May 2017 Volume 13, Issue 10

First Baptist Church At First Glance

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



What Shall We Do? was the question asked of Peter and the apostles after they proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ on Pentecost Sunday. The first chapters of Acts tell the story of what the early church did. They preached a message of salvation and lived out their faith together in community. As a result, the Spirit of God worked in a wonder-filled and awe-inspiring way. This question is still relevant for those who hear and follow Jesus today. Over these next weeks of worship, we ask the question, *What Shall We Do?* May the Spirit of God direct our paths as we look to the early church and seek answers for ourselves.



Dr. Wade Smith

May is a special month as we celebrate the

accomplishments of our college and high school graduates. On Sunday, May 28, we *Worship Together* at 10:50 a.m., recognizing our high school graduates and their families. Please take time over these next weeks to sign the Graduate Gift Bibles located in the church library. These Bibles are a very personal way that we bless and encourage our graduates as they transition from high school.

First Baptist will host the annual Norman Baccalaureate worship service Sunday, May 21. A special thanks to Rich Lubbers for taking the lead in coordinating this opportunity for us to host this community celebration.

Mother's Day Sunday, May 14, will be a wonderful day of worship and fellowship for First Baptist. Some will have the blessing of worshiping with their mothers. Others will cherish memories of their mothers. We will gather in Hallock Hall for a special Mother's Day reception between 9:15-9:45 a.m. Worship will be at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

Mother's Day weekend will be a special time for the Smiths as we travel to Waco to celebrate Morgan's graduation from Baylor University. Thank you for your support and encouragement of Morgan as she finishes this journey. It is hard to believe these four years have passed so quickly.

Church Conference on Sunday, April 30, will be an important day for First Baptist. The Stewardship Study Team (SST) was asked to review our Ministry Plan/ Budget and make a recommendation to reduce our Ministry Plan to better reflect our actual receipts and finances. The process and implementation of "right-sizing" our budget is a difficult journey. I am thankful for those on our SST and standing committees who are offering their wisdom through this process. Join me in prayer as we prepare for the 30th.

mannafest

KELLY HENDERSON

LEMKE LAND SURVEYING

MAY 3 NOON SPEAKER

HALLOCK HALL

COST: \$5

It is God's time and season in life at FBC

As I write this article I continue to be blessed with the abundant generosity you have shared through the first quarter of this year.

As I consider the definition of generosity — the quality of being kind, understanding, not selfish and generous, especially showing a willingness to give money to others — it all describes your actions through the first quarter of 2017. This is an extension of your long-standing willingness to give back in your tithes and offerings from that given by God.

Since my arrival in 2008, the first quarter giving has always led to challenges of expenses over receipts. This year, we have claimed a slight advantage on that and completed the quarter receipts over expenses and began impacting our recorded deficit.

That requires a great expression of gratitude to you, but also to God working in and through you. As we have attempted to adequately inform you, we have had some challenging years as it has been



Roy Joe Ham

reflected in budget giving not meeting our annual expenses. Now is the time to right-size our ministry plan and all that means.

As reported in our March church conference, the Stewardship Study Team has worked long and hard to consider how to appropriately get our expenses more in line with the receipts of your generosity. This has led to many long meetings, lots of seeking God's wisdom and direction and I am grateful for all those who have committed to this hard work.

On Sunday, April 30, in our church conference, there will be an initial report from this team. Please be in prayer as we hear the report and follow up with recommendations for the future.

I fully believe that this is God's time and season in the life of FBC Norman, and look forward to seeing the many ways He will continue to minister in and through us. Let us be found faithful in our prayers for the SST and in hearing their report on Sunday.

It is a privilege to serve together with you.

EVERYONE INVITED!



THERE ARE STILL A FEW MORE SPACES!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL VICKIE RIGGS AT VICKIER@FBCNORMAN.ORG

May Highlights

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

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



MannaFest

12:00 p.m.

Hallock Hall

11:30 a.m. FLC Conference Room

3

6

Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. FLC



Sign-Up Now for Vacation Bible School July 10-14 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Ages 4 through grade 5

Sign-up on the second floor children's area or church office

Lincoln Teacher Appreciation Night 6:00 p.m. FLC

Mother's Day Reception 9:15-9:45 a.m. Hallock Hall Two Services 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Sanctuary

9 Sr. Seminary with Mack Roark 9:30 a.m. FLC



CarePortal Update

In February, CarePortal went "live" in Cleveland County, kicking off our chance to help more families and children in need in our community.

CarePortal is a tool that connects our church and other local churches to children and families in crisis. Child welfare workers identify needs for their clients in Cleveland County and use this tool to email churches and their members to see if someone can help meet this need.

Already our church has been able to provide a bicycle for a father, as well as a set of bunk beds, bedding, and pest control for another family. Other churches have helped with car seats, a trundle bed, and funds for extra activities for children.

Requests come in weekly and I have been so encouraged by your eagerness and willingness to help already. Remember we are all in this together, both as a church and as a community of churches.



Angela Atkins

There may be times when you cannot respond, or another group fulfills the need before you see the email, or you become depressed reading about yet another child or family in crisis.

Please do not be discouraged.

CarePortal allows us to work together as a body of Christ to help others and to learn this process together. Take time to pray for each request you see and the family it represents.

