

"To Glorify God and Make Jesus Christ Visible"

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Mission Night
We would like to announce and invite children in PreK-K and Grades 1-6 from 6:00-7:00pm on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of this month, February 14 and 28. We are going to learn about missionaries and Bible verses, and have fun! If anyone is interested in helping please contact Alice Porter.

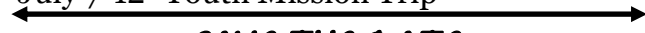


IMPORTANT

DATES
for **Youth:**



- February 24- Bowling at Palmrya
- March 23- Winter Jam
- April 12- Guy's campout
- June 17-21- Super Summer @ HLGU
- July 7-12- Youth Mission Trip



SAVE THE DATE



First Baptist Church

THE COMMUNICATOR



Josh Chambers, Senior Pastor



Evangelism Matters

March 16
9:00am-12 Noon

When it comes to evangelism, we often struggle. Maybe it's fear. Maybe it's guilt. Maybe it's not knowing how. On March 16th, we invite you to join us for *Evangelism Matters*.

In this gathering, we will discuss evangelism and why it *matters*.

We will have more information in the coming weeks, but we hope you can plan to join us on March 16th from 9:00-12:00.

Don't worry, lunch will be provided!

Everyone is invited to join us!!



In his book *The Church and the Surprising Offense of God's Love*, Jonathan Leeman writes, "Church membership is (1) a covenant of union between a particular church and a Christian, a covenant that consists of (2) the church's affirmation of the Christian's gospel profession, (3) the church's promise to give oversight to the Christian, and (4) the Christian's promise to gather with the church and submit to its oversight."

What do we see from Leeman's definition of church membership? First, we see that church membership is a *covenant*. This is an agreement between the local church and the Christian. Second, in this agreement, the church affirms the Christian's profession of faith in Christ. How does this happen? It's through the affirmation of a prospective member into membership. Jesus tells His disciples, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven (Matt. 16:19)." When a church affirms a prospective member into membership, they are essentially saying, "As far as we can tell, you're a Christian." This is the responsibility Christ has given to His church.

Third, the church promises to oversee the member's discipleship in this agreement. How does the church give oversight in this area? To the Ephesians, Paul writes, "And he [Jesus] gave apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of minis-

try, for building up the body of Christ...Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love (Ephesians 4:11-12, 15-16). Leeman says, "Oversight comes through teaching, preaching, the elders' oversight, and the mutual building up which all members of the church are to engage in."

Fourth, the Christian promises to regularly gather with and submit to the church. We are commanded to assemble with the body of Christ regularly (Heb. 10:25). We are commanded to submit to the authority and teaching of the church (Matt. 18; Heb. 13:7, 17).

What do we see from these passages and definitions? Church membership should be *meaningful*. Church membership is more than walking an aisle, filling out a card, and having your name thrown on a roster. It should mean something—membership *matters*. If you were to look through the Bible, you would find that there's no such thing as an "inactive church member." That doesn't make sense. How can a member be *inactive*? I'm not thinking about those providentially hindered by God through sickness or physical inability. We should care for them in their infirmities and love them the best we can. However, for those who are not providentially hindered, a failure to regularly assemble with the body of Christ is sinful. Failure to love your brothers and sisters in Christ is sinful. Failure to heed the correction of your brothers and sisters in Christ is sinful. The list could go on.

Continued . . .



Continued . . .

Paul calls the church the household of God (1 Tim. 3:15). Think about your family for a moment. If you're a husband and you never spend time with your family, is that healthy? Again, I'm not thinking of those who are providentially hindered by their job situation, making them depart for extended periods. I'm thinking of an average husband, wife, son, or daughter. If you are absent from the family for extended periods with little to no contact and appear periodically, is that healthy? I think we'd agree that it's not. Sadly, that's how many view the church.

Mark Dever says, "The church is not a spiritual service provider. It's a people—the new covenant, blood-bought people of God. That's why Paul said, "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her (Eph. 5:25)." He [Jesus] didn't give himself up for a place, but for a people." The church is a family joined together by adoption through Christ. If you feel nothing is missing when you are removed from your family, something is amiss. Something is wrong if you think nothing is missing when you are absent from the church—membership *matters*.

