

# This Week @ FBC

## Sunday, February 19

- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study
- 10:55 am Morning Worship Celebration
- 5 pm Atkinson Life Group
- 6 pm Evening Worship Service

## Monday, February 20

- 10:30 am Joyful Praise Choir Rehearsal

## Wednesday, February 22

- 5 pm Wednesday Evening Meal
- Oven Baked Chicken Potatoes
- Green Lima Beans 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

## Friday, Feb. 24 - Sunday, Feb. 26

Youth D-NOW WEEKEND

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

# Our Volunteers

### Deacons of the Week

- Feb.26-Mar. 4 [Feb.26-Mar. 4](#)
- Luke Daniels
- Linda Daniels
- Ron Mullins

### Wednesday Meal

- Mar. 1 [Mar. 8](#)
- Mary A. Paulson
- Marlin Paulson
- Olene Hendricks
- Bettye Dunwoody

### Security

- Feb. 26
- Steve Imler
- Jeff Wright

### Greeters

- Feb. 26
- Rena Caradine
- Mickey Caradine
- Mary Jo Case

### Sunday, Feb 26 LaunchPad

- Babies Tracie Dodson
- Kristi Mullins
- 1&2 yr olds Deborah Gray
- Charles Tant
- 3 yr olds Jan Rosser
- Lynn Tyree
- Welcome Jane Hogsed

### Next Sunday, Mar. 5

- Babies Morgan Trotter
- Joyce Tindall
- 1&2 yr olds Heather Parente
- Kristi Mullins
- 3 yr olds Jim Carlton
- Lois Carlton
- Welcome Angie Smith

# Prayer Concerns

### Hospital

- Al Davis
- ### Home
- Tom Brewster
  - Helen Fisher
  - Tressie Fletcher
  - Bimol Poole
  - Scott O'Steen
  - Beth Daugherty
  - Stephen Mosman
  - Patti Godfrey
  - 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
- George Smith

- Sam & Mary
- Lou Brown

### Nursing Home

- Bob Ward
- Lila Archer
- Dale & Delores Kinnison
- Norma Carpenter
- Eva Williams
- Eunice Mosman
- Eloise Morris

- Bertha Pennington
- June Stewart
- Fred Boswell

## Birthdays

- Mason Bowman (26)
- Darryl Goodner (27)
- Debbie Harp (27)
- Will Montgomery (27)
- Mackie Yatooma (27)
- Elaine Lewis (28)
- Joetta Roderick (28)
- Brian Swafford (28)
- Bettye Dunwoody (29)

## 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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- kevins@fbcfo.org
- nicholes@fbcfo.org
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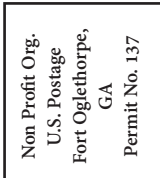
2645 Lafayette Road - P.O. Box 2125  
 Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742  
 Office: 706.866.0232  
[www.fbcfo.org](http://www.fbcfo.org)



find us on social media

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

**Welcome Our New Members!**



First Baptist Church  
 2645 Lafayette Road  
 P.O. Box 2125  
 Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# First Baptist Church

Where Truth and Love come together

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

## Upcoming

### Youth Disciple Now Weekend

All middle school and high school students are invited to join us for the annual North Georgia Disciple-Now Weekend happening 2.24 - 26. The fun begins on our campus at 6 pm that Friday evening, 2.24.17. Our Youth will be partnering with youth ministries from other churches that Friday and Saturday to worship, serve, and grow stronger in Christ. See Kevin Stone for more details.

### Parents' Night Out

Bring your kids and grand-kids, ages infant to 5th grade, to our Parents' Night Out on Saturday, 3.4.17! Nichole Stookey is leading this 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 in our Kid's Ministry area.

### The Butterflies are Coming!

Don't be too surprised to find a colorful "Freedom" Butterfly in your flower garden during the month of March. We are unleashing the Butterflies all throughout March for our cause of Freedom. This will be a fun way to continue or countdown to being debt free. For a donation of only \$20, you can pay the Butterfly forward into another church member's front yard of your choice!

### New Bible Studies

We are excited to announce two special Bible Studies coming your way in early March. **Grief Share** will begin Sunday, 3.5.17, at 4 pm and **Financial Peace** will begin on Wednesday, 3.8.17, at 6 pm. Both classes will meet weekly on our campus through the month of May. Call the Church Office for more information and to sign up!

Feb 22- Mar 1

# Word From Our Pastor

Jason Thomas

Lead them to the feet of Jesus. In this final edition of how to strengthen our parental influence, let's consider how we can encourage our kids and grandkids to find Jesus. When I was a kid, the method was fairly simple... Make sure that I was in church every time the doors were open. The problem was that, as I



got older, church became a place to go, instead of a person to be, and it became more about busy-ness instead of a relationship with Christ. If we are not careful, we will find ourselves forcing Christianity upon our kids and teaching them a routine instead of a relationship. We see this contrast in Luke 10. Martha had a sister called Mary, **“who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made” (Luke 10:39-40).** When Martha fussed at Mary for not getting busy with her, Jesus intervened with these words, **“Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:42).**

There are many good things associated with being the church. Yet, what is most important is often what is right in front of us. Let's show our kids what it means to be at the feet of Jesus as we read His Word and talk to Him each day. It is at His feet that we learn and appreciate gathering together for worship celebrations, growing together in small group Bible studies, and going out to be His hands & feet in a need-filled world. Let's show them that church is about who we are, even as we look forward to Sunday! -Jason

## The Sunday Report

Bible Study Attendance 225  
11 am Worship Attendance 328

Annual Budget 559,047.00  
YTD Budget Needs 75,256.33  
YTD Budget Giving 79,751.01

### This Sunday's Message:

The Book of Ruth:  
Part Four

Total Receipts for the Week: 20,851.59  
Weekly Budget Giving 13,963.31  
Weekly Freedom Giving 3,315.23  
Weekly Missions Giving 336.05

## Announcements

### Sympathy

On behalf of our Church Family we express our deepest sympathy to Norma Carpenter and her family on the recent passing of Wayne Carpenter.