Reply back to the email you receive if you can help meet the need and our point person will be in contact with you. This will be an on-going ministry with many opportunities to help make a positive impact in the lives of these children and their families.

Thank you so much for sharing your compassion and gifts with others in our community.

Planning for SMAK Camp 2017 is underway!

Registration opens May 1 for Summer Music and Activities for Kids (SMAK), a day camp full of fun music and activities for children ages completed kindergarten through completed fifth grade. The registration deadline is July 10.



Chad Smith

This year's camp will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. August 7-11. The SMAK musical will be presented at 7:00 p.m. Friday, August 11, and 10:50 a.m. Sunday, August 13. Both performances will be in the Sanctuary. A reception will be held in Hallock Hall following Friday evening's performance.

During the week the kids will learn the full-length space-themed musical "Star Quest" that will include far out music, drama, and choreography. There also will be a daily Bible story and each afternoon we will load up for fun activities such as swimming, skating, and bowling.

All campers need to dress comfortably as we will be very active during the week. Campers will also need to bring a sack lunch daily. Drinks and snacks are provided.

As with any event of this size many volunteers are needed to help make it successful. There are volunteer opportunities available with registration, choreography, costuming, set design and construction, food service, group leaders, props, drama, and music.

To register or to volunteer, visit fbcnorman.org or register in the church office.

For more information, contact me at chads@fbcnorman.org or call the church office at 321-1753.



MEN'S BREAKFAST Saturday, May 6 Family Life Center Speaker: Kris Steele, Executive Director of TEEM, a nonprofit dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and incarceration



Block Party

Sunday, April 9, First Baptist Church hosted the First Family Block Party. The familyfriendly afternoon featured a car show, petting zoo, inflatables, face painting and community Easter egg hunt. Thank you to all the individuals who made the party a success. "The block party is a way to have a safe environment for families, introduce them to the church and be good neighbors to the community," Clint Taylor, minister of recreation and community outreach, said.

May Birthdays

Wood

May 1: Sharron Davault, Betty Gatewood, Grace Singleterry May 2: Sam Kirk, Titus Haworth, David Hopper, Rich Lubbers, Mason Mungle May 3: Chad Copelin, Pat Walker May 4: MariLyn Beaney-Kelly, Suanne Carlson, Donna Hammons, Lisa Jordan, Maci Roesler, Grant Wade May 5: Ike Allen, Cole Edge, Chase Schwabe, Andrew Walsh May 6: Sandra Boger, Jeff Hager, Kori Horner, Ruben Lopez May 7: Logan Lassetter May 8: Benjamin Dustman, Nicole Rowlette, Lillian Thomas, Betty Wolfard May 9: Christopher Brooks, Bob Christian, Don Gilmore May 11: Jacob Crissup, Bill Hardage, Jon Seratte, Richard Sigler, Kay Wallace, Michael

Zellmer **May 12:** Becky Holladay, Kate Parrish **May 13:** Alex Antonio, Audrey Base, Grace Dwyer, Erin Finley, Shea Fredericks, Cecilia Maruri, Erin Schier, Tinsley Arnold, Suzanne Cheshier, John High, Rebekah Law, Luc Lubbers **May 15:** Dylan Odell-Kesteron **May 16:** Chelsea Crider

May 17: Christian Gill, Lydia Jorgenson, Gary

May 18: Tammie Haworth, Robbi Mullinax May 19: Konner Bloss, Dylan Hatcher, Jill Hatcher, Del McGowen, Jose' Nava, Anne Pierce May 20: Isaac Akram, Charles Atkinson Sr., Wilma Black, Sharon Hoskison May 21: Dot Adkins, Cheryl Alexander, Barbara Cole, Tyler Farris, Russell Hayes May 22: Chelsea Duke, Azam Hakim, Richard Ramsey, Betty Sullivan May 23: Betty Enox, Florin Racolta, Karen Reddell, Marcia Roe May 24: Victoriya Lester, Kat Roberts, Marge Worten May 25: Nona Argo, Raymond Foor Jr., Mona Roberts May 26: Kaydence Green, Carol Kellison, Summer McGuire, Debbie Smith May 27: Derek Alexander, Sean Massengale, **Catherine Strevett** May 28: Jarred Elwell, Glenna Huddleston, Craig Long, Nolen Morgan, Trace Redwine, Hunter Turley, Andrea Windes May 29: Kayla Cox, Alex Foster, Mary Lee Gossett, Anne Lawrence, Joanna Storm May 30: David Thacker May 31: Lori Couch, Patrick Davis, Kole

Hudson, Miranda Williams

Letters to FBC

Dear First Baptist Church,

January of 2014 there was a fire at the Alpha Gama Delta House which destroyed the lives of the women living in the house and the meeting place for the sorority.

We are so grateful for the church

allowing us to meet at Common Ground on several occasions over the two and a half years.

> Thank you so much, The Women of Alpha Gama Delta

Sympathies

The First Baptist Church family wishes to extend sympathies to:

Wayne & Fern Cockerham at the passing of Wayne's sister, Marilyn Ballard

Ike & Delores Allen at the passing of Ike's brother, Howard Allen

Chris Canary at the passing of his grandmother, Patricia Anne Henson

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