes, they are strategically released during the Christmas and Easter seasons, but still, movies like *Son of God* and *Noah* are creating opportunities for conversation and faith sharing. On Sunday, April 6, I will discuss the movie *Noah* during the Pastor's Bible Study at 5:30 p.m. in Hallock Hall. You don't have to see the movie to attend, but you may want to re-read Noah's story in Genesis. I look forward to seeing the movie and discussing it with you.

Thank you for your prayers and comments as we continue to *Worship as One*. The overwhelming response that I have heard is how wonderful it is to be together in worship. This comment has come from members across the generations. It is a comment that recognizes the inherent challenges, but celebrates the joy of being together. **On Sunday evening, April 27, I would like for us to gather together to reflect and share our thoughts on *Worship as One*.** It will be an important time for table conversation and sharing with the larger group as well. Everyone's voice is important as we discern God's work in our midst.

Let us worship the Lord!
Dr. Wade Smith



From the Pulpit

Sermon Series: *Mighty Acts*


April 6
Incarnation

April 13
Tenebrae Service
Pulpit Guest:
Dr. Hulitt Gloer

April 20
Resurrection

April 27
Pentecost

All Church News



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Sanctuary, Thursday, April 17, 5:30-7:00 p.m.



Common Ground, Friday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.

SECRET CHURCH

Sunshine Celebration
Saturday, April 19
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Location: Playground
 Lunch Provided
 Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 Grade 5 & under

Easter Sunday Morning

Sunday, April 20
Easter Morning Worship
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



“THE DAYS OF HOLY WEEK”

THE 2014 LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays, Noon Worship and Lunch (\$5)
 Lenten Offering Recipient:
Food and Shelter for Friends



APRIL 2-FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Guest Pastor: Rev. Doyle Pryor
Bethel Baptist Church



APRIL 9-NORTHAVEN CHURCH
Guest Pastor:
Rev. Joseph Summerville
University Lutheran Church




APRIL 16
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Guest Pastor:
Rev. Alan Sutherland
St. Michael's Episcopal Church



Sunday Mornings 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Worship as One



CBF of OKLAHOMA
2014 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
APRIL 11 & 12
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NORMAN

FRIDAY: Begins at 12:30 p.m.
 Ends with Evening Worship at 7:00 p.m.
The First Baptist Choir and Orchestra will join in worship.
 SATURDAY: Begins at 8:30 a.m. with Continental Breakfast
 Ends with Communion Service at 11:00 a.m.
 www.cbfo.org for complete schedule.

Family Life Center



Hours:

Monday-Thursday
8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday
8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Saturday
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

- **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
- Call 360-5300 for more information on programs.

**The FLC will close at 5:00 p.m.
on April 17 for the
Maundy Thursday Service.**



Thank you to those
who always help make



Public Servant Appreciation Night

one of the greatest ways we show our
love for our community!



Summer Camp Registration!

April 1 Sign-up for church members
and those enrolled in any of
our programs.



April 14 Sign-up for the Community.



Camp information is
available at the FLC
or look for it online.



There is still time to sign-up for

Girls' Getaway.

May 2-3

Sign-up at the FLC.

Don't miss the fun!

FBC Family News

The FBC Family wishes to extend sympathies to...

Marge Morton at the passing of her niece, Jane Ann Gregory

*Omeda Lawson at the passing of her husband,
Marvin Lawson*

*Wanda & R.V. Reid at the passing of Wanda's sister,
Gladys Blair*

*Matt, Joy Beth, Lynlee & Stewart Robinson at the passing
of Matt's uncle, Denny Baker*

*Jim, Josh, Angela, Melissa & Brandon Doull at the
passing of their wife & mother, Nancy Doull*

Letters to the FBC Family

*Thank you, staff and church family for the visits, calls, cards,
food and especially for the prayers during Bear's surgery.*

We appreciate all you have done.

Bear and Hazel and all the Jensen family

*On behalf of Food and Shelter, Inc. I am writing to extend
my gratitude for your donation. Your contribution makes it
possible for us to continue to "provide food, housing and
emergency services for people in crisis in order to improve the
quality of life in Cleveland County." Thank you for believing
in our mission and being such a great friend to our residents
and guests. We could not do this important
work without you.*

*Sincerely, April Doshier, Executive Director, Food and
Shelter, Inc.*

Staff Anniversaries This Month

*Join us as we celebrate the first anniversary of Angela
Marshall as Fine Arts Academy Director and the second
anniversary of Joey Armstrong as University/ LifeSong
Minister*

Sunday, March 30 Fellowship Lunch

**\$2 and bring a salad or dessert
to share.**

Church Business Gathering March 30 after Lunch

**We will approve the 14/15 Budget, Committee/
Ministry Team Leadership and Deacon Nominees**

Childhood Ministry

CROSS-TIMBERS

CHILDREN'S MISSION ADVENTURE CAMP

June 17-20, 2014

Sign up ONLINE beginning April 1
\$140 if you register by May 1
After May 1 registration is \$150

Thank you for supporting me these past 2 ½ years as Children's Minister. I am humbled and honored that you would recognize and affirm my call to ministry. Thank you for this amazing gift! I look forward to all the wonderful times ahead!
Much love to All of My Church Family,
Rev. Crystal R. Byrd

FBC KIDS SLUMBER PARTY!

