

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



First Baptist Church - Fairfield Glade

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www.onhisrock.org



- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2/4 Larry Allen | 2/13 Carol Thames |
| 2/5 Daniel Beasmore | 2/15 Bill Andrews |
| 2/5 Frances Anne Ogletree | 2/17 Tim Allen |
| 2/6 Carl Bell | 2/17 Kayleen Andersen |
| 2/6 Wesley Klennon | 2/21 John Borton |
| 2/6 Tom Tollett | 2/22 Sara Rosemary Iles |
| 2/7 Wanda Holcomb | 2/22 Patty Zanone |
| 2/7 Alice Meyers | 2/23 Barry Bouchillon |
| 2/8 Teresa Borton | 2/24 Karla Baumgartner |
| 2/9 Pete Soroka | 2/24 Ken Harrison |
| 2/10 Ruth Farquhar | 2/24 William (Dub) Pierce |
| 2/10 Michael Smith | 2/27 Ken Schrichte |
| 2/12 Ed Lowery | 2/27 Safondia Tumulty |
| 2/13 Lucy Kaufmann | |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2/1 Larry & Sharon Allen | 2/7 Tony & Alice Meyers |
| 2/2 Fred & Linda Schaffer | 2/14 Mike & Gerri Bojanzyk |
| 2/5 Michael & Lisa Smith | 2/17 Fred & Joyce McCormack |
| | 2/26 Ralph & Judy Davis |

THE PASTOR'S TWO BITS

Church planting -or- starting new churches - has been one of the main goals in Southern Baptist life for over a decade. Our International and North American Mission Boards train new pastors and missionaries to plant new churches wherever God might send them.

In an article published by NAMB a few years ago, David Jackson noted some reasons why we should focus on church planting. These are some of his points:

- All the research shows that **church plants grow faster and better than older churches**. In fact, studies show that, on a per capita basis, churches less than 3 years old reach on average at least three times as many people with the gospel.
- **Vision**. Church plants start with a positive vision ... When churches lose their “vision” of what God wants to do through them, they often drift—simply “doing church” from week to week.
- **Focus**. New churches realize they can’t do everything... Out of necessity, they are forced to be sharply focused on “the basics” of evangelism and discipleship.
- **Budget and Time Priorities**. Because of this vision and focus, new churches are able to build their budget and calendar around the needs for evangelism and discipleship.
- **Relational**. Church plants are people-driven. They are not focused on programs or procedures or structures. Instead, one of their great strengths is the attention and care they can provide to each person who comes their way... As a result, the congregation is able to focus its attention on newcomers and the unchurched.
- **Need to Succeed**. Finally, let’s state the obvious: Church plants realize their future ultimately depends on their success in reaching others with the

Good News. If people aren’t reached for Jesus, finances sooner or later will dry up, partnerships will dissolve, and vision will fade... Churches with assets and long histories can easily forget what is so obvious to new churches: If we’re not growing, we’re dying.

These are just a few possible reasons church plants grow so effectively. While some of these elements may not seem feasible or even compelling to existing congregations, each of them still merits our attention. The question is not “What are we doing?” but “Why and how should we do it?”

The answer we give to this question will have far-reaching—maybe even eternal—ramifications.

Church planting is a good thing. In fact, if a new Southern Baptist church were to start here in the Glade, it would likely take off pretty well. After all, according to statistics, there are several thousand unchurched people who live here. So why not start a new church with all the energy and vibrancy that goes with it?

-OR-

Why not be that church? Church planting can be very inefficient. God’s resources can either be spent on new meeting space, new staff, new overhead expenses -or, another possibility- a good, viable, strong, existing church with a seasoned staff and paid-for building (YEAH!) could get excited about reaching into its community just like a new church would. It could decide to knock on doors and invite new people and do discipleship and welcome new members and embrace a new vibrancy and vitality and all the things that a new church plant would do. Wouldn’t it be cool to start a new church -OR- call it Fairfield Glade First Baptist Church? Hmm... catchy name ☺

-Pastor Doug

Piece Corp - Quilters

Tuesday's @ 9:00am



***Soothing
Souls***

***Every 4th Tuesday
@ 1:00 pm***

Joy (part 3) - The Joy of the Christian

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4 [ESV]

