

# first baptist church

A L E X A N D E R   C I T Y ,   A L A B A M A

Worship God • Love People • Make Disciples

March 2019

*(Eccl.7:10) Do not say, “Why were the former days better than these?” For you do not inquire wisely concerning this.*

I find that verse very intriguing. I don't think it is suggesting that we not appreciate past things. I just believe it means we shouldn't stop looking forward. Appreciate the past, yes, but don't dwell there. Don't get stuck there. Instead, we should always “*reach forward to those things which are ahead*” (*Phil.3:13*). While we *remember the former things* (*Isa.46:9*) we realize that God is in front of us, not behind, and that He's always calling us forward until the day He calls us home.

That's why I want to challenge our entire church to INVEST. Invest in the future. Invest in the Kingdom. Invest in others' lives. Invest in the Gospel.

When we start our Capital Campaign to do necessary renovation and construction, INVEST will be our theme. By the way, the last Sunday of March we will have an informational session to get you caught up on where we stand in this process. But INVEST isn't nearly just about a Capital Campaign. INVEST is an entire church-wide emphasis that will touch on multiple ways to increase our ministry health and strength. We must INVEST in ....

- 1.. **Talents.** The Scripture teaches that all Christians have been gifted by God with certain spiritual gifts to use in ministry (*1 Pet.4:10*). But are we doing the best we can to mobilize every member for ministry?
- 2.. **Time.** God's Great Commission to His church is a discipleship mandate. That's a nonnegotiable. But the changing culture we live in gives less-and-less time to church. We must analyze how to more efficiently do discipleship more effectively.
- 3.. **Transformation.** Church renewal is a constant pursuit. The good news is we've been given the Holy Spirit that makes it possible (*Eph.3:16,19*).
- 4.. **Treasure.** Our treasure is important because Jesus said it reveals where our heart is (*Matt.6:21*). Our church will be asked in faith and obedience to invest our treasures to support enhanced ministry improvements.
- 5.. **Techniques.** Everything the church does should be done properly and in order (*1 Tim.3:15*). During the Year we will update our policies and procedures to make sure they best meet our current needs.
- 6.. **Tomorrow.** I love how (*Ps.71:18*) gives us a vision for worship that pulls in every generation to be God-lovers. I'm excited about future sanctuary renovations that help us live what the Psalmist declared.

As you can see, there's great opportunities in front of us to INVEST in the future. So, let's be obedient to what Ecclesiastes 7:10 teaches and move forward together after God.

*Pastor Steve*

# First Family Facts

## Record of Attendance

### Sunday School

Sunday, February 3	282
Sunday, February 10	279
Sunday, February 17	318
Sunday, February 24	290

### Receipts for February

Budget Receipts	\$86,800.54
Building Receipts	\$1,736.00
CMC Building	\$100.00

# First Family News

## Flowers:

March 3rd	<i>The flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of Wanda Davis and Cliff Nolen on their Birthday's by their families.</i>
March 10th	<i>The flowers this Sunday are in memory of Mr. &amp; Mrs. Sam Wagoner by the family.</i>
March 17th	<i>The flowers this Sunday are in memory of Forrest &amp; Mary Meigs by the family.</i>
March 24th	OPEN
March 31st	OPEN

## Deacons of the Week:

March 3rd	Roland Shipp & Tom Lamberth
March 10th	Jerry Martin & James Poole
March 17th	Reuben Prater & Grady Lamberth
March 24th	Steve Arnberg & Terry Thomas
March 31st	Paul Stanbrough & Jeff Green



happy hearts

The Senior Adult Ministry of FBC

Tuesday, March 12 • Senior Adult Singin'  
 Eastmont Baptist/Montgomery  
 10:00 am - 12 Noon  
 Cost: \$5.00 for lunch  
 Sign up in Sunday School

# Worship/Music Ministry

Dave Briley • *Worship Pastor*

*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Psalm 150*



## Deference or Preference

Romans 12:10 states that we should “in honor, prefer one another.” I often instructed our children and more recently our grandchildren, they should “prefer” their brother/sister. The slight change in that word has huge implications. I recently read this quote - “*Intergenerational worship is only possible if our common ground is deference instead of preference.*” It caught my attention particularly because of the recent years of segregated age choices for worship, contemporary and traditional, gym vs. sanctuary, etc. And so, given the journey we are on as a church in regard to its renovation, worship styles, worship spaces, worship participation, I thought I would elaborate on what I’m learning and hopefully encourage you in the journey as well.