Who: Grades K-5

Where: Church

Date: April 24 - 25

Time: 7 p.m. – 8 a.m.

Evening Snacks Provided

Bring a sleeping bag

Reservation Required

Reserve with Crystal at

crystalb@fbcnorman.org

Church News

Pastor's Bible Study
Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m.
Hallock Hall

April 6, 13, 27

April 6
"Noah" the movie

April 27
Worship As One

Adult Ministry

NOT TOO LATE TO "SEEK THE CREEK!"

Men, there is still time to join us for golf, fishing fellowship, Bible study and great food at "Seek the Creek" retreat for

men and boys at Falls Creek on April 4-5. Retreat begins at 6:30 on Friday evening and concludes after your chosen activity on Saturday. We're

previewing an awesome new series called "Stepping Up," teaching men how to be courageous in every area of life. Register online or through the church office. Cost varies, depending on dorm or cabin accommodations.



APRIL I.S.I. BREAKFAST SPONSORED BY IRON MEN

Join us on April 26 for our next I.S.I. Men's Breakfast at the FLC at 8:00 a.m.

Cost \$5.00 per person.



"Sweet Thursdays"

Thursday, April 24
7 – 8:30 p.m.

FBC Library – (note different location)

Ready, Set, Read...

Book the date now for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship in our church library. Beverly Theige, from Norman Public Library and church member, will be our guest speaker.

NEW S.S. LIFE GROUP REORGANIZATION COMING SOON! GOOD TIME TO FIND ONE THAT FITS YOU!

Due to the imminent conclusion of our capital project in a few short months and the need to convert some current space being used for adults into space for children's ministry, some of our S.S. Life Groups will be moving to other locations and will feel as if they are getting a fresh, new start. Now would be a great time, if you haven't already, to find an adult Bible study group that fits you! Whether you are looking for a Sunday morning experience on our main campus or a home group on Sunday evenings, there is a special place for you at FBC, Norman. Contact Jim Stewart, Associate Pastor, to explore the possibilities!

Ignite Challenge



Roy Joe Ham
Minister
of Administration

April brings with it a lot of new things to our life both personally and in the life of First Baptist. It provides an opportunity to reflect on the long winter we have experienced, maybe we get to see some neighbors that sought safe harbor of their homes during the colder weather and develop community again. We hope that spring finally becomes a reality. Temperatures are warming and signs of new life are beginning to appear. For some of us, it will be time to prepare our gardens as we plant, water, fertilize and anticipate a bountiful harvest!

In our life at FBC many things new occur in April. It is time to plant, cultivate and nurture as we anticipate a bountiful harvest of what God desires in this place. We celebrate the beginning of a new fiscal year while reflecting on the benefits of the last. Following our church conference on March 30, we will have confirmed our new committee and ministry team leadership, and we begin anew, or maybe better said we continue our new beginnings as we seek the direction of God in our ministries. We begin a new year of continuing a call and understanding of faithful, obedient stewardship in a continuing emphasis to be the people God desires us to be in this place.

April, 2014 also brings much anticipation of the completion of phase one of our Master Facility Plan. It was four years in planning and one year in construction, all engulfed in much prayer and seeking the wisdom and guidance of God in the process. The outcome will be a facility that is welcoming and useful for many years to come. For you who have been speaking with me about inadequate restroom facilities in the east wing we have addressed those as well. This will be a space that removes that reason of not wanting to invite your friends or newcomers to Bible Study with you because you are “embarrassed” by the condition of the space.”

All of this to emphasize it is time! It is time to be positive about the life and ministries of First Baptist Church! It is time to allow God to grow the great work He has started and desires to do in this place! It is time to grow in attendance, membership and support of our ministries! It is time to invite, bring, meet your friends, family and neighbors for Bible Study and Worship! It is time to be excited about what we can see as evidence that God is doing a great work in this place and find your place in it. It is time to catch the vision! It is time...It is time! I invite you to join me in prayer, support and activity as we move into God’s time in this place.

