

10:45 am Worship Service

February 22, 2026

SERMON "The Fully Human Jesus"
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Matthew 4:1-11

Rev. Zachary L. Bay

FAB Staff

Email



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1135 Fifth Ave.
Huntington, WV 25701
Change Service Requested

Along the Journey...

What is Lent?

Easter, not Christmas, is the highest holy day in the Christian faith. To celebrate Easter in a vacuum, without walking the long road to the resurrection robs the day of its true impact.

Fred Craddock, the great 20th-century preaching professor, said "Anticipation is its own gift." Imagine Christmas morning without Advent, without the monthlong period of looking forward to gifts and food and the glow of little faces and time with family and friends. Christmas Day comes like any other. Like it was January 17 or February 8. It's just another day that leaves us as abruptly as it arrives while we ask, "Hey Sally, what's today's date?"

Advent and Lent are the mechanisms in the life of the church that prevent this. Like its sibling season before it that helps us ready for Christmas, Lent helps us anticipate Easter. Anticipation is its own gift, and the gift multiplies like the fishes and loaves when Easter arrives at the end of 40 days of intention. Lent is a season that has been too often misused and abused by the church. While it is true that Lent is a solemn and penitential season centered around self-denial ahead of Good Friday's cross, Lent is not a season exempt from the grace of the gospel. Lent is not a season for self-loathing, but an honest recognition of our human frailty held in the merciful embrace of God.

A few years ago, Marie Kondo grabbed the media's attention with her work on simplification and simplicity. Christians have had two seasons built into every year for nearly 2,000 years to work toward a similar goal. We simplify in Lent as a way of pushing aside things that are taking up too much space in our lives, too much bandwidth in our hearts and minds. Then, we choose to sit with the dissonance and discomfort of our fast and invite it to call our attention to God. The fast creates a hunger. The hunger cues us to pray. The prayer molds us and makes us.

Over the course of a lifetime, one Lent at a time, we discover that something is always being sold to us as indispensable, and that it seldom ever is. One Lent at a time, we are invited to practice turning our attention again to God, who is what the latest fad only claims to be. These forty days are an invitation. How will you respond?

~ Rev. Zach Bay



Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

LIFE AMONG THE COLUMNS

VOLUME XXXXI · NUMBER 8, February 19, 2026

**Worship God wholeheartedly. Love one another unconditionally. Help people meet Jesus.
Help each other become more like Jesus. Love our hurting world.**

Dear Congregation,

The Missions & Ministries Commission is continually grateful for the many ways you help our church family love our neighbors so well.

One Sunday, a commission member shared the idea that it was time to provide a meal for our FAB Care families. Winter can be such a dreary and difficult season, especially for families with young children. What began as a simple idea quickly turned into spaghetti dinners made with our beloved "church sauce" recipe, generously shared years ago by Jim Tweel.

Stacks of empty pans went home with you, and you said "yes" to preparing sauce for families you may never meet. Your willingness and generosity provided an abundance of sauce. The M&M Commission cooked the noodles (special thanks to Mycah and the Youth for the leftover pasta), portioned everything with care, and packaged each meal with the cutest informational flyers created by Rachael Gibson.

In under two hours, we fed more than 100 families. Their gratitude was overwhelming. Many said, "This is so helpful—you just don't know," and "Your church did this for us?" Not only were FAB Care families blessed, but every FAB Care teacher also went home with a warm meal in hand.

At Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, we aspire to be salt and light in the world around us. The Missions and Ministries Commission continually seeks opportunities to ensure that what happens within our walls has a direct and meaningful impact beyond them.

Thank you for your generous hearts and for caring so deeply for the families who share our building five days a week. You are a blessing, and we are endlessly grateful that you so faithfully say "yes."

With heartfelt thanks,
Missions and Ministries Commission

4th Sunday Watercolors
with Bev Sauvageot



Supplies Provided
February 22, 3:00pm | Fellowship Hall

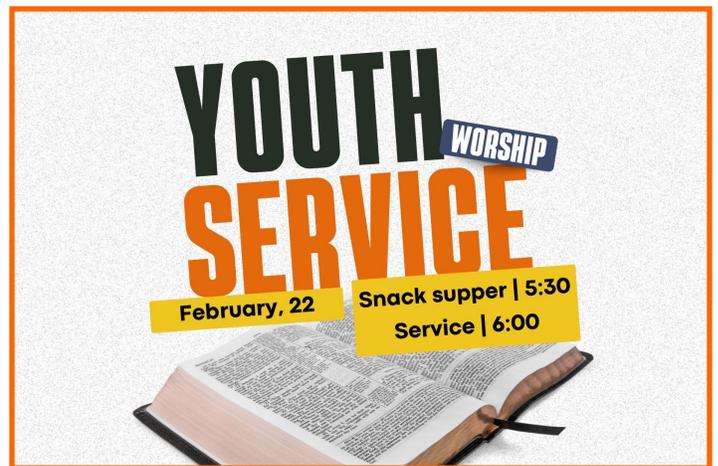
RECOVERY POINT
WEST VIRGINIA
Game Night

February 22 | 6 PM
Meet at Recovery Point
Feel free to bring snacks or treats!

