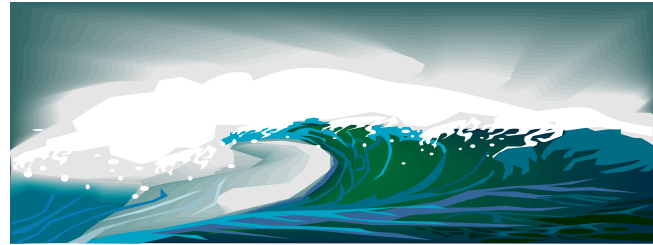




The *February 2019*
Anchor

We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...Heb.6:19a



**First Baptist Church , 215 Ann Street, Ravenswood, WV 26164 ~
1-304-273-9910 ~ www.fbcravenswood.org**

February is known as the love month. February is also the anniversary of mine and Jen's first date. I'll save you the details of that, but will say there is no greater feeling than love. To give love and to be loved are two of the most satisfying emotions we extend to one another. Of course, our love for each other in the church is brotherly love. We care for each other. We laugh with each other and we cry with each other. This is what makes a church family so special.

Jesus, Himself, told His followers that we have a new commandment to love each other. He said, that people will know from this behavior "love" that we are His disciples (John 13:34-35). Love is about putting someone else's needs above our own. The old adage is; love means never having to say you're sorry. Love is when someone needs you, and you're there, regardless. Love is taking that phone call at midnight when you're tired, because you know that someone needs your ear for that moment. Love is helping a person with groceries, medicine, a bill, babysitting for a child, helping clean the house, or mowing someone's lawn. Love is when you visit someone with the sole purpose of "visiting" to bring them joy. Love is when you remember anniversaries and dates of events in peoples' lives that matter most to them. This could be the birth of a child, a wedding, a baptism, or even a death in the family. Church, we are called to love, love, love. Galatians 5:13 reminds us to serve in love:

"For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

Let us love freely and often. Let us find joy in extending a hand to those who need it. Let us find joy in encouraging others, praying with others, and helping where we can. Let us find joy in our giving. All of these things – are examples of love. Of course, the greatest example we have, is how Jesus gave His life for our sins. He took our punishment on the cross. He gave us eternal life, so we would not be separated from God.

2 Corinthians 5:21: "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

I love the scriptures -- *"I go to prepare a place..,"* and *"I'll come again"* showing we're not forgotten. We are never really alone. Jesus is there. The Holy Spirit will comfort us and go with us. The Lord has an open ear toward us, because He loves us. And, we love Him.

John 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

During this month, I challenge you to think about what you can do to show someone love. Don't wait until Valentine's Day either. That's too easy. But rather, find a way, where you can say to a friend, a brother or sister in Christ, a neighbor, or even a complete stranger....how much God loves them. Do it with a prayer together, a card, a gift, candy, or even just a brief conversation and a hug. We all love to be appreciated. So, who can we appreciate?

Letting people know how much they mean to us, is an example of God reaching out to us, when we least expected it. Be a blessing today. Let your LOVE shine... Perhaps, you can try a random act of kindness for no reason. Simply strive to demonstrate that God's love exists everywhere you go. February is a good reminder to us all, that **WE ARE LOVED**. *God is love*. Let's share that love with someone today!

Say it with me... **I... AM... LOVED**.

In His Service,

Pastor Toby



The Youth have been active with different things in January. They did a great job performing their song *The Wisemen* during the program for *Breakfast with the Wisemen*.

We sent out a lot of cards to our church and community people to let them know we love them and are praying for them.

Due to weather conditions, we weren't able to meet Sunday or Wednesday of the last week of January.

We are looking forward to having a great time at the annual Super Bowl Party on February 3. We are going to have lots of games, prizes and, of course, food.

Our Bible studies have continued and our numbers have averaged about 15 each time we've met.