Please join me in this exciting journey. Roy Joe

Pledges	\$3,127,007
Received	\$2,032,620

Youth Ministry

Did you know...

- students helped lead through this year’s Ash Wednesday service, leading children through and helping to monitor each of the stations in the Sanctuary
- a Youth Vocal Ensemble has begun to meet and practice together—be on the lookout for them in worship!
- students continue to ask the difficult questions about their faith! We’re all searching for answers together.

DATES WORTH REMEMBERING!

May 25

High School Graduate Recognition

June 9-13

High School Falls Creek

June 16-20

Middle School Falls Creek

Community Ministry

Thank you for your donations for our apartment ministry, along with your continued support of our food pantry and other ministries!

Want to find a way to serve others in our community? Contact me and we can find a place for you to share your skills and gifts!
Angela Atkins



September 6, 2014

*Friendship
Sunday Supper*

**April 6 and
Easter Supper
on April 20
4:00 p.m.**

FIRST
SUNDAYS
4:30 p.m.
Clothes
Closet and
Food Pantry



THIRD
SUNDAYS
4:30 p.m.
Clothes
Closet and
Food Pantry



Continue in prayer for our mentors and their students as they approach the end of the school year!

Adults 55+

April 3

March and April Birthday Bash Luncheon

If you are a March or April Birthday Baby your lunch is FREE. Join us at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited!
The cost is \$5.00.



April 8

Night Out

Join us for a night out to Amy's in Pauls Valley. The vans will leave at 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$3.00 plus the cost of your dinner.

April 12

Playground Pals

Volunteers are needed to host community families at our playground from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our playground is a tremendous mission field just across the street!

Come pour lemonade, share cookies with the children and their families, and BE THE CHURCH! Sign-up at the FLC for 30 minutes or the entire time.



Coming in May...

May 9

A Day in Dallas

The trip begins at 7:00 a.m. and the first stop is the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum located on the campus of Southern Methodist University. You will have the chance to purchase lunch at Celebration

Restaurant, one of the Food Network's top ten home

cooking restaurants in the country. The afternoon includes a tour of the Museum of Biblical Art. The group returns to Norman at approximately 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$72 plus lunch on your own. Transportation is by motor coach. Sign-up early!



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

Music Ministry

Tenebrae

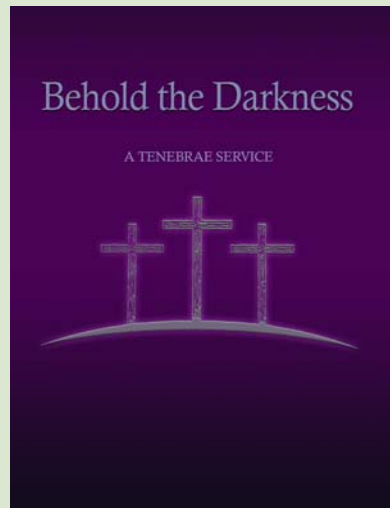
Any well-written musical work employs a wide range of dynamics (louds and softs.) Contrasts make the louds louder and the softs softer. Likewise, it's important for Christians to enjoy the full range of emotions of Holy Week. Too often, we put all our eggs in the Easter morning basket (pun intended) and only celebrate the fact that, "He is risen!" There is nothing wrong with that, but if we spend appropriate time remembering and actually feeling the passion of Christ – the agony of the cross - we can more greatly celebrate His resurrection.

On Sunday morning, April 13, Palm Sunday, the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra will present *Behold the Darkness*, a tenebrae musical by Benjamin Harlan. A tenebrae service, by definition, is a service of shadows. The work will last 28 minutes and will be part of our morning worship service.

The presentation will be meditative and reflective; no one will go out whistling the tunes. Worshipers will be led to the cross and to the tomb. As the candles are extinguished during the presentation, the approaching darkness symbolizes the flight of the disciples, the arrival of Jesus' enemies and his ultimate suffering. Total darkness reminds us of Christ's death and his burial. Musical selections are simple and brief. The narration is directly from the scripture. All will be encouraged to leave the darkened Sanctuary in silence.

Your exuberant celebration of the resurrection on Easter Sunday morning will be heightened by having experienced this meaningful work.

Don Gilmore



University Ministry

University Scholarship applications are available this month! Go by the church office and pick one up. The deadline is April 30.

The University Ministry went on a camping trip to Arkansas for Spring Break. It was an amazing time of spiritual renewal, community building and rest. Thank you to all who prayed for our students!

CONNECT University Ministry would like to thank Ron and Kay Mercer, Jill Hatcher, Andrea Windes, Allison Taylor and the Walking in the Word Sunday school class, for providing lunch to college students on Thursdays during March. You are feeding their bellies and in-turn feeding their souls.

