

First Baptist Church • (270) 586-3205 • 303 East Cedar St., Franklin, KY 42134

Purpose Statement

We seek to glorify God by leading people to a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ

Church Schedule

Sundays

9:30A Sunday School
10:45A Worship Service
5:30P Discipleship Class

Wednesdays

5:00P Fellowship Meal
6:00P Prayer & Bible Study, Children's Music and missions, Youth worship/study

Thought of the Month

"The stiff and wooden quality about our religious lives is a result of our lack of holy desire.

Complacency is a deadly foe of all spiritual growth. Acute desire must be present or there will be no manifestation of Christ to His people. He waits to be wanted. To bad that with many of us He waits so long, so very long, in vain"

- A.W. Tozer
"The Pursuit of God"



Vision Discussion with Pastor

It only takes a single drop of water to create a ripple. But that ripple can travel across an entire lake. And we can see the ripple effect in the church also. That is, we are currently experiencing the impact of yesterday's activity. More importantly, what we do today will ripple into the future. This reminds us to be intentional about our activity as a church.

On January 4th and 11th I will be introducing a vision plan for First Baptist that can guide our

activity over the next 2-3 years. This vision plan is like a rain drop, a road map, and play book. It will begin the process of refocusing our attention on our primary calling.

As a church our greatest need is personal and congregational spiritual renewal. For that reason, I'm calling the vision, *Renewing Our Joy*. On Sunday evening, January 11th, we have a full presentation and discussion of the vision and recommendations. Every member is

invited and encouraged to join us for that discussion.

Over the last year and half the church has made several decisions and taken several steps to lay the foundation for growth and spiritual renewal. We will review our progress and clarify our current state. Knowing these two facts will help us focus our energy better. See you there!



Focus on Marriage Conference

Focus on the Family's first ever national marriage simulcast event will be hosted by First Baptist and Providence Baptist on February 28th beginning at 8:30A. The *Focus on Marriage* conference, made possible via satellite technology will offer strengthening tools and compelling insights for marriages at all

stages.

The conference will feature speakers Beth Moore, Dr. Gary Smalley, Gary Thomas, John Trent and Del Tackett along with popular Christian musician Jeremy Camp. Speakers will discuss marriage as it relates to Christ and the Church, the Trinity, and everyday changes that can be made to strengthen the relationship between a husband and wife. Our goal is to use this

event as a springboard to equip couples long-term in their relationships in ways that are practical and affirming. We anticipate a powerful weekend for marriages."

Tickets are available by calling the church office at 586-3205. Tickets cost \$40 per couple through January 16th. Single tickets are also available. The conference will last from 8:30A-3:00P. Get your tickets soon.



January Calendar

- 1 – Happy New Year!
Office Closed
- 3 – Youth to Predators
Game in Nashville
- 4 – Deacon Ordination
@ 5:30P
- 5, 6 – Upward practice
In CLC @ 5:30-7:30P
- 9-10 – Women's Retreat
@ Barren River. Leave
@ 5:00P, Return @ 5P
- 10 – Upward games @
9:00A
- 11 – Vision Discussion
w/ Pastor @ 5:30P
- 12, 13 Upward practice
- 12 – Simpson Baptist
Assoc. @ FBC, 7P
- 13 – Church Council @
6:30P in CR
- 14 – Quarterly Church
Business Meeting
- 16 – Youth Fifth Quarter
After game in CLC
- 17 – Upward games
- 18 – Sanctify of Life Day
Child dedication
- 19, 20 Upward practice
- 24 – Upward games
- 26 – Reflections Choir
- 26, 27 Upward practice
- 31 – Upward games

Missionary Focus

Pray for Don and Janis Philips as they travel to Africa to visit with Mark, Parker and Isabelle.

Mustard Seed Fellowship

Music Ministry Notes from Don

Several years ago, Greg Faull wrote a very insightful article about worship that I think is still very much appropriate:

I really don't think God cares what instruments we use in worship, the worship style, or even the songs we sing. Instead He asks, "Do I have their hearts?" Do they love Me with the totality of their souls? Have they given me dominion over their lives?"

We must understand that music, preaching, and singing are not worship.

These can be vital tools and activities that promote worship, but in and of themselves they are not worship. The worship service is about connecting people to God. The central focus must always be on God, not the style. Music then, whatever the style, is not seen as worship, but as a powerful tool that can help people connect with God and express faith, praise, and sacrifice to Him. When music is seen as a tool, we will no longer say, "What is our tradition so we can

maintain it?" Instead we will ask "What kind of music will best connect members of our community and church to God?" Let's leave the worship debates behind and focus on connecting people to God. People do not need our debate. They need to be led to truly and passionately worship. Let's be willing to do whatever it takes, to use whatever music style it takes, to connect people to God.

Selah. (from the Psalms, meaning "pause or think on these things").

Youth and Children Ministry

FBC Student and Children's Ministries: More than just fun and games.

Teenagers? Children? You want what? These are often the words spoken when asked about Student and Children's Ministry. For years the popular notion was to keep them "entertained". Well things have changed in the past 20 years. As technology, culture, and life advances, so must we. As a church we have the task of

inviting, ministering and even disciplining people. As the New Year begins, we have some wonderful Bible studies, lessons, talks, service opportunities and even games and fun events. Being a Christian today is tough, and it is critically important to know what and why we believe. Our students will be challenged in a new Bible study series; The Gospel Journey Maui. In this series students will learn where

how Christianity stacks up to other religions and how God's truth applies in their lives. With our children we are in the process of expanding Children's Worship. As Children's Worship expands and grows, so will the excitement and work of God in their lives.

There are several wonderful events planned. You are encouraged to come check things out.

Melinda – Women's & Discipleship

Discover all you need to know about Franklin First Baptist Church. If you are a new member of FBC or are considering becoming a member you do not want to miss out on the FBC Discovery Class. You will have the opportunity to meet the staff up-close and personal, get to know a small group of your new church family, learn about basic Baptist beliefs,

discover how First Baptist operates, and explore your spiritual gifts. The Discovery class will meet for five weeks beginning January 4th at 9:30 in the extra office next to the Pastor's study. If you'd like to learn more or to be a part of this group, see Melinda.

God is doing great things at First Baptist Church! I hope you will be available to Him for the great plans He desires to do in your life.