Let’s define what we’re talking about. *Deference* is a learned and practiced submission based on our personal convictions. *Preference* is based on our personal feelings and tradition. The willingness to *defer* to others offers a common ground that style and music never will. *Deference* encourages worship in spite of tradition and what has influenced our traditions of the past.

*Deference* is the agreement that although we may not always love the music of our children and grandchildren, we are willing to sacrifice because we love our children and grandchildren. Deferring is setting aside our personal preferences for the good of future generations.

So, do you *defer* or do you *prefer*? It’s a balancing act for sure. Who can offer or give the most instead of who deserves or demands the most? I believe First Baptist is seeking, learning, growing, and *deferring* and *preferring* that God is ultimately our audience of One as we gather and worship.

I’m honored to be a small part of what God is teaching us and growing us into His likeness as a worshipping body of Christ.

# First Family Announcements

## Brotherhood Breakfast

March 3rd ..... Fellowship Hall 7:30 am

## Band of Brothers

March 5th ..... Fireside Room 8:00 am

## Baptist Bold Women

March 5th ..... Fireside Room 5:30 pm

## MnMs

March 11th ..... Fireside Room 5:30 pm

## Partners in Mission

March 18th ..... Fireside Room 11:00 am

## Deacon Meeting

March 25th ..... Chapel 6:00 pm

## Happy Hearts Game Night

March 28th ..... Fireside Room 6:00 pm

## BIBLE STUDIES

“*Philippians: To Live Is Christ; To Die Is Gain*” - by Matt Chandler

Tuesdays ..... Fireside Room 9:45 am  
 contact Fran Tyler

“*The Gospel of Mark*” - by Francis Chan

Wednesdays ..... FLC Room 206 6:00 pm  
 contact Donna Martin

“*Family Driven Faith*” - by Voodie Baucham, Jr.

Wednesdays ..... Fireside Room 6:00 pm  
 contact Mandi Fisher

# Education

## Rev. Bill Stinson • Education/Administration Pastor

In March we begin our emphasis in giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter offering. Who is Annie Armstrong you might ask, and that is a fair question, so let me borrow a few excerpts from an SBCLIFE article by Jeff Robinson who explains who she is.

Annie Armstrong (1850-1938) helped to found the Woman's Missionary Union in 1888 and served as its inaugural corresponding secretary. A prolific letter writer on behalf of the WMU and its mission, Armstrong once wrote more than 18,000 letters in one year.

Finn said Armstrong is a key figure in SBC history for three reasons: she helped found WMU; she exerted a significant influence in the broader denomination; and she championed southern identity during a tenuous time in the postbellum South.

Armstrong served as WMU secretary from 1888 till 1906. During her tenure, total receipts for the Foreign Mission Board increased from \$86,000 to \$315,000, Finn said.

Armstrong was born into a longtime Baptist family. Converted at age nineteen, the Baltimore, Maryland, native became active in church life as a member of Seventh Street Baptist Church in Baltimore, where Richard Fuller served as pastor. Along with 117 others, she left Seventh Street and helped plant Eutaw Place Baptist Church in February of 1871, where she taught the infant class for three decades.

From 1900 through her resignation as WMU secretary in 1906, Armstrong refused to accept a salary. Her resignation came after the union mandated that the corresponding secretary be paid. Armstrong often traveled great distances in her work with WMU, once covering 3,300 miles in 21 days, visiting 19 places, stopping at 26 different addresses, according to her biography at the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

Tom Nettles, professor of historical theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, called Armstrong "a person who looked at her gifts and her opportunities and pushed through any personal inhibitions and contextual prejudices to do what she believed God wanted her to do for His glory and the extension of the Kingdom."

"Her work as corresponding secretary for the WMU created a consciousness of the necessity of purposeful organization for missions, home and abroad, in Southern Baptist life," Nettles said, adding that many missionaries could not have done their work without her help.

Our church goal this year is \$18,500.00 and on Wednesday night March 6th we will have Ashley Cummins Kendall from Whirlwind Missions with us to speak. Whirlwind Missions is in the Atlanta area and Ashley is our youngest NAMB missionary. Her parents & grandparents were also missionaries. Ashley is married with 2 young children.