But membership is more than gathering with the body and submission to the church's authority. We'll get to that in a later article.

In Christ,
Pastor Josh



WATCHWORD: Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful I prayer.

~Romans 12:12

Missionary: Catherine Knowles

HERE AM I. SEND ME! TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

- Applying for IMB
- Interview and matching process
- Training and arriving in her new home
- Living overseas
- Looking to the future

Emphasis: South Asia: IMB Sending Process.

Less than 1% of people in South Asia describe themselves as evangelical Christians. This statistic means South Asia has the highest concentration of lostness of anywhere in the world." To bring light to this dark place, mission workers here partner with local believers to train and equip the to reach their friends, neighbors, and families with the gospel.

Pray:

Pray now for the leaders who will be elected in government position at the city, state, and federal level. Jeremiah 29:7 says: "Also seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

Date Meeting: February 26 @ 9:30 am
Where: Winsome classroom @ church
Hostess: Alice Porter
Program: IMB Foreign Mission Program

Prayer Chain

fbcmprayerchain@gmail.com or
rdpenn6@gmail.com
or 573-248-7710

February Birthdays

Hannah Wilkerson – February 1
Amanda McNeill—February 1
Charles Barton – February 5
Madalyn Potterfield – February 12
Beth Franklin – February 14
Everett Worcester—February 15
Rachel Bearce—February 17
Sheila Gosney – February 19
Brooklyn Hathaway—February 20
Barbara Smith– February 25
Ruthie Critten – February 25
Chase Pennewell – February 25
Jayla Eckman – February 26
Joan Stone – February 26
Al Groner – February 28



Deacons of the Month

Bill Franklin & Bret Gosney



Date	Nursery	Children's Church	Sound Tech	Media Tech	Hospitality Team
Feb. 4	Sunday School— Jill Spalding, Courtney Chambers AM— Georgia Rothweiler, Bailee Bock, Hannah Studer	Lisa Russell, Hannah Wilkerson, Isabelle Russell	Jeremy Worcester	Brittany Johnson	Jeremy & Chandra Beaver
Feb. 11	Sunday School— Doris Mehrer & Amanda McNeill AM— Jill Spalding, Avery Johnson, Ethan Moss	Abbigail Smith, Barb Smith, Ashley Studer	Richard Harrison	Jane Anne Olson	Ashley Osborn & Tracy Shively
Feb. 18	Sunday School— Brenda Maloney, Beth Franklin AM— Megan Moss, Lisa Russell, Anna Russell	No Children's Church	Allen Mehrer	Ruthie Critten	Creighton & Amanda Shuck
Feb. 25	Sunday School— Hannah Wilkerson, Adrian Mehrer AM— Kelsey Worcester, Shanee Brown	Angel Vollrath, Ryan Moss, Grady Cowan	Colton Cowan	Adrian Mehrer	Joe & Amanda McNeill

Church Office Hours
573.735.2635
Monday through Thursdays—
8:00 am to 12:00 pm

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00am—Sunday School 10:30am—Morning Worship Baptism Fellowship Hall/Somer Jones NO Evening Service	5 11:30am—Serving lunch to MC teachers 4:30pm—Loaves/Fishes 7:00pm—Deacons Meeting	6	7 6:00pm—Youth	8 6:00pm—Youth	9 6:00pm—Youth	10 6:00pm—Youth
11 9:00am—Sunday School 10:30am—Morning Worship NO Evening Service	12	13	14 Ash Wednesday 6:00pm—Youth 6:00pm—Mission Night	15 Happy Valentine's Day	16	17
18 9:00am—Sunday School 10:30am—Morning Worship Lord's Supper NO Evening Service	19 	20	21 6:00pm—Youth	22	23	24
25 9:00am—Sunday School 10:30am—Morning Worship Noisy Offering—Mission Trip NO Evening Service	26 9:30am—WMU @ church Hostess—Alice Porter Program—IMB. ?	27	28 6:00pm—Youth 6:00pm—Mission Night	29		

Email addresses for the church office and pastors:
Church office—office@fbcmnroecity.org
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Pastor of Worship & Family Ministries—aexpbrown75@gmail.com