Blessings,

Ann

Monthly Meetings & Activities

- Feb 2 Church Officer Training @ 8:45
- Feb 3 Youth Super Bowl Party @ 6-7:30
- Feb 4 Trustee Meeting @ 7
Deacon Meeting @ 8
- Feb 8 Movie Night @ 7
- Feb 11 Finance Committee @ 6:00
BOCE @ 7:00
- Feb 12 Men's Fellowship @ 6:30
- Feb 17 Love To Go
- Feb 20 Anchor Articles & Ideas Due
- Feb 21 CIRCLE @ 7:00
- Feb 23 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ 8:30
- Feb 26 Constitution/Bylaw Review @ 6:00
- Feb 28 Game Day @ 1-3

Nursery Workers

- Feb 3 Jessica Morgan
- Feb 10 Jen Wagoner
- Feb 17 Rhonda Ritchie
- Feb 24 Bev Stevenson

Children's Church

- Feb 3 Leanne Thompson
- Feb 10 John Stephenson
- Feb 17 Jessica Morgan
- Feb 24 Fred & Seth McGoskey

CommUnity Kitchen

- Feb 2 Burt Lyons
- Feb 9 FUMC
- Feb 16 Pilot Club
- Feb 23 Susan West crew

Bell Ringers

- Feb 3 Mary Beth Stewart
- Feb 10 Cole McGoskey
- Feb 17 Kian McGoskey
- Feb 24 Isaac Adkins

Deaconess for Communion

Carolyn Brown

Junior Usher

John Wagoner

Focus on Sunday School:



Heartfelt Love

February is a month full of love. The American Heart Association promotes heart health this month.

Children make and give valentine cards to friends, teachers and family members. All full of hearts and sweetness.

Husbands and wives (hopefully) take time to remember how much they love each other with gifts and cards.

I googled how many times the word 'love' and it's derivatives were used in the Bible.....765 times!

However, Biblical love is not just for February - it's for **every** day, **every** month, the **whole** year and **through eternity**.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life.

This much-loved verse from John 3:16 says it all. He Loves Us! Forever! Everyone!

And you can learn more about love in Sunday School.

Attend Sunday School this week!

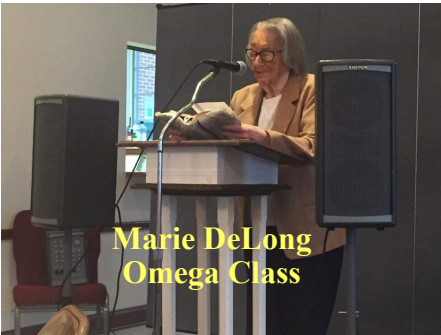


Breakfast With the Wisemen

Once again, we were able to finish off the Christmas season with our annual Breakfast with the Wisemen. The program has scripture readings that include the prophecy of Jesus' birth and leading to the visit of the magi to the *home* of the Mary, Joseph and Jesus. This year we were blessed to have the youth perform the Wiseman song from their Christmas play. Many thanks for those involved with the program and the breakfast.



Our Jesus this year was little Beckett Wyant. (He's hiding between the candles.) Mary was his mom, Ashlee and Joseph was his dad, Brandon Wyant. The Wisemen were Burt Lyons, Richard Massey, and Jon Moore (grandfather of Jesus) 😊



Marie DeLong
Omega Class



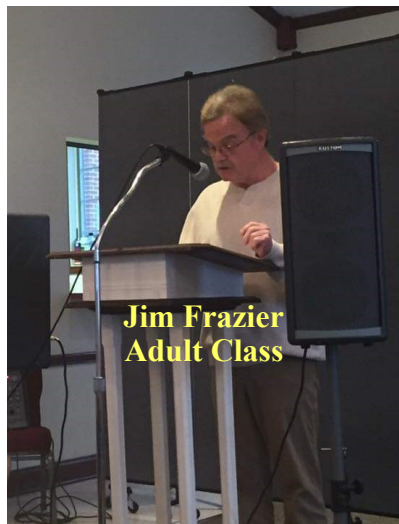
Ryley Thompson
Grade Class



Josh Mize
RAktivists Class



Sandy Confer
Women of God Class



Jim Frazier
Adult Class



FOOD
FOOD
FOOD

Ending 2018 Right



First Baptist continued the tradition of ending the old year focusing on the Lord. People gathered throughout the hour long Holy Communion service on December 31 to remember all that Jesus did for us. The solemn, beautiful setting allowed individuals to talk with God and pray for things past, present and future.