FIFTH AVENUE BAPTIST
youth

Come Join Us!

For sign-ups & info, please visit fifthavenuebaptist.org/ministries/youth



SKATING PARTY

Skateland

4430 Altizer Ave
Huntington, WV

February 22
5:30-7:30



LIFE AMONG THE COLUMNS

CALENDAR | Feb 22-28

Sunday, February 22

- 8:30 W&E Meeting (CR)
- 9:00 Coffee & Doughnuts (FAB Lab)
- 9:30 Sunday Morning Bible Studies
- 10:45 Worship & Live Stream
- 12:00 Youth Parents Info Meeting (FAB Lab)
- 3:00 Fourth Sunday Watercolors (FH)
- 5:30 Kids Skating Party (Skateland)
- Youth Worship Night (FAB Lab)
- 6:00 Recovery Point Game Night

Monday, February 23

- 9:00 Staff Meeting

Tuesday, February 24

- 6:00 FABCare Committee Meeting (CR)

Wednesday, February 25

- 9:30 Women's Bible Study (CR)
- 5:30 Dinner: Salisbury stake, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, roll, salad, dessert
- 6:15 Group Studies
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

PRAYER CONCERNS

Christy Bird	Pat Mann
Ed Blankenship, friend of Gerry Smith & Kyle Hughes	Cathy McGuire
Judy Booth	Suzanne Nieman, friend of Jerrie Hussell
Bill Call	Cindy Perry, niece of Mary Madsen
David Cantrell, stepbrother of Jim Isaac	Steve Perry, nephew of Mary Madsen
David Crowe	Paul Prunty
Felix Daniels	Bill Ransbottom
Bill Denman	Allen Reasons
Carolyn Dickens	Justin Reynolds, nephew of Janet Jarrell
Natalie Swann Dodge, great niece of Jack Lively	Larry Shannon, friend of Janet Jarrell
Braxton Ernst, family friend of Jackie Ballard	Patti & Mike Shaver Sr.
Martha Hagan	Barbara Sheils
Anne Jameson, niece of Mary Madsen	Jack, Becky & Haley Stephenson, friends of Martha Hagan
Janet Jarrell	David Stone, friend of Martha Hagan
Linda Lawrence	Lenora Sutphin
Julie Lively, daughter of Jack & Jackie Lively	Sherry Waggoner
Kim Lively-Smith, daughter of Jack & Jackie Lively	Kathleen Whitley, daughter of Mike & Donna Whitley
	Peggy Wilmlink
	Debbie Wilson
	Cathy Wright, friend of Scott & Leigh Ballard

Ministry Action Budget: February 15, 2026

Envelopes	15,015.00
Online	175.00
Total	15,190.00
Given To Date	85,237.26
MAB Expenses To Date	117,125.27
Overage/(Shortage)	(31,888.01)

Designated Funds

Total Designated Funds	0.00
Designated Gifts To Date	865.00

If you or someone you have added to the Columns Prayer list can be removed, please call or email the church office.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Feb

- 22 Jan Ball
- 23 Matthew Hamer, Angela Wilmlink
- 24 Melinda Sheils
- 25 Lydia Owens
- 26 Pam Robinson, Isaac Ratcliff
- 27 Hannah Barringer
- 28 Tammy Varney, Karen Keck



W&E

monthly meeting

Sunday, February 22 | 8:30 am

COUNCIL ROOM



Street Ministry

FEBRUARY ALMS

Needs:

- Socks
- Women's Underwear
- Men's Underwear, boxers preferred
- Women's sports bras
- Men's jeans (especially waist size 30, 31, 32)
- Slim Jim's
- Flip top Beanie Weinies



National Annual MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Feb. 28, 2026 | 8:30 AM

Guyandotte Baptist Assoc. Camp
Camp Ona, Ona, WV
Contact: Jim Mitchell, 304-690-3100

Speaker: Rev. Justin Berry, Baptist Temple