



First Foundations

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MAY 25, 2018

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, RALEIGH, NC

FOUNDED IN 1812

Pullen Park Picnic

The final Centerpoint event for this Spring will be a picnic in Shelter #4 at Pullen Park, 408 Ashe Avenue. Pullen Park, the oldest public park in NC, features amusement rides and playgrounds. The festivities begin at 5:00 p.m.; dinner will include burgers, hot dogs, pork BBQ, baked beans, and coleslaw (non-meat option: veggie burgers). Please make a dinner reservation no later than noon on Monday, May 28, by calling the church office or emailing firstbaptist@fbcraleigh.org.

Come earlier if you want to enjoy the park. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, and supplies such as Frisbees to take full advantage of the facilities. Information about the park and parking may be found at <https://www.raleighnc.gov/parks/content/ParksRec/Articles/Parks/Pullen.html>.

Call for Graduates

Do you know of FBC members who received a college or post-graduate degree this spring? Contact Denise Arnold (darnold@fbcraleigh.org or 919-832-4485, ext. 200) by June 21 with the graduate's name, school, and degree awarded. Each graduate will be recognized in a future issue of this newsletter.

Minister with Community - Search Committee Update

The search for the new Minister with Community continues to move ahead, and the committee is thrilled with the way the process has gone so far. We've asked candidates about their gifts and experiences with the two different aspects of this role: the social ministries and community ministry components, as well as the community outreach and relationship building with our downtown neighbors. We have heard from our applicants in writing, and have had Skype conversations with a handful of those.

We know this process seems to take a long time. But we are committed to finding the right person, someone who can truly be the face of FBC to those around us. We're still in conversation with a number of candidates, and we will continue getting to know them until we feel confident moving forward. We trust that we're headed in the right direction and look forward to introducing that person to our First Baptist family! ■



On a beautiful spring Sunday evening, members of the church family gathered in the Pollinator Garden of NCSU's Gregg Museum for our Celtic-inspired Vespers service. The setting provided a lovely space for our time of worship giving thanks for God's creation.



From the Pastor

The first five months of this year have been filled to overflowing with purposeful activity in our church. Perhaps it always seems busy from my perspective, but this year has been especially so in a good way.

Our search committee is prayerfully seeking our very first Minister with Community. Our *ad hoc* facilities assessment committee is in the midst of a thorough evaluation of the Lewis Building, both current use and condition and future hopes and possibilities. The church conference approved a few special mission grants recommended by the church council and the council is still considering others. We are working on a new Pictorial Directory. We had another successful Kay Huggins Classic, raising several thousand dollars for the Day Mission Fund and discovering that Dan Day has a hidden talent for putting (so long as someone else helps him line up the putt). The deacons are expanding their involvement in congregational care. And Trey Davis and the youth have organized yet another highly successful auction.

And all of this is on top of two mission trips to Honduras, a churchwide retreat, a Celtic Vespers Service at the Gregg Museum, a Family Promise week, and the dental bus ministry, not to mention weekly Sunday School and worship, Wednesday night programs, music and missions activities (with year-end programs), youth programs, the amazing work of the clothing ministry, etc., etc. It takes more than a village to be the church and do all that the church does, at least a church like ours. And the good news is we have a wonderful cast of characters who are willing to do whatever needs to be done to fulfill our mission.

I say all of this not to justify my need for an upcoming vacation,

PASTOR—continued on page 3

Heck-Jones Offering: “Train Up A Child...”

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 22:6

As an RA leader and Sunday School teacher, I have the privilege of watching the children and youth in our church grow in their faith. From RA/GA mission projects to Youth mission trips, opportunities to serve others as an expression of our faith are part of the fabric of who we are and what we do.

As part of the Heck-Jones Offering, we have the opportunity to celebrate and support a young man and young woman who grew up in our church and have now dedicated their careers to mission work.

Alex Thompson works for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes as Director of Operations in our area. The mission of FCA is “To lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church.” Alex also volunteers as a leader in our youth group. The Heck-Jones Offering will support his work in the FCA ministry.

Elizabeth Morris Brenneman and her husband Josh serve with his family’s non-profit Next Step Storm. Many of our youth and college mission trips have been to Alabama to work with this group, whose mission is to rebuild homes after natural disasters such as tornados in Alabama and hurricanes in Texas. We are sending 50 youth to work with them again this June, and will have the opportunity to reconnect with Elizabeth and her family. This organization relies on offerings such as the Heck-Jones Offering to fund their critical work.