Many thanks to the deacons and Pastor Toby for their dedication to the Lord's work.

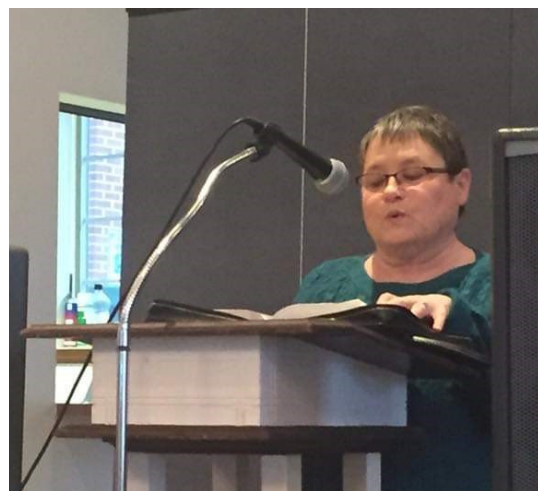


Welcome to First Baptist Fellowship!

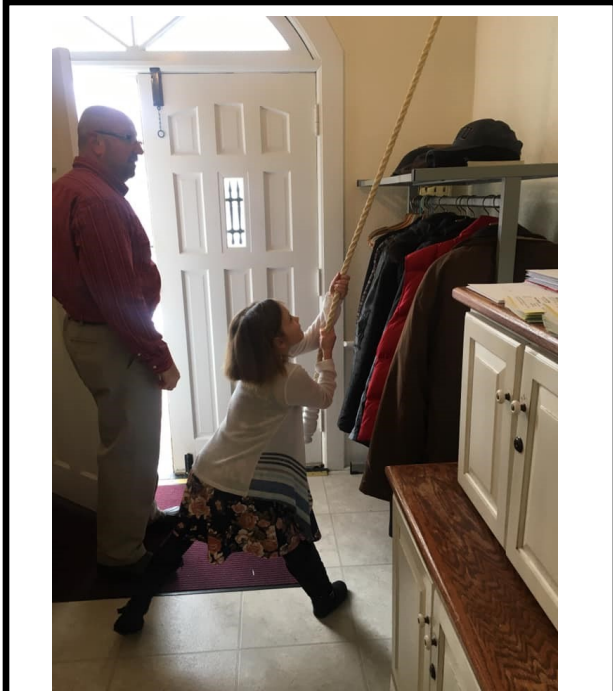
We have 3 new members at FBC. When you see them around, make sure to give them a big welcome.



Kerry Wines and Lisa Hoke



Sandy Confer



Riley Stewart

Riley is hanging on and giving it her all as she takes a turn with ringing the big bell!

Our younger kids are taking turns ringing the bell each Sunday morning. If your child would like a turn, contact Susan in the office.

Way to go, Riley!



When is a good time to join us to hear a great sermon or bible study? Anytime on Sunday nights or Wednesdays evenings.

The atmosphere is relaxed, the fellowship is loving and the sermons and studies are topnotch!

Join us today!



Our second **Adults' Game Day** of the year will be February 28 from 1:00 to 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

Everyone is welcome to come out and play!

Junior Ushers

One new project started with the FBC15 is our use of Junior Ushers.

Jon Moore will be training one of our senior high youth each month on how to be a church usher.

Jon has been the head usher at FBC for many years and will be able to teach the kids all about this job of serving the Lord.

The Junior Usher for February is John Wagoner.

Love To Go



February 17 after church

Sponsored by ABWM

The donations from this fund raiser will go to Love Gift and Cece's Project, a project to give dolls to Alzheimer victims in Jackson/Kanawha County area.