When Jesus left His disciples, after being raised from the dead and spending some time with them, He did not leave them to face the world alone. On the day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to indwell all who accept God's free gift of eternal life. The Holy Spirit still continues His ministry among us. For all who confess with their mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in their hearts that God raised Him from the dead, God writes that believer's name in the Lamb's book of life. At that moment the Holy Spirit makes that person into a new creation, indwelling them for the rest of their earthly life. God's many promises to that new believer are now secured by the Holy Spirit. Believers now have something to look forward to... something to help look beyond the sufferings that must be endured. Paul describes what our conduct should look like when we are living our lives in response to the direction of the Holy Spirit: "love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." If we are living obediently to the will of the Holy Spirit and God's Word, we will not only experience joy, but also produce and promote joy. We will be extraordinarily contagious, oozing joy – secreting it everywhere we go, infecting everyone around us! However, if we are disobedient, if we have chosen to enthrone another in God's rightful place in our lives, whether those are things, addictions, others, even ourselves, then we're not living by the Spirit and cannot bear the Spirit's fruit. At least not until we agree with God concerning our sinful state and begin, again, to submit ourselves to His authority. We must behave as King David did thousands of years before when he confessed his sin to God and asked God to return the joy that God provided through salvation! Could it be that somehow, the measure of our joy correlates to the measure of our suffering? James wrote "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds." Could it be that our faith reveals itself in the form of assurance AND in the form of endurance through our trials? And, could it be that joy comes into being when, by faith, we stand firm on God's promises and endure the trials in which He places us? The joy of the Christian must be a combination of hope and strength to fight the good fight and finish the race! This is the joy of the Christian, which is founded on the joy of Christ, which began on that blessed night when the angel announced the birth of our Savior, Jesus, the "Joy of Christmas!"

Let's strive to live differently, in love, grace, forgiveness, kindness, and mercy so that the lost may see Jesus through us. And let us work, reach, and grasp the unity that our Lord Jesus prayed for in John 17!

-Pastor Elliot

Commit your works to the LORD, And your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3

COMFORTING WORDS

This signage project for the Columbarium started with Jay Dingee when he and Mary Lee were still here with us.

Jay and I met over the decision of which verses to use that would be meaningful to folks who have lost a loved one.

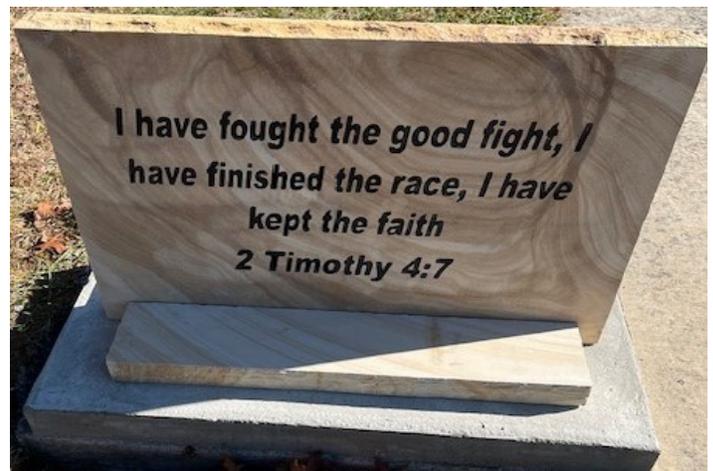
Jay requested quotations on signs but the project just did not get finished while he was still here. He also made donations to the Columbarium fund to pay for this project.

After he left we continued the project by walking through Cemeteries looking at tombstones to figure out what was the best font size and style. The size of the signs was changed to a smaller version stone slab with verses on both sides-Kayleen's idea.

Jim Botbyl worked with me on the stone slabs and arranged for them to be donated by Silvara Stone. He also helped find the folks who poured the foundations and transported them to the church, along with locating the engraver who did a fabulous job plus helped setting them in their final locations.

So there were several people involved that made this project happen but it was Jay's vision that started it all.

Please walk up to the Columbarium and read the verses going up and then the verses returning and hopefully you find them comforting.



Walkway to Columbarium

*"I am the resurrection and the
life. The one who believes in
me will live, even though they
die"*

John 11:25

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall
not want
Psalm 23:1*

*I can do everything through
Christ who strengthens me*

Philippians 4:13

*I will never leave you nor
forsake you*

Joshua 1:5

*I can do everything through
Christ who strengthens me*

Philippians 4:13

*I will never leave you nor
forsake you*

Joshua 1:5

Stewardship Moment – We Did It!

It looks like we will have our mortgage paid off before the Jan 25th payment! It is absolutely amazing to see how this church came together to meet our goal. Thank you, Jesus!

