

# This Week @ FBC

**Sunday, February 5**

**9:30 am** Sunday Bible Study

The Starting Line Concludes

**10:55 am** Morning Worship Celebration

**12:15 pm** Camp Fundraiser luncheon

**5 pm** Atkinson Life Group

**5 pm** Special Evening Worship Time

**Tuesday, February 7**

**10 am** Women on Mission

**Wednesday, February 8**

**5 pm** Wednesday Evening Meal

**Chicken Parmesan Lasagna**

**Salad Bread Dessert**

**5:45 pm** Youth Pizza & Bible Study

**6 pm** Kids' Clubhouse Friends

Group Bible studies

The Point Band Rehearsal

**6:15 pm** Worship Orchestra Rehearsal

**6:30 pm** Pastor's Prayer Service

**7:15 pm** Worship Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, February 11**

**5 pm** Parents' Night Out

**5:30 pm** Senior Adult Valentine Dinner

**Find more info online at [www.fbcfo.org](http://www.fbcfo.org)**

## Our Volunteers

### Deacons of the Week

Feb.12-18

Laurie Brown

Don Pittman

Donnie Lindsay

Feb.19-25

Linda Daniels

Wayne Rasbury

Gene McDaniel

### Wednesday Meal

Feb.15

Donnie Lindsay

Donna Lindsay

Mark Kitchen

Brenda Jones

Feb. 22

Wayne Rasbury

Charlie Rasbury

Pat Medearis

Sue Hughes

### Security

Feb.12

Al Davis

Ron Bethune

Feb.19

James Swafford

Eddy Trotter

### Greeters

Feb. 12

Steve Imler

Taime Imler

*W. Honeycutt*

*R. Honeycutt*

Feb. 19

*Lynn Tyree*

*Jan Rosser*

*G. McDowell*

### **Sunday, Feb 12** LaunchPad

Babies

Sarah Kubler

Darlene Lane

1&2 yr olds

Brenda Lynch

Morgan Trotter

3 yr olds

Madison Thompson

Amber White

Welcome

Jane Hogsed

### **Next Sunday, Feb. 19**

Babies

Micki Atkinson

Louise Stinnett

1&2 yr olds

Erie Stookey

Joy Clark

3 yr olds

Lila Ferrell

Zoe Ferrell

Welcome

Angie Smith

## Prayer Concerns

### Hospital

Al Davis

### Home

Helen Fisher

Tressie Fletcher

Laura Jones

Bimol Poole

Scott O'Steen

Tom Brewster

Beth Daugherty

Stephen

Mosman

Patti Godfrey

Doug Trew

Anita Acker

Winona Lewis

Betty Phillips

Sharon Mullins

Bobbie Allison

Karen Pierce

Tommie Brock

John Stewart

Linda Sikes

Shirley Bryan

Ken & Betty

Goodner

Nell Smith

Helen

Epperson

Sam & Mary

Lou Brown

Charlie Rasbury

### Nursing

**Home**

Bob Ward

Lila Archer

Dale & Delores

Kinnison

Norma

Carpenter

Eva Williams

Eunice Mosman

Eloise Morris

Bertha

Pennington

June Stewart

Fred Boswell

## Birthdays

Tara Hennessee (12)

Jeremy Brooks (13)

Nichole Stookey (13)

## Staff

Pastor - Jason Thomas

Worship Pastor - Brad Lewis

Discipleship Pastor - Andy Atkinson

Youth Minister - Kevin Stone

Children Minister - Nichole Stookey

Administrative Assistant - Miki Ingram

Education Assistant - Sandra Mullins

Treasurer - Darlene Lane

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**find us on social media**

**Pastoral Emergency Line**  
**423-708-5303**

**Christ Chapel**  
**Item of the Month:**  
**Crackers**



# First Baptist Church

**Where Truth and Love come together**

[www.fbcfo.org](http://www.fbcfo.org)

## Upcoming

### The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is a great way to help take the gospel to the nations because every gift will go straight to global missions! **Our goal this year is \$16,500**, and so far we have raised \$8,874.50. **We've extended the deadline one week to this Sunday, 2.5.17.** Thanks for your support.

### The Starting Line

The Starting Line concludes this Sunday, 2.5.17, with a look at missions and a tour of the church campus. Pastor Jason is leading this four-week class for frequent visitors, new members, and anyone who would like more information about the church. The class meets in our downstairs Fellowship Circle at 9:30 am.