Through teaching them in Sunday School, leading them on Wednesday nights, chaperoning, volunteering, and encouraging them with smiles in the lobby, we have all had a hand in “training up” these two amazing individuals. Please consider continuing that support through a gift to the Heck-Jones Offering. Your gift will support Alex, Elizabeth, and many other mission organizations with a connection to our congregation.

— Chuck Underwood

Churchwide Retreat Reflection

FBC Raleigh took its show on the road and held a churchwide retreat at Caswell in April. For me it started by setting up a campfire, which is always fun. It was doubly fun when I got to set it up on a beachfront and with members of FBC Raleigh making s’mores.

The weekend included many highlights, including an intergenerational learning experience as we considered the walls we create to keep others out. We also had electives, which for me were Fishing with Kent Dickens as we tried to break in the new pier and Line Dancing with friends under Redwine. We shared meals together. Some meals were in our cottage kitchens, and we helped each other prepare and clean up. One meal was with the whole crowd together. Throughout the weekend we spent time with fellow FBC members that we don’t always get to talk to but care for nonetheless. Even as we packed up, we were able to learn and practice taking down our walls and supporting one another through fellowship.

Reflecting, the weekend was a great representation of our church body. Our church is more than the walls that are located in Raleigh. It is the people who make the church a place where we spend time together, support one another, and learn about this journey of faith. Together.

— JD Rhodes

Ironman Race Causing Less Disruption

This year’s Ironman Race on Sunday, June 3, will create less disruption than in previous years. According to the Raleigh Police, streets around the church will remain open. The only traffic change will involve a detour from McDowell Street to MLK Blvd to Person Street. Dashboard passes will not be necessary.

Offering Envelope Options Available

First, a big thank you for the response of our congregation last fall to help us purchase only the number of offering envelopes that are needed. We were able to reduce our boxed envelopes order by 300 boxes. Of those 300 giving units (family or individual), 150 giving units chose an envelope option that costs us considerably less. Another 150 giving units simply did not need envelopes due to automatic drafts, VANCO payments, credit card payments, PayPal, or choosing to use an envelope from the pew.

It is time to place our 2019 envelope order. If you are happy with your envelope plan, then you need to do nothing. If you wish to adjust your current plan or wish to start receiving envelopes, please contact Wayne Hager at whager@fbcraleigh.org. You may choose from these envelope options:

- A box including envelopes for 52 weekly budget offerings and special offering envelopes (Fellowship Fund, CBF Global Mission Offering, Heck-Jones Offering, and State Missions Offering);
- 26 envelopes for budget offerings (with or without special offering envelopes);
- 12 envelopes for budget offerings (with or without special offering envelopes).

Thank you for your faithful financial support of the ministries of our church. ■

Silent Auction a Success

The youth, college students, and I are extremely thankful to everyone who helped with this year's silent auction. Whether you donated your vacation homes, your time baking in a kitchen, your energy and skills creating artwork, or your financial resources, we can't tell you how much we appreciate the contribution.

Thank you also to everyone who bid generously. According to every record I can find, we raised more through this year's auction than we ever have before, a total over \$16,500. Thank you for making this fundraiser work, and for making it work well enough that our students can pursue service and learning opportunities such as this year's trips to Alabama and Honduras. Their lives will be shaped by those whom they encounter on these trips, just as they are shaped by your generosity and kindness.

— *Trey Davis*

PASTOR—continued from page 2

though I do need it, but to underscore the progress we are making toward our vision of future ministry and to highlight the number of people who are making this progress possible. Every activity I have listed (and this is not an exhaustive list) requires scores of volunteers which is why there is a practical limit on how much a church can do in any given time. We cannot add more and more to the plate without removing anything. But our people have been incredibly generous with their time and, as most of you know very well, this includes our staff.

And I would add this important note. In addition to the more formal tasks that are visible to most, there are many things that our people do without notice or recognition, like Charles Petty and Jerry Dudeck doing major work to get our restrooms up-to-date; Ryan Willis, Holly Ivel and many others helping people in need who show up on our doorsteps on Sunday mornings; and countless others who would be even more upset than these First Baptist saints if I mentioned them by name. There is more good that goes on than anyone knows, there are more people being church in their own humble way than we could possibly recognize.