Also, I hope each of you is enjoying the new LED sign. If anyone is interested in being on the team to maintain the sign contents, please contact Bill Foley at billfoleyretired@comcast.net.

Now is the time to consider how you break up your tithe. With the mortgage getting paid off, you can now assign more money to the General Fund. Keep in mind that we are maintaining the Building Fund open and will use any money collected to do repairs, etc.

The focus in 2024 is to grow the church and to reach our General Fund goal. Please be in prayer as to how you can help us achieve those goals. God is Great (and you all are wonderful)! Our Team is looking forward to celebrating with the church this accomplishment!

God Bless!

Stewardship/Finance Team

GAME NIGHT

Thursday, February 15

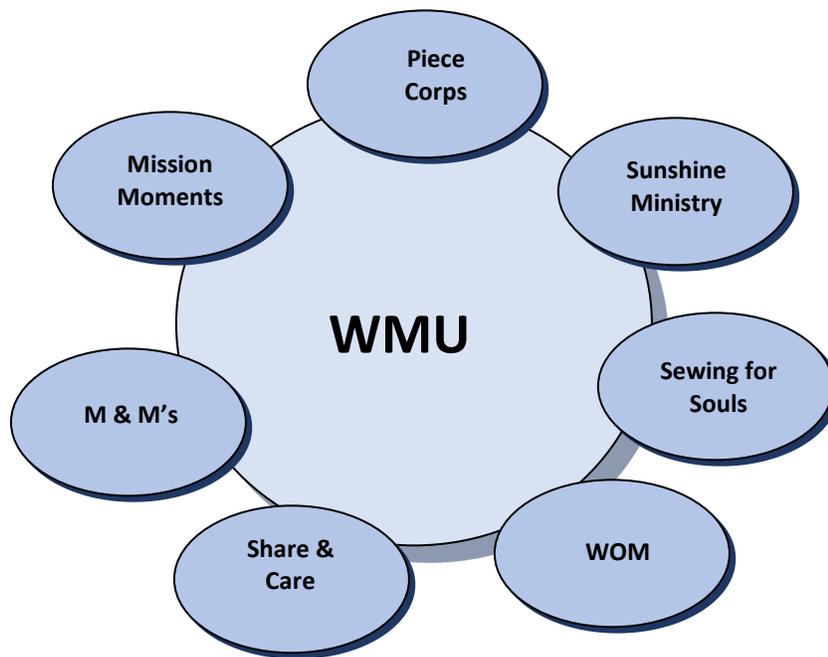
5:00-7:00 pm

Please bring a cold or hot dish to share.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you have any questions please contact Carol Thames.



What is the WMU?

The WMU is composed of ladies in the church who keep the congregation informed about Southern Baptist Missions through special offerings, mission moments, meetings and announcements. The WMU helps coordinate all mission and ministry involvement through a variety of activities that help women fulfill Christ's mission in their lives.

Did you know the WMU is looking for a leader?

If you feel led to lead this group or just want to join us in this ministry please contact

Blanche Putnam 727-207-0422 or

Janice Botbyl 931-260-4173

Save the Date!!!!



Tea For Sure in '24

What Date??? **Saturday, March 9**

You are invited to a "Tea For Sure in '24".

What Time??? **2PM**

Where??? **Fellowship Hall**

Who's Invited??? **YOU - MEN & WOMEN; Married and Singles**

Have you ever been to a Tea? Well, here's your chance. Come see what's it's all about and

enjoy wonderful refreshments. (And for those of you who really do not like tea, we'll even have coffee and water.)

And then as a special treat: the afternoon will be topped off with singing by Danny Funderburk, one of the most distinctive voices in all of Gospel music. ** Think about "hosting" a table this year.

More details and signups will begin in February.

Remember, EVERYONE MUST SIGNUP and get a ticket

So come join the Fellowship and Fun on Saturday, March 9!