IT IS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIME! HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR GIRLS & COLLEGE STUDENTS

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must:

- a. Be a member of a West Virginia Baptist Convention Church for at least one year prior to her application;
- b. Be an active participant in her church program;
- c. Be a high school graduate;
- d. Submit a transcript of her grades from the last school attended in order to demonstrate scholastic ability and deportment;
- e. Apply directly to the Coordinator of Scholarship/Loan;
- f. Demonstrate her financial need by completing the confidential questions on the application form;
- g. Secure the endorsement of the pastor of her church for character and worthiness, which said endorsement must be received by the Coordinator of Scholarship/Loan no later than March 1st .
- h. Submit a letter/essay on a personal reflection of her life;
- i. Secure character references from two citizens of the community other than relations, which said references must be received by the Coordinator of Scholarship/Loan no later than March 1st .

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please contact State Scholarship/Loan Coordinator for an application.

Jane Mullen
P. O. Box 257
Harrisville, WV 25362
304-299-3208 (Cell)
304-643-5993
Ljwm1108@zoominternet.net

Application with accompanying documents must be in the hands of the State Coordinator by
March 1st .

MEMORIES

You show that you are a letter from Christ...written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of the human hearts. 2 Corinthians 3:3

This article is dedicated to my wonderful wife for the Legacy she's leaving

As we live each day, we are making memories. Every day adds to them and determines more fully their final character. What we leave behind may not be intentional. We may change someone's life without even knowing it. But whether we know it or not, we pray that the impact we make on others is Christ-centered and Christ-pleasing.

My wife is constantly making memories and the way she does determines the way in which we live. Her memories will make our old age happy. That is what memories do! Our fondest memories should be our daily life in our Christian home. Memories should be made every day of the week, for you never know when you are making the last of them. Life is so uncertain that we never know when we are having the last meal, last talk or the last walk together. One thing as a family we've always done when parting company, ending a phone call, text message say "Love you". Never leave the house in the morning if there has been a misunderstanding, bitter word or ugly words, or sullen silence. They may become a lifelong bitter memory.

Memories! When made, they are eternal and cannot be changed! I have found out the best defense to ensure positive memories are these eight special words: "I'm sorry", "Forgive me," and "I love you."

I believe memories start at home. We should be assured that the child we send out into the world will never fully escape from the memories and influences of the home. If the child's home has been true and sweet, its benediction goes through all of life.

"Sin may sweep over the soul like a devastating fire; sorrow may quench every joy and hope; but the memory of a sweet and blessed home lives on like a solitary star burning in the night. And even in the midst of sin, its picture floats before the mind like a vanishing dream."

A memory that has been burnt into my soul by my wife is her nightly ritual with our son. A Legacy I know he'll carry in his heart for eternally. Every night as my son goes to bed, with a gentle footstep she will enter his room and appear at his bedside. At first there are a few pleasant inquires of affection, which gradually deepened into words of counsel. Then she kneels' her head close to his, where her most earnest hopes and prayers will flow forth in prayer. How impressive a mother would wish for her boy! Rising with a goodnight kiss, she says I love you and departs.

A memory like this is the greatest gift a parent can leave a child. We must have Christ in our homes if our memories are to be all that they should.

May God help us all to live in a home so sweetly. One of the best rewards will be our children, grandchildren and future generations if they follow the example of my wife for building a Christian home where Jesus Christ is the continuously invited guest and His Word is our standard and guide. It builds a solid foundation against the time.

Thank you my wife, for making our Christian home the nearest thing to Heaven. Love you!

Submitted by: Burt Lyons

Deaconesses Starting Out The New Year



The Deaconesses met at the home of Rose Stephenson in January to plan activities for the coming year. John served refreshments to the group.

Deaconesses are always quietly doing the Lord's work - mostly behind the scenes. They are a great, dedicated group of ladies.

Thank you for your service to the Lord!

Carolyn Brown
Helen Johnson
Deb Lyons
Robin McGoskey
Rose Stephenson

Movie Night at FBC

Our FBC movie season began on January 11 with a showing of *The Shack*. About 30 or more enjoyed the evening with popcorn, pizza and drinks as they watched the movie.

Our next movie night will be Friday, February 8 at 7:00. We will be showing *Hidden Figures*.

Hidden Figures is an upbeat, inspiring tale of women in the NASA program during the 1960's. The movie is rated PG.

Pizza, snacks and drinks will be provided.