### Parents' Night Out

If you are planning a special date night with your valentine, we have a perfect child-care solution for you! Bring your kids, ages infant to 5th grade, to our Children's Ministry area for a special one-night Parents' Night Out on Saturday, 2.11.17! Nichole Stookey is leading this opportunity as a fundraiser for our First Blessings Week-day Preschool. The cost is only \$20 per child, which includes dinner, crafts, games, and other fun. It all happens from 5 to 10 pm.

### Baptism Sunday

Anytime a person turns to Christ to receive salvation, a wonderful next step is for him/her to be baptized. In salvation, as the Holy Spirit enters us, so we then express that reality and celebrate it through water baptism. We have that opportunity to celebrate in the lives of Madison and Abby Thompson on Sunday, 2.12.17. Join us in this celebration on 2.12.17, at the beginning of our morning worship service!

## Feb 1 - Feb 8

# Word From Our Pastor

Take the opportunity to go deeper! In part 3 of our 5 part look at strengthening our “parental” influence, let’s consider the opportunity to go deeper. Jesus always had a way of speaking to the crowds, but then taking the conversation deeper with his closest disciples. On one occasion, this was the conversation:

“Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But what about you?’ he asked, ‘Who do you say I am?’” (Matt. 16:13-15)? Asking good questions



will jump start good conversations with our kids. And notice in this particular conversation that Jesus encouraged his disciples to recognize other views. Often, we might frown on considering what others might say about Jesus. But know this, our kids will be exposed to other world views and what others are thinking about Jesus. Don’t be afraid to talk about other world views, but instead, take the initiative to learn some about them yourself and help your kids process them in a way that leads them to this most important and personal question: “Who do you say I am?” Our kids need to see a bigger picture and be led with love, consistency, and ultimately God’s truth to answer for themselves who Jesus really is. If you’ve never answered that question for yourself, let this be the right moment for you. Then you will be ready to model and lead your kids to know Jesus for themselves. We will celebrate those moments this Sunday morning! -Jason



## The Sunday Report

Bible Study Attendance 237  
11 am Worship Attendance 258

Annual Budget 559,047.00  
YTD Budget Needs 53,754.52  
YTD Budget Giving 49,487.35

Total Receipts for the Week: 10,093.16  
Weekly Budget Giving 8,077.58  
Weekly Freedom Giving 2,095.26  
Weekly Missions Giving 832.09

## Announcements

**Contributions**  
Your 2016 contribution statements are available for pick up in the Main Welcome Center. After 2.8.17, we will mail out the statements that have not been retrieved.

**Get Your Dish**  
Several dishes and cake carriers have been left in our Fellowship Circle from last year. Stop by the Circle to see if any of these belong to you and collect your dish.

**Freedom Report**  
This January, we received \$11,911.93 to pay towards our Building Loan. That amount is almost \$1,000 more than needed for the monthly minimum, allowing us to pay more on the loan principal. Thanks to the greatness of God and your generosity, our Countdown to Freedom is moving forward!

# Discipleship

Your “cross” is God’s will for you, regardless of the cost. Taking up your cross is a choice; it is not beyond your control. One of the most beautiful and mysterious facts of the passion is that Christ willingly took it on. This is a fact that requires long absorption to fully impact our hearts. You may have health problems or a rebellious child or financial pressures, but do not mistake these as your “cross to bear.” Neither circumstances you face nor consequences of your own actions are your cross. Your cross will be to voluntarily participate in Christ’s sufferings as He carries out His redemptive purposes (Phil. 3:10). Paul said he rejoiced in his sufferings because he knew that by them he was able to participate in the suffering required to bring others into Christian maturity (Col. 1:24). I am sure this only occurred after much submissive prayer, fasting and worship.

We tend to want to go immediately from “denying ourselves” to “following Jesus.” But you really cannot follow Jesus unless



## Student Spotlight

**Feb 5: Youth Camp Lunch.** Be in the Fellowship Circle at 9:00am for set-up. Plan on staying until 1:45pm to receive full credit towards camp. **PARENTS:** Don’t forget to bring desserts. Remember: If you miss, you have to pay additional money above the \$150 deposit.

**Pal’s-** We will be meeting in the Youth House tonight at 5 pm.

**Feb 24-26: DNOW.** We will spend the night at the church campus on Fri. and Sat. nights, and Sun. morning will be PJ

## Children’s Headlines

""**Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.” 1 Corinthians 16:13**

**The Point:** Children's Worship at The Point will meet again on February 12 and 26. Don't forget to bring a friend!

**Summer Camp:** All those who are going to Student Life Camp for Kids at Lee University, June 29-July 2, need to pay the \$60 deposit now. Our next Camp Fundraiser Lunch will be February 5.