Intercessors Prayer Group

You are invited to attend

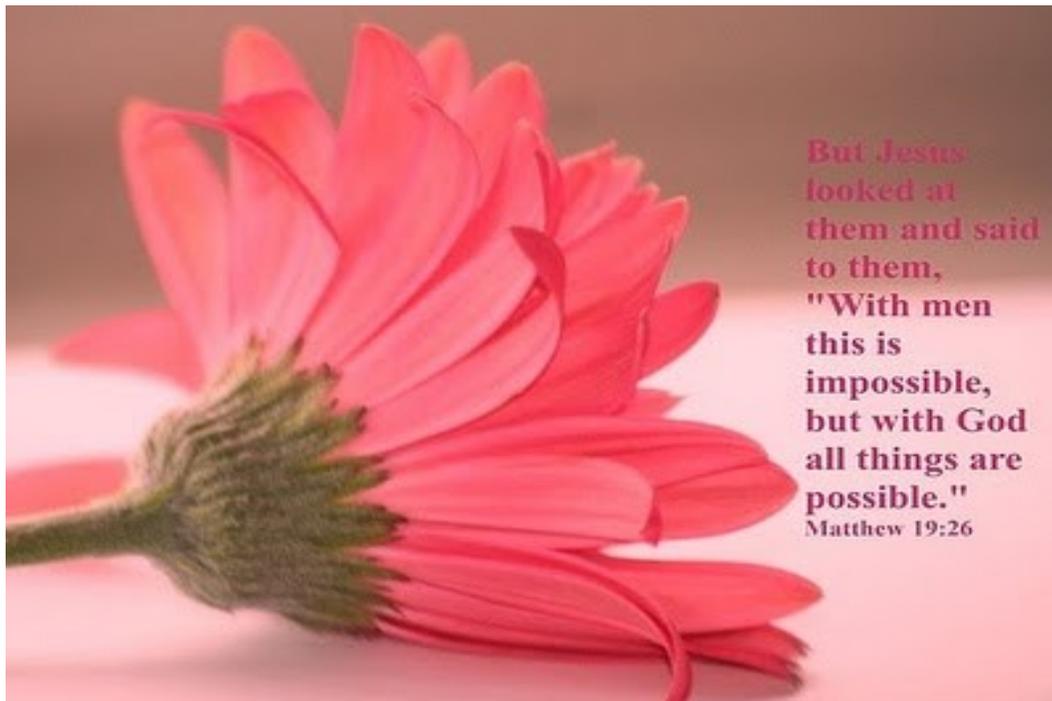
In Room 120

Wednesday's at 10:00am

Mrs. Janice Botbyl has answered the call to facilitate the

Intercessors Prayer Group

There is a Prayer Box available on the credenza at the main entrance of the church where you may place your prayer request.





GOODIES !!!!!

We're wanting to be more inviting to our guests and visitors as well as our members.

The Goodie Ministry needs you !!!!

Please sign up to bring Goodies on Sunday mornings to share.



God's Girls is a new women's ministry in our church and we would love to have you!!

Usually about once a month our group of ladies will meet up for a time of fellowship. Sometimes it will be an event inside the church and other times we will meet and do something together outside of the church. This month a group of

us went together for a beginner's water painting class and the month before we had a cookie exchange here at church. The best is that you don't have to attend all of the events. You can pick only the ones you want. If you are interested in becoming part of the mailing list to keep up on the current events, please call or email Kelly Kearney at 845-234-3846 kewa13@yahoo.com or Safondia Tumulty at 360-640-2892



It's Time!!!

**Yes, it's time to sign up for 3x3
Dinner Groups.**

**Watch for signups to begin in
the church lobby.**

**Groups will be assigned by the
beginning of March for
March, April and May.**

Each quarter you will be assigned a "new" 3x3 group for the next quarter.

**December will be a Christmas Get Together with everyone
participating together.**

Lots of fun and fellowship and very little work for any one couple.

**This fellowship is open to everyone – married couple, dating couples,
and even singles.**

**If you are single, just find another single to be the
other half of your team!**

**Be sure to sign up in our church lobby before, between or after
one of our Worship Services in February.**

**If you are one of our "snowbirds," please may contact Cass Lowery
(edandcasslowery@gmail.com or 609-364-8016) call the church office and
someone will get back to you.**

***So what's stopping you. Give it a try. You'll have lots of fun and
fellowship and actually get to know one another!***