UniversityMinistry.com

Take a gander at what else we are doing on our website.

Missions Ministry

DURING THE EASTER SEASON PLEASE GIVE TO THE NATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERING...

FIRMLY PLANTED

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL

**PARKING MINISTRY FOR
NORMAN MUSIC FESTIVAL
APRIL 24-26**

If you would like to volunteer to help with parking on these dates, please contact the Church office. Proceeds will go to the Music Ministry and Missions Trip Support.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Worship

10:30 a.m. Worship as One

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. Fellowship Meal, Hallock Hall
 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, Director of Community

Ministries
 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
 @iheartfbcym

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@fbcnorman.org
 Twitter: @fbcnorman
 Web: www.fbcnorman.org

Family Life Center

300 W. Comanche
 405.360.5300

Common Ground

324 W. Main

Happy Birthday!

- 01: Jaynee Bell, Paul Hawkins, Glen Hubbel, Buzz Jensen, Brad Price, Jim Stewart
- 02: Jo Ann Anthony, John Bills, Wanda Curry, Josh Edge, Lillian Hall, Hazel Jensen, Doug Upchurch
- 03: Ann Borden, Grant Cherry, William Windes
- 04: Michelle Lefler, Mike Morris, Karen Murphy, Marley Rogers, Deena Standfast
- 05: Roy Brown, George Landreth II, Jo Looney, Cathy Storm, Lauren Weatherholt
- 06: Neal Bradley, Bennett Diehm, Bryan Porter, Jana Robins, Steve Vishanoff
- 07: Dan McMillen, Jay Turley
- 08: Sarah Adams, Gracie Branch, Marcus Dollard, Scott Rigney, Stormy Theiss
- 09: Buddy Combs, Janet Harp, Sandy Jimerson, Ginger Shockley
- 10: Trish Foor, Bret Stacy
- 11: Kathy Ferguson, Jonathan Storm, Joshua Storm
- 12: Darian Cheshier, Teagen Foster, Justin Turley, Jayden Vontress, Lori Wright, Joel Yording
- 13: Chelsea Brummer, Patti Drennan, Kort Nicholson, Barbara Stone
- 14: Mell Strunk, Freda Williams
- 15: David Brown, Jim Doull, Bea Luther, Chloe Tadlock, Don Thompson, Mary Varner
- 16: Kendall Cunningham, Samantha Littleton
- 17: Fern Cockerham, Marcia Farris, Becky Graham
- 18: Steve Carlson, LaRita Couch, Steve Gorton, Jack Green, Britt Hatcher, Marie Keeling
- 20: Lee Borden, Ann Hodges, Janette Ketchum, Connie Smith
- 21: Scott McGowen
- 22: Cecilia Bradley, Jordan Williams
- 23: Betty Allen, Shawn Badgett, Georgia Barnard, Judy Chowins, Gloria Murray, Olivette Sanders
- 24: Penny Buchanan, Lindsay Rice
- 25: Reva Fithian, Wilma McMurphy, Dale White
- 26: Sandy Dismukes, Emily Drennan, Melissa Dyer, Harold Emery, Durwin Gaither, Erica Wirth
- 27: April Sandlin, Timothy Schaffner
- 28: Jon Christian, Christine Ernest, Mona Gardner, Brandi Long, Dennis Swing, Phil Webb, Dorothy Wyatt
- 29: Dolly Berry, Christine Dodd, Kenneth Hudson, Kelly Marcum, Megan Milsap, Patricia Morgan, Fleeta White, Kathryn Wiyninger
- 30: Conan Clough, Annette Meyers Dollard, Alyssa Seratte

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

ADULT MINISTRY...WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

It's a new believer sharing God's Word with his new friends. It's the generosity of providing a hot meal. It's a faithful teacher studying for her lesson the next morning. A young couple soaking up the riches of marriage enrichment. A group of men giving their Saturday morning to help a widow repair her roof. It's women sharing decorating ideas, while they also share the challenges of life. Men writing letters of blessing to their families. Families retreating with each other, seeking God, making new friends. It's new members or prospects describing how their journey has led them to FBC Norman.

Adult Ministry is all of these and much more. It embraces worship, study, fellowship, service. It connects us at the *head* level, but also the *heart* level. It stretches us by *servicing*, as well as *being served*. Adult Ministry is the fabric of life together in Christ. As we have been blessed, so we bless others. We are better husbands, wives, employees, employers, friends, neighbors, students and teachers...both because we have been beneficiaries...and because we serve in the name of Christ. Where are you in this process? Are you *receiving*?...then be *grateful*. Are you *giving*?...then be *faithful*. Our church resources make it all available to you through Adult Ministry.