

This Month

March 1
Baptism & Celebration for Children in Chapel

March 1-7
Week of Prayer- North American Missions
(Annie Armstrong)

March 7
Hands and Feet Mission Trip to Port Arthur

March 8

**Set your clocks
UP one hour**



March 10
Women on Mission- 9:15 am

March 12
FBC Hosts the BSM Luncheon

March 15
Evangelism/Missions Meeting- 4:30 pm

March 16-20
Spring Break

March 20-21
"AMP On the Pier" (Youth)

March 19
Jolly Elders-Noon

March 21
Deacon's Meeting- 8:30 am
Judson Group- 9:30 am

March 22
Ingathering North American Missions
Church wide Potluck- noon
Church Council -4:30 pm

March 29
Men's Breakfast-8:00 am



Kids Korner



The Friendship Int'l class made soldiers hats as they learned about Jesus healing the centurions friend



The Friendship International toddlers were stacking cups really high and then lining them up in a long line to show how high, how long and how wide is the love of Christ.

Learning faith skills: Playing a game in chapel to learn about building on a solid foundation through listening to the words of Jesus.



THE HERALD
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
March 2015

Celebrating
175
YEARS

Welcome to our New Families



Katherine Murray with (Mom) Brandy



Ashley and Tyler Manning



Naomi and (Mom) Rachel Smathers

Matthew, Isabelle, (Dad) Robert, (Mom) Christie and Jacob



The Pastor with Zeb McDowell





Bro. Ray's Reflections...



We kicked off the Month of February with the "Souper Bowl" feeding the less fortunate chili and the Gospel message.



Need anything done in the Association? These are the women to call! The Professional Administrators were honored at a WMU Luncheon on February 17. This Admin. Asst. thanks you for all the support and love offered her. (Back Row-Center)



At our first "Ministry in a Minute" Nathan interviewed Adam and Raeann, of the Hands & Feet Medical Missions Group, on their recent trip to Peru.



After a busy month we ended with a Church-wide pasta potluck and a video of the highlights of 2014



Congratulations to Milton & Tammy on their Feb. 14th wedding, (right)



Angie's List

Strategically Leading

A map can tell us a lot of things: it can tell us where we're at, it can help us with where we need to be and it ultimately gives us directions and leads us to a certain place. A map is only good if you know where you are and where you're going. As we make plans for 2015, we're using a map to strategically lead in where we're going in our ministry to children. We do this by (1) establishing community, (that's the relationships that children need), (2) by keeping parents in our ministry, (while engaging them to synchronize the home with the church), (3) for elementary aged children we mobilize them to get actively involved in personal ministry and (4) we lead them to wonder, discovery and passion by teaching with the same end in mind.

Annie Armstrong: Women's Missions Union

At the age of 20, Annie Armstrong accepted Christ as her Savior while in a Baptist church and while there she was equipped to be a missionary. Annie led the creation of the WMU which provides training and resources to aid the church in its mission: to develop fully engaged Christ followers. We have a strategic plan in the children's ministry to help each child understand that they have an important part in God's story and one of the things He wants them to do is tell others His story. During the Annie Armstrong Easter offering on March 22nd, children will discover their role as a modern day "Annie" while in chapel and they'll sing "All For You" in the sanctuary during the ingathering for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Prayer Partners

We establish community and give children the relationships they need through our prayer partners: Fred Lennen and Kathy Johnson (our newest prayer partners) are strategically investing in the lives of a few and actively engaging in missions work right here in our church. We welcome them and thank them for opening their lives and investing in what matters most. Prayer partners are an important ingredient in leading children to discover the wonder of a Heavenly Father who loves them unconditionally.

Easter candy collection: March 1st – March 29th

The children's ministry is collecting candy for our Easter egg hunt held on April 5th. We will open up our church to the community by inviting all families to join us for a family egg hunt and picture with the Easter bunny following the service. Let's engage these families in a way so they'll synchronize their home with the church.

His favor is upon us,
Angie



One of my favorite shows when I was growing up was "The Rocky and Bullwinkle Show" it was a show about a moose and a squirrel. One segment of that show was Mr. Peabody and Sherman, a dog and a boy, who used the way-back machine to discover history. It was a great show and obviously left an imprint on me.

We recently used the way-back machine to discover our history as a church, and one thing that we discovered is that missions has always been at the heart of who we are. There were times when we could barely pay our bills, but we supported missions. We are a church that believes in the power of the gospel, and its call to mission work.

As a church we have been uniquely placed on Galveston Island with the University of Texas Medical Branch. This unique pairing creates an amazing opportunity for missions. As you know our church is home to the Hands & Feet Medical Missions team. This group takes trips locally, nationally, and internationally, and we have the opportunity to join them. I am sure you have heard about their trips to Laredo and Peru. **On Saturday March 7 you are invited, and encouraged, to join Hands & Feet on a One day Medical Mission Trip to Port Arthur.** You do not have to have any medical expertise or experience, just the ability to talk to people. I promise you, if you go, you will be stretched, challenged, encouraged, and blessed. Plan to be apart of this trip, it will change how you see those around you.

Another part of our mission as a church is to be the church for this Island, and we are working hard on becoming just that. Your missions and evangelism committee has spent the last two months brainstorming and developing some wild and crazy outreach ideas. We are in process of systematizing them for implementation. Once we present them the only missing ingredient to their success will be **you**. These ideas are incredible, and very different from things we have done before. I want you to ask God where you need to get involved, and then be obedient to get involved. There is unlimited potential to reaching people, and growing this fellowship through seeing new people coming to Christ. All it takes is for you to get involved and be a part. We are a missional church, we have always been that, and we will always be that. This is because we serve a missional God who is on mission to reconcile the world to Himself. We have to choose to get involved in his mission here at First Baptist. **Will you join us?**

Blessings,
Nathan

Dearly Beloved,

RENEWAL/AWAKENING WEEKEND MAY 1-3

I have some great news to share with you. We have scheduled a Renewal/Awakening Weekend for the first weekend in May. Keith Tomlinson, pastor of River of Life Church in Judsonia, Arkansas has agreed to lead us the weekend of May 1-3. The Lord led Keith to plant this ministry sixteen years ago and now it has grown to where they minister to over 500 weekly. Keith is a great communicator who shares the Gospel unapologetically. My prayer is that the Lord will use this weekend to renew our walk with the Him and awaken our calling to serve. There will be more information forthcoming as we plan and organize this weekend and its sessions. **My prayer is that we are scheduling this weekend far enough in advance where you can clear your personal calendars for the whole weekend in order to participate in everything. IT IS GOING TO BE A WONDERFUL TIME OF PRAYER, PREPARATION, AND MINISTRY!**

I am so excited about what the Lord has been doing! We are seeing the Lord add new believers and members to our fellowship on a regular basis and we are asking Him to do even more! He is answering in the growth of our AMP youth group and our Orange children's ministry. We have several baptisms scheduled over the next few weeks. God is moving! How is He leading you to serve? All I ask is that you pray, read His Word, and allow the Holy Spirit to give you direction. You will be empowered, others will be blessed, and God will be glorified!

DO NOT FORGET TIME CHANGE SUNDAY!
Move your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 7th.

If you go to bed at 10:00 pm, change your clock to read 11:00 pm.

If you do, you come to church on time!

Please pray for me as I pray for you.

I Love You,
Bro. Ray