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY. EXPANDED EDITION

OVER 500,000 COPIES SOLD

30 DAYS TO UNDERSTANDING

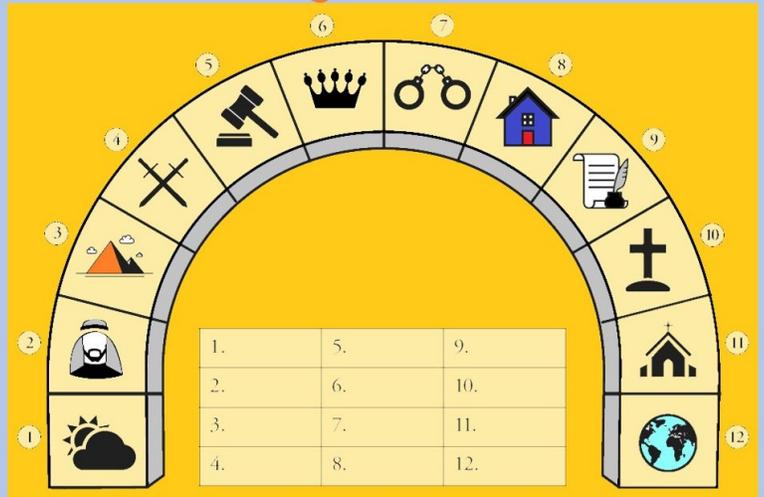


THE BIBLE

UNLOCK THE SCRIPTURES
IN 15 MINUTES A DAY

MAX ANDERS

New Discipleship Class Beginning January 7th



Sunday Evenings @ 6:00pm



NEEDED: Your smile and a helping hand to greet all persons and hand out bulletins as they enter on Sunday mornings.

Also direct anyone needing to know where a specific Sunday School class or the Nursery is.

If you'd like to join the First Impressions Team please contact Deb Carlson 931.210.9998 or email: tenndlc@gmail.com

Be Still And Know That I Am God

Women's Bible Study

Study: The Book of Revelation

Tuesday - 1:00pm - Conference Room

Teacher: Nina Prigodich



Are You Ready for Fun Times in 2024 with Your Church Family???

Your Adult Leadership Team has been hard at work selecting some fun activities for you, our church family in 2024.

Here's what's planned for 2024:

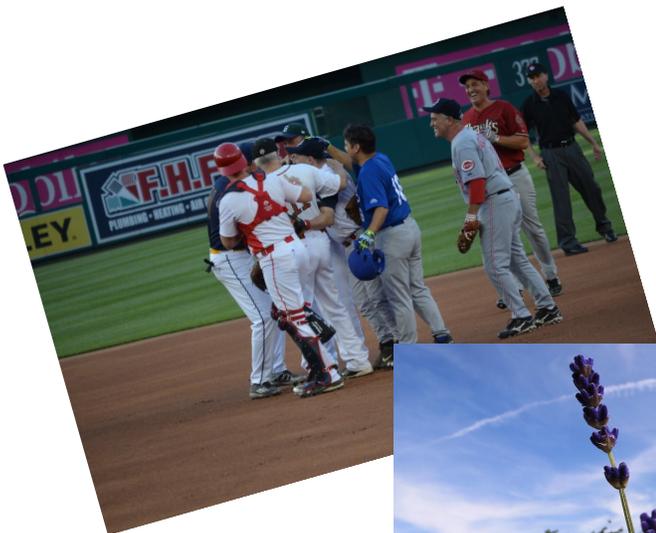
Tea for Sure in '24 - Saturday, March 9. Music by Dany Funderburk.

Lavender Farm & Sgt York's Homestead – End of June to mid-July

Minor League Baseball – During the summer months – either Tennessee Smokies or Chattanooga Lookouts

Biblical Time Dinner Theater – In the Fall in Pigeon Forge

Look for more information and signups as we get nearer to each event!



First Baptist Church - Golf League



**No Golf Schedule
for
February 2024**





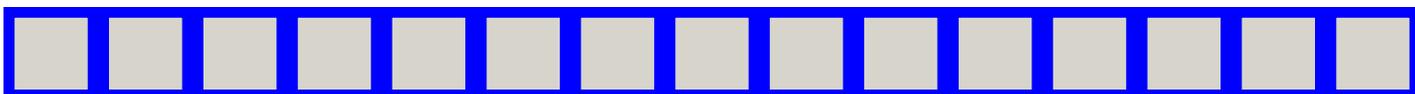
Bill & Brenda Foley - Teachers

26- Week - Bible Study Series

The ABC's of Discipleship

Wednesday Night @ 5:15 pm

Conference Room



February 18th

Saturday @ 8:00am



Upcoming Events

February - Monday's - Men's Bible Study @ 9:00am

February - Tuesday's - Women's Bible Study @ 1:00pm

February - Friday's - Women's Bible Study @ 10:00am

February - Wednesday's - Intercessor's Prayer Grp. @ 10am

February 8 - Memory Loss Support Group @ 11:00am

February 15 - Game Night 5:00-7:00pm

February 18 - Men's Breakfast @ 8:00am

March 1 - Red Cross Blood Drive @ 9:00am-3:00pm