I want to encourage you to be here that evening to hear Ashley. Also, begin praying now asking the Lord what he would have you give in his name to support North American Mission giving. -Bro. Bill

# Children's Ministry

## Marie Parks • Preschool/Children's Director

Are You Passing Your Faith To Your Kids? Young Bible readers are more likely to be faithful adults according to Life Way study. Churchgoing parents want to pass on their faith to their kids and to see their children make that faith their own, but don't always know how best to make that happen. It's easy for parents to be caught up in the busyness of life and not to ground their kids in the practice of reading the Bible. The key takeaway from the Life Way research is a simple but profound finding that God's Word truly is what changes lives.

Sunday, March 10th - 4- 5:30pm

Stop the Bleed First Aid Training for all Leaders in the Children's Ministry

Tuesday, March 12th - 5:30

Vacation Bible School Association Leader Training @ Lake Martin Baptist Church • If you are interested in investing in a child's life please see Marie Parks or Tanya Knight to see how you can help with VBS.

VBS will be Sunday, June 2nd - Thursday, June 6th

Monday, March 18th

No Kids Choir due to Spring Break

Sunday, March 31st - 3-5pm

AL Baptist Sunday School Training for all Preschool and Children's Sunday School Teachers

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Sundays:</b>	Sunday School . . . . .	9:45 am
	TEAMKIDS / Bible Skills . . . . .	5:30 pm
<b>Mondays:</b>	KIDS Choir . . . . .	3:30 pm
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	Mission Friends, RAs, & GAs . . . . .	6:00 pm

# Students

## Brad Averette • Student & Missions Pastor

Well, it's official: the storage pods were picked up this week and we are settling in to our new home! We thank you all again for the kindness and hospitality you've shown to us over the last weeks. We knew coming home to the south would be delightful, but the sweet spirit in this church has made it pure joy. We love it here.

There are big events coming up in your youth ministry. Disciple Now (DNow) is March 8-10, and is one of the biggest outreach and evangelistic opportunities of the year. All youth (and you) are strongly encouraged to invite lost and unchurched friends to attend. The weekend's teachings will be centered around surrendering every aspect of life to Christ Jesus. If you know a lost or unplugged teenager, get them here for DNow, and be praying for the salvation of our students.

### More key dates to remember:

- March 3-Parent Meeting after Sunday School in the FLC. Bring your calendars and summer schedule.
- March 6-Collective Community Worship - DNow Kickoff at 6th Street Baptist
- March 8-10 DNow 2019

God has great plans! We look forward to continued life and ministry with you. -Brad & Stacy

We're going to a **Biscuits** Game!

**B** First Baptist Church  
 Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 6:35 pm  
 Auburn vs Alabama  
 Cost: \$25 per person  
 Sign up and Pay in advance

Don't Forget  
 Daylight Saving Time  
 Spring Forward  
 March 10th

**DNow** **COLLECTIVE**  
 2019  
 March 8-10  
 sign up TODAY





**Andi Moseley Director**  
256-392-4438

*We had a great time at our Valentine Ball on February 14th! The kids enjoyed singing and playing games, especially taking pictures with our photo booth and backgrounds!*

**Check out a few snapshots.**



*Mrs. Andi and Landon Adams*



*Our Toddler Class*



*Mrs. Anita and her 2 year olds*

If you want to be involved in or volunteer for any of our fun activities, please email Andi at [andi@fbc-ac.org](mailto:andi@fbc-ac.org).



*Mrs. Kerri and her 2 year olds*

# first baptist church

ALEXANDER CITY, ALABAMA

Worship God • Love People • Make Disciples

64 Court Square  
Alexander City, AL 35010  
[www.fbc-ac.org](http://www.fbc-ac.org)

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<b>Church Office Hours</b>	<b>Family Life Center Hours</b>
Monday-Friday: 8am – 4:30pm	Monday-Friday: 8am – 5pm
Phone: 256-234-6351	Phone: 256-234-0251

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor ..... Dr. Steve King  
Worship Pastor..... Rev. Dave Briley  
Education/Administration Pastor..... Rev. Bill Stinson  
Student & Missions Pastor..... Brad Averette  
Preschool/Children's Director..... Marie Parks  
ELC Director ..... Andi Moseley  
FLC Director ..... Chris Graham  
Sr. Pastor/Financial Assistant.....Connie Roberts  
Ministry Assistant.....James Claybrook  
Organist ..... David Hendrix  
Church Hostess ..... Alice Blythe  
Supervisor, Services..... Cynthia Weaver  
Housekeeping/Maintenance ..... James Bentley