### Thank You

Charles Tant, Jr. & family appreciate each of you for your expressions of sympathy in the loss of his father, Charles Tant, Sr. We have a compassionate faith family!

### Wedding Shower

You are invited to a Wedding Shower for Jennifer Stone and Chaz Smith on Sunday, February 26 from 2-4 pm in the Fellowship Circle. They are registered at Amazon and Bed, Bath & Beyond, shower given by the Challenge Class.

# Discipleship

Our world is preoccupied with methods. What I mean by **“methods”** is a particular form or accomplishing something. Our faith is not a **functioning** means. When we find a program that works in one business, we immediately want to package and distribute it so that it will **work** for others. This attitude carries over into the spiritual life as well. We spend much energy looking for spiritual disciplines, books, seminars, or conferences that **“work”** in order to feel satisfied with our Christian life. Satisfaction lies in Christ and nothing else. God does not want us to trust in **methods**. He wants us to trust in Him. An unhealthy focus on **methods** attempts to take control of God and use Him for our purposes, either intentionally or unintentionally.

Trusting in **methods** rather than in a Person seriously limits the way we experience God. When we expect Him to speak to us only in predictable ways, we forget that God is much more complex than our perception of Him. I am talking about predictable in



Andy Atkinson

the sense of thinking we know what He will do, not in the sense of knowing His revealed nature via His word. In times past, God spoke in dreams and visions. He used nature; miraculous signs; prophets; a still, small voice; fire; trumpets; fleece; the casting of lots; and angels. He spoke in the middle of the night, during worship services, at mealtimes, during funerals, while people were walking along the road, through sermons, in the middle of a storm, and through His Son. The important thing was not how God communicated, but that He spoke. The most critical element is the fact that He is communicating to us.

Don't limit yourself to a **method**, expecting only to hear from your Father in predictable ways. Rather, open yourself up to other means by which God wants to commune with you. Then you will experience God in entirely new dimensions as you are receptive to His voice. God will not be our Santa Claus, He will only be our object of worship.

## Student Spotlight

Kevin Stone

**Feb 24-26: D-NOW.** We will spend the night at the church campus on Friday and Saturday nights, and Sunday morning will be PJ day. (Long pajama pants that are not see through, and T-shirts with sleeves, or one piece... No other options!!)

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

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

## Children's Headlines

Nichole Stookey

**“Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.” 1 Chronicles 16:11**

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

**EggFest:** Mark your calendars! We will be hosting our annual EggFest on Saturday, April 15 from 3-5pm. We would like for everyone to bring in 1 dozen pre-filled eggs to donate towards our egg hunt. Last year was a huge success with a ton of kids so, we need to plan for even more this year! Thanks for all your help!

**Parent's Night Out:** First Blessings has rescheduled the Parent's Night Out Fundraiser for Saturday, March 4 from 5-10pm. All children from infants to 5th grade are welcome to attend. The cost is \$20, which includes dinner.

**VBS:** Attention all VBS volunteers! There are some VBS workshops coming up to train for our upcoming Galactic Surveyors VBS Week. If you would like to attend one of these workshops, see Nichole as soon as possible.

# Worship & More...

*(Continuing the thoughts begun three weeks ago 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 a place celebrate, instead of a place to get “filled-up”? Gathered Sunday worship should be a culmination of **God working through me** throughout the week. Here are some ideas:

**Our Personal Ministry:** We should all minister *directly* during our interaction with people (see below), but also *indirectly* through prayer. When someone shares a need with us, and when God makes us aware of a need, stop and pray. Don't “send good thoughts and prayers”, rather boldly go before the Throne of God and pray!

**Our Ministry Community:** Our small groups, Sunday school class, ministry team, and even our families are great “communities” to have an effective impact on people during the week. As a group, find ways to provide spiritual and practical ministry, and then go minister!

**Our Spontaneous Ministry:** Here is our direct interaction with people that God puts in our path. See someone struggling with a

Brad Lewis

load? Help them. See a person without enough money to pay for groceries or a meal? Pay for it. Don't simply go through your day, go through your day looking for opportunities minister!

**Taking Risks Of Faith:** God will put personal and spiritual needs on your heart as you encounter people. When you see these needs, take a risk of faith and speak with them to encourage, and even pray for them. A great opening line is, “Excuse me, but I am a person of faith. Would you mind if I prayed for you?”

Doing these things will give us reason to celebrate in gathered Sunday worship. Begin every day looking for ways to minister.

**Worship Well!**

*(Check out my Blog: [Bigcloud.tv](http://Bigcloud.tv))*

-Brad



## Women's Ministry

**Women of Joy** - The WOJ Conference is coming soon! All monies are due by **2.26.17**. You can give them to Laura Jones or turn them into the Church Office. Be sure and put “WOJ” on the check.

Check out our **Women's Ministry Newsletter** for other upcoming events!

## Michigan State on Campus

Beginning Sunday, 3.5.17, a missions team from Michigan State University will be staying on our campus for a week as they take their spring break to do ministry in our community. Come

and talk with them over dinner on Wednesday, 3.8.17, and during our Prayer Service that evening. We are excited to see what God will do through them that week!

## 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

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.