

FBCNP Family Newsletter

January 2014

Dear Julie,

Happy New Year! No matter what circumstances this New Year finds us in, we can whole-heartedly rejoice in the One who has secured for us eternal Salvation through His precious blood. May we glorify our Savior and Lord in our minds, words, and actions each day.

THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR JEFF

If I had a word to describe 2013, it would have to be "transition". There is no doubt that First Baptist, as a family of God, has seen many changes and experienced a multitude of challenges this past year. We have had long-time members move to lower 48 with new jobs or retire while many military folks have moved to other bases; I would mention them by name but would no doubt miss one. We had Johnny McCoy, our pastor of 30 years, retire and move to Tennessee with his beautiful wife. Of course, he tells us he has not retired but is being "refired". You have given me the honor and responsibility of leading First Baptist as your new Pastor - for that I am humbled and ever dependent on God. We have a new office administrator, Julie Watson, who has been a great addition to the ministry team. There has been many losses of loved ones to The Lord, personal trials, and difficult tribulations. I could keep going on, but the point is, God has done some amazing things this past year, has given us strength to endure the storms, and has blessed us all. He has seen us through a year of transition.

If I have one word to describe my desire for 2014, it would be "growth". When I say "growth" I don't mean just in numbers. While numbers are great, what I desire for 2014 is each person growing deeper in their knowledge of God; deeper in the understating of His Word manifesting in:

- Growth in personal faith and trust in God
- Growth in the understanding and desire to worship God
- Growth in our love for Jesus and the family of God
 - Growth in a desire to reach the lost
- Growth in serving each other and the community
- Growth in personal holiness and Christlikeness.

For things to grow, it takes effort: water, cultivation, fertilizing, planting, pruning, and time. For us to grow in Christ, it will take all of this and more. Growth does not come easy or cheap; sometimes there is pain in the offering, but it is worth it. It's time to grow, First Baptist, This year I want to challenge you to do 1+1+1:

- Attend 1 worship service each week
- Attend 1 bible study each week
- Commit to serve in 1 ministry

If you commit to do this for a year, you will grow. Of course there will be challenges, but as I said, growing takes effort. Are you ready to grow? I am.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, "For everything there is a season..... Time to grow."



It's a new semester of Awana! Please bring your children out Wednesday nights for an incredible time of music, games, Scripture memory, and Bible study. The free family dinner begins at 5:30 and Awana is from 6:15-8:00.

January Themes and Dinner

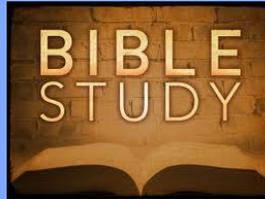
Menu

1/8 - All You Can Say Night
Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Dessert

1/15 - The Indestructible Word Night
Meatloaf, Mac&Chs, Green Beans

1/22 - My Warm House Night
Enchilada Casserole, Mexican rice, Refried Beans, Chips/Salsa

1/29 - Bring a Box of Band-Aids Night
Sandwiches, Chips, Apple Slices



Ladies: Monday Night at 6:00 from 1/6 to 3/24 - Beth Moore's Daniel Study.

Men: Welcome, CJ Neville, as our new Men's Leader! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for our men who would like to grow Spiritually through a men's Bible study. There is a

Men's Breakfast Saturday, 1/18 at 8:00 to fellowship and discuss Bible study topics.

Sunday Night Discipleship Training

On 2/9, our church will kick-off multiple Bible studies for all ages.

Please fill out the Discipleship Survey in your bulletin Sunday to let us know what topics you are interested in. You can drop off completed survey in the offering plate or to the church office.



The Prayer Room is up and running. Thank you to all the prayer warriors who diligently pray for the posted prayer requests. If you have a specific prayer need, please fill out a prayer request sheet and place it in the prayer box at the back of the sanctuary.

Praying Sisters

If you are participating in Praying Sisters, please make sure to contact your Sister this week by email, phone, or card and encourage her in the Lord. - And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. - Ephesians 6:18



CARE AND SHARE is a vital ministry at FBCNP. It is based on Galatians 6:10, *'Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith,'* and Philippians 2:2-4.

Care and Share cooks/provides meals for church family members who have been affected by sickness, the death of a loved one, and for families who have welcomed a baby into their home.

We are currently revamping the volunteer list for Care and Share. If you are willing to serve in this



We are currently serving 13 local families with monthly food boxes. Family food boxes are picked up the first Saturday of each month.

We need your help! On the bulletin board is a list of foods we need each month. There is also a weekly focus food group listed in the weekly bulletin. We are focussing on dry goods January 5th - 11th. There is a food collection box in the hallway if you feel led to help out this ministry. Please contact Michelle Durrell if you have any questions. In



WOMEN'S WINTER WAKE-UP

Guest Speaker - Dawn Jordan
(professional musician and inspirational speaker)

Where: University Baptist church
When: 1/31 from 7 to 9 PM and 2/1 from 10 to Noon
Childcare Available on a Limited Basis

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for those who would

capacity, please sign up - the volunteer list is on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please contact the Care and Share leader, Leanna Ashley.

in conjunction with the food box ministry, our church also has a free **Clothing Closet** which is open from 10 to 3 the first Saturday of each month. Please see Fawn Charles if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.

like to go as a group.

Cost: \$30 if you register online at www.tananavalleybaptistassociation.com

CHURCH-WIDE 1 JOHN AGAPE BANQUET

The book of 1 John is filled with commands to love one another. 1 John 4:7 tells us, '*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*' There are two Greek definitions of love in this Scripture. The first and third occurrence of love is **agapaó** - 'to take pleasure in; to long for'. The second occurrence of love in 1 John 4:7 (for love is of God) is **agapé**, and in this particular Scripture, it means 'the love of Christians towards Christians; brotherly affection'. If we apply these definitions to 1 John 4:7, it says, '*Let us find delight in one another, for brotherly affection is from God, and everyone who finds deight in the body of Christ is born of God and knows Him.*'

In celebraton of this love for one another, FBCNP is holding a church-wide Agape Banquet. There will be a delicious dinner, entertainment, music, a devotion, and some wonderful fellowship. There will also be a mission emphasis to support our local missions. Watch the bulletins for more information about this opportunity to 'find delight' in each other. If you would like to help in the planning, please see Julie Watson directly after church on Sunday, Januray 5th.

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