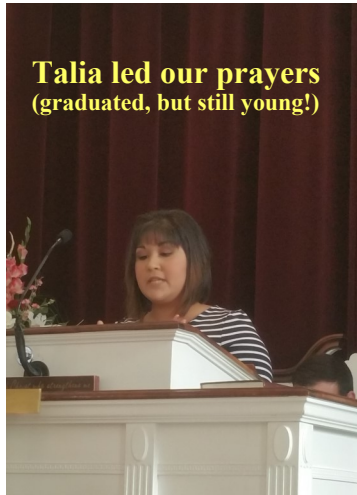


COLLEGE SUNDAY 2019

Many thanks to those college students who participated in College Sunday!



MC Jesse



Talía led our prayers
(graduated, but still young!)



Beautiful Message
by Cari



Ushers: Jesse, Holly, Nathanael and Adriana

Men's Fellowship Starts Again!



Food, Fellowship and a Message of Hope

CommUnity Kitchen Adds New Groups

The Broken Chains Ministry is giving back to the community with their work with the CommUnity Kitchen. They prepared a great lunch and had fellowship with those on Saturday.



Another new group that has joined the ministry is the Pilot Club from Ripley. Soon they will be dishing out good meals to our community people.

Many thanks to those groups and individuals who are willing to spend a few hours on a Saturday to help the needy. Some individual families who joined this year are the Wagoners, the Pursleys and the Crows.

We have 2 more Saturdays to fill this year. If you would like to be a part of this work, please contact Susan West in the office.



Watching God in Creation

Crazy or not, these 5 ladies (Abbi took the pictures) braced the elements to watch a beautiful sight.

The sky was clear, the stars were bright, the moon was Super and the eclipse was Godly.


And yes, the temperature was **COLD!**



Susan, Kathy, Sandy, & Rhonda

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Book of the Month
February 2019
Joel




February Meetings

2/4
Trustees—6:00
Deacons—7:00

2/11
Finance—6
BOCE—7:00

2/26
Constitution/Bylaw Review-
6:00

February Birthdays



Connie Staats 2/6
Jennie Wise 2/11
Talia Martinez 2/12
Anna Davis 2/16
Mike Hall 2/16
Jared Torris 2/16
Carolyn Torris 2/20
Mike Graham 2/23
Dave Williams 2/27

Is your birthday name missing?
Tell Susan

Adult Game Day!!
February 28
1:00 to 3:00



Men's Fellowship
February 12
@ 6:30



Movie Night!
Yea!
February 8 at



Love To Go



February 17 after church
Sponsored by ABWM

February 23 @ 8:30




MEN'S PRAYER
BREAKFAST

At Hopewell Baptist Church

Youth Super Bowl LIII Party
Sunday, Feb 3 @ 6:00



Women's CIRCLE
February 21 @ 7:00
@ Jen Wagoner's home



Have you checked out the prayer calendar today?

CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Prayer for our fellow members is an important part of our relationship with the Lord and helps us to grow closer as a church family. Each day during this month there is a different individual or family that you are asked to include in your prayers.



February 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Jesse Mize	2 David & Mary Jo Moore, Hunter
3 Jon & Jane Moore	4 Rick & Cathy Murray	5 Leigha Myers	6 John "Nikki" Nicholson	7 John & Jennifer Ortt	8 Allen & Holly Palmer	9 Adam Palmer
10 Tyler & Jennifer Pitts, Owen & Isabella	11 Mick & Susan Price	12 Mary Proctor	13 Amy & Ron Purdue, Destiny Thomas	14 Kay Pursley	15 Roger & Belinda Rader	16 Lee & Connie Reynolds
17 Rhonda Ritchie	18 Brent & Angel Ritchie, Connor, Lincoln	19 Tyler & Michelle Ritchie, Josh, Mary Beth	20 Rankin Roach	21 Tim & Cindy Rupert, Katelyn	22 Darrell & Camille Smith	23 Jim Speer
24 Bill & Liz Stewart, Michael, Riley, Riley, Mary Beth	25 Tim & Connie Staats	26 Cole & Diana Staats	27 Ron & Amy Starkey	28 Warner Stephens		

“ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. ”



1 Corinthians 13:13