Andy Atkinson

you have first taken up your cross. There are aspects of God’s redemptive work that can be accomplished only through suffering. Yes, suffering that is willingly taken on. Just as Christ had to suffer in order to bring salvation, there will be hardships you may have to endure in order for God to bring a clear picture of himself to those around you. Jesus did not talk with His disciples about the cross until they had come to know He was the Christ (Matt. 16:21). You will never be able to endure the suffering of the cross unless you have first been completely convinced that Jesus is the Christ. Once you have settled your relationship with Christ, He will introduce you to your cross.

**There is no Christianity without a cross.** If you are waiting for a relationship with God that never requires suffering or inconvenience, then you cannot use Christ as your model. God’s will for you involves a cross.

First, take up your cross; then you can follow Him. May we willing take His will for our lives on and carry on.

Kevin Stone

day. (Long pajama pants -that are not see through - and T shirts with sleeves or one piece... No other options!!)

**March 5: Youth Camp Lunch** - Same as Feb 5th.

**March 26: Winter Jam** - Cost is \$10 at the door.

Nichole Stookey

**EggFest:** Mark your calendars! We will be hosting our annual EggFest on Saturday, April 15 from 3-5pm. Look for information about egg donations and volunteer sign-ups in the next few weeks.

**Parent's Night Out:** First Blessings will be hosting another Parent's Night Out Fundraiser this February 11 from 5-10pm. This time: A special Valentine's Day Date Night! Contact Nichole for more information.

# Worship & More...

(Continuing the thoughts begun last week on Sunday worship being a *culmination and celebration of what God has done in and through our lives during the week.*)

How can we make gathered Sunday worship is a place celebrate, instead of a place to get “filled-up”? First, I believe that gathered Sunday worship should be a culmination of our **personal worship** throughout the week. Here is what I do during the week:

**Daily Time Alone With God:** This is worship time (for Him), not bible study time (for me). I begin my day using God’s Word to worship, praise & pray, and to give all of my attention to Him, not to me (my needs, wants, and troubles).

**Listening To Worship Music:** What better way to spend my driving time, running, manual work (*mowing, etc.*), and “down” time than worshipping the Lord musically. Music that doesn’t exalt Him pretty much stays off my playlist.

**Sabbath Preparation:** We can learn from the Hebrew people who worshipped from sundown to sundown. Years ago our family adopted a *Simplify Saturday Evening* lifestyle, where we use Saturday evenings to prepare for Sunday worship: Minimal social commitments, relaxed/stress-free

## Women's Ministry

**Women of Joy** -WOJ is getting close! All monies are due by Feb. 26. You can give to Laura Jones or turn in to the church office. Be sure and put “WOJ” on the check. If you have any questions, please text Laura (423.605.1816). **Mock-in-February 18** -There will be games, movies, pizza and popcorn. Invite your children under 15. Cost is \$5 per family. Contact Amber Walker ([amberwalkermilis@gmail.com](mailto:amberwalkermilis@gmail.com)).

## Senior Adult Valentine Dinner

All Senior Adults (55 and over) whether singles, couples or groups are cordially invited to “Be Our Valentine” on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 5:30pm. Enjoy an elegant four course dinner (Tender Beef Short Ribs, Fingerling Potatoes, and a few culinary surprises) for the cost of only \$15 per person. Reservations are required and should be made with

## Veterans Ministry

Will Hodges, a senior at Ridgeland High School, is conducting a senior project to raise awareness and offer support for homeless veterans in our area. You will find a collection box in our Main Welcome Center where you

Brad Lewis

atmosphere at home, Sunday preparation (choosing of clothes, locating Bibles, etc.), and early to bed.

**Worshipping To Prepare For Worship:** My Sunday mornings begin with worship (just like the other days of my week). I don’t wait until I enter the Worship Center to worship, but worship in preparation for worship, and on the way to worship.

These simple practices have worked well for me. And if you notice, they all involve my **attention on Him**, rather than my attention on me. What can you do during the week in personal worship to prepare for gathered Sunday worship? **Worship Well!**

(Check out my Blog: **Bigcloud.tv**)

-Brad



**Ava Maria Grotto-March 11** - A collection of miniatures created by monks of St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, AL. We will depart the church campus at 10am. There will a stop for brunch on the way and lunch before returning. Cost is \$10.

the Church Office (706.866.0232) along with your payment by Wednesday, Feb. 8. Please let us know about any food allergies you have and/or if you require a sugar-free dessert. Contact Mark Paulson (423-503-3294) if you would like to volunteer as a table server.

can donate coats, socks, gloves, and personal hygiene items to support this effort. Donations will be collected throughout the month of February. Call the Church Office (706.866.0232) for more information.