So, thanks to all who are making all of this possible, including those who can only help at this point in life through prayer and financial support; these things too are much needed. And the next time someone criticizes the church for not doing enough, or perhaps you have your own questions or doubts, look back at this list and take heart. "God Calls Us Still" was our 200th anniversary theme. Indeed, God does, and many of us are responding! **CC**

Week at a Glance

Sunday, May 27

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service/S
Japanese Worship/227

Monday, May 28

Memorial Day – Office Closed

Tuesday, May 29

10:00 am Ministerial Staff Meeting/CR
10:30 am WMU Group 2/Springmoor
6:00 pm Theology on Tap/Raleigh Times

Wednesday, May 30

10:00 am Clothing Ministry
5:00 pm Pullen Park Picnic/Shelter #4

Thursday, May 31

7:00 am Band of Brothers/CR
10:30 am Thirty-Niners/FH
11:00 am Library Committee/L
1:00 pm Clothing Ministry

Sunday, June 3

8:30 am HS Graduate Breakfast/FH
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service/S
Japanese Worship/227
5:30 pm Youth Group/FH

Tuesday, June 5

10:00 am Ministerial Staff Meeting/CR
6:00 pm Theology on Tap/Raleigh Times

Wednesday, June 6

10:00 am Clothing Ministry
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir/310

Thursday, June 7

11:00 am Library Committee/L
1:00 pm Clothing Ministry

Sunday, June 10

8:30 am Adult SS Teacher Appreciation
Breakfast/FH
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service,
Communion/S
Japanese Worship/227

Game Night on June 24

Join the party as we gather in the Fellowship Hall for a dessert social at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 24, followed by a Game Night. Show off your culinary skills by bringing enough dessert to share with others. The church will provide the drinks. After sampling the array of desserts, there will be time to visit with friends or play games for all ages (Qwirkle, Ticket to Ride, Corn Hole, etc.). Have a favorite board game? Bring it!

Join us on June 24 for this time of fellowship over tasty desserts and fun games. No sign up required.

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STAFF

Ministers
All members of the church

Denise Arnold
Pastor's Administrative Assistant

Christopher Chapman
Pastor

Trey Davis
Youth/College

J. Daniel Day
Pastor Emeritus

Troy Dye
Food Services

Wayne Hager
Church Administrator

Donna G. Jolly
Organist

Lynn Lingafelt
Children

Deborah Mastrodonato
Staff Administrative Assistant

Rodney Mobley
Lead Custodian

Mary Alice Seals
Music/Senior Adults

Jimmy Thompson
Custodian

Bible Verses for Daily Use

From *Reflections Adult Devotional Guide*, Smyth & Helwys

Fri 5/25 – Acts 2:19-21	Sat 6/2 – Psalm 1
Sat 5/26 – Philippians 4:4-7	Sun 6/3 – Exodus 20:3-4
Sun 5/27 – Exodus 19:1-2	Mon 6/4 – Exodus 20:5-6
Mon 5/28 – Exodus 19:3-6	Tues 6/5 – Exodus 20:7
Tue 5/29 – Exodus 20:1-2	Wed 6/6 – Exodus 20:8-11
Wed 5/30 – Matthew 22:34-36	Th 6/7 – Psalm 18:1-3
Th 5/31 – Matthew 22:37-38	Fri 6/8 – Psalm 19:1-10
Fri 6/1 – Matthew 22:39-40	

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The Record We Wrote

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Current Week Revenue	\$45,642.23
Month-to-Date Revenue	\$121,799.03
Year-to-Date Revenue	\$597,764.32
Month-to-Date Expenses (as of 5/15/18)	\$56,610.98
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$510,771.70
Heck-Jones Offering	\$1,705.00

Deacon on Call

May 27– June 2
 John Shell

June 3-9
 Carl Bailey

Clothing Ministry Director Opening

The Clothing Ministry Committee is looking for a Coordinator to facilitate the ongoing outreach of this ministry. A mission that acts as the hands and feet of Christ to provide clothes to those in need, our goals include presenting the face of Christ to all involved in the ministry. The Coordinator will oversee day-to-day operations of the Clothing Ministry. Duties include, but are not limited to: *ex-officio* member of Clothing Ministry Committee; oversee and manage donated clothes; recruit, train and manage volunteers; budget management; oversee purchasing. Inquiries should be directed to Christopher Chapman (cchapman@fbcraleigh.org or 919-832-4485, ext. 200). ■

Among Our Family

Sympathy to Jerry Dudeck on the May 6 death of his sister, Joyce Dudeck; and to Lilli Kepley and family on the May 3 death of her mother, Laryce Rybka.

VBS Plans Underway

We're planning for our intergenerational Vacation Bible School – the evenings of July 29 through August 2 – and we need YOU! Please mark it on your calendar to come that week and start thinking of friends and neighbors you can invite! AND, might you also consider volunteering to help teach our preschoolers, gradeschool Bible study, or turn an interesting hobby or interest you have into an elective? If so, please contact Lynn Lingafelt at llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org. ■