



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday in the Park, March 25, 10:00 a.m., J. Frank Wilson Park

We will come together as Christians to greet other people in our community, sing together, and praise God. We will leave the Oakdale parking lot at 9:45 a.m. You may walk to the park or ride the church bus. There will be no Sunday school, so that everyone can take part in this community event. Chairs will be provided for those who can not stand during the service.

Maundy Thursday, March 29, Supper & Service in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday night dinner this week will be moved to Thursday at 5:30 p.m. A special Communion observance and prayer will begin at 6:15 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 1

- ◆ **9:00 a.m. Early Service** on the terrace. (weather permitting)
- ◆ **9:20 a.m. A Continental Breakfast** hosted by the Deacons in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ **9:50 a.m. Abbreviated Sunday School**
- ◆ **10:30 a.m.** All members meet in the Narthex and Sanctuary in order to welcome our guest to FBC and sit with them.
- ◆ **11:00 a.m. Worship Service**-A celebration worship hour that includes a Resurrection message, special music, fellowship, and a brief personal testimony on "What the resurrection means to me."



Covered Dish Lunch

honoring
Dr. Marvin Midkiff
Sunday, March 18
12:00 p.m.

Come join us for a covered dish lunch honoring, Dr. Marvin Midkiff, for his 56 years of faithful service to First Baptist Church as a Trustee.

Please bring a vegetable or salad. The meats, desserts, and beverages will be provided.
A basket will be provided for cards.

Pictorial Directory

Pictures will be taken for our directory every Sunday 12:15- 1:15 pm during the month of March in Room 111. (Pastor's Study)

Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Easter Flowers and Decorations

Many of our members appreciate the opportunity to contribute to Palm Sunday and Easter decorations for the Sanctuary. This is a way to honor or memorialize people who are special to us. If you would like to help please complete this information. Your gift will be acknowledged on Easter Sunday, April 1.

In Honor of _____ In Memory of _____

Given by _____

Do you have any ideas how we can raise money for missions?





CompassPoints

from the Pastor's Perspective...

How's Your "Do"?

I appreciate a quote found in the book *"Shaped by God's Heart"* by Milfred Minatrea. He refers back many years to Antoine de Saint-Exupéry who wrote in the early twentieth century. *"If you want to build a ship, don't drum up the men to gather wood, divide the work, and give orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea."* Of course, his reference wasn't particularly to shipbuilding but to almost any task that benefits from copious amounts of passion in hearts of committed adventurers. It is especially relevant to adventurous Christ-followers seeking to obediently build up the body of Christ and minister in their own mission fields.

For many generations the attitude of most western world Christians, that is those who have migrated out of old Christianized European countries to the New World, has increasingly developed as a philosophy of religion that emphasizes the building of beautiful structures with all the conveniences available to them. For obvious reasons this has generated an institutional approach. Day-to-day ministry is defined as that which takes place inside the building for the good and comfort of the members with many and varied programs designed exclusively for Christians. Heavy emphasis is placed on the social aspect of community with many friendly gatherings and informative programs that seek to "gather wood, divide the work, and give orders." There is no limit to food, fellowship, and sharing among the brethren. There are special trips to fun and interesting places, motivational speakers, wonderful music, and semi-annual rallies that are hoped to challenge and reinvigorate insiders who have become complacent.

The unfortunate side to all of this is that in the end, for all of the good intentions, things remain boringly the same, resulting in alarming reports of how dead or dying and ineffective our churches have become at spreading the Good News and transforming lives through Christ.

Our older churches with their busy schedules of non-stop programs are in decline, and unless there is a major rethinking of what her purpose is, the church will continue to lose her impact and influence on the secular world that surrounds. As churches "circle the

wagons" and work harder to protect themselves from contamination and change from outsiders and further their own comfort and Christian culture, those in deepest need of rescue and compassion will likely not find help from the one source that can help them most.

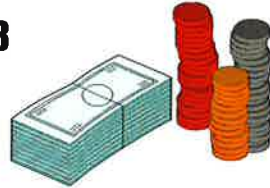
Every church I have ever been associated with would state that their purpose has something to do with sharing the Gospel with the lost and expanding the kingdom of God on earth. Though not always written out as a mission or vision statement, a high priority is that they covenant to love and care for one another. Obedience to the will and purpose of God is equally important, and a strong allegiance to the Holy Scriptures is an integral part of the whole mix. There is usually a strong and proud conviction in the air when they begin to talk about God's house being a house of prayer. These traits are healthy and biblically sound. However, if we want to be honest about our purpose it is more telling to take an inventory of our actions. The man who says his greatest priority is his family and yet never seems to find time to interact with his children or grow in his commitment to his wife is desperately off course. A business that claims to place the customer number one and yet does all it can to take money from the buyer while offering an inferior product with poor customer support will not be around for the duration.

Likewise, a church may make any number of spiritually sound statements and even fight to defend such opinions, but if a weekly inventory points out that there has been little or no contact with the community in which we live, total prayer offered in the "prayer house" can be counted in minutes, and activities and expenditures are almost entirely for the benefit and comfort of our members, then we should either restate our purpose so it agrees with our reality or redirect our efforts to agree with our statements. It was a wise old sage who pointed out that "words are cheap." There are those in our congregations who have a passion for what is truly the mission at the heart of God. Let's not waste our time, energy, and money drumming up men and women to prop up self-serving programs and activities, nit picking the details of caring for our own ease and prosperity, and barking orders. Instead, guide these adventurers to fan into flame the yearning passion for the vast and endless sea of wandering sheep without a shepherd. Let's make our "do" match our "say".

Pastor Steve

Stewardship Report — February 2018

\$ 383,486 Total Budget
63,914 Budget Needs Year to Date
40,504 Budget Receipts Year to Date
23,410 Budget Shortfall



www.firstbaptistmartinsville.com
www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchMartinsvilleVa

Wednesday Night Supper

Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Prayer & Devotion 6:05 p.m.

Make your reservations through the church by 4:00 p.m. on Mondays.

* There will be no Wednesday Night Supper March 28th. It has been moved to Thursday March 29 for Maundy Thursday service with Communion.

Baptist Men & Women's Speaker Series

January - April, every 4th Monday, they will host dinner and a speaker.

Time: 6:00 p.m. Cost \$7, \$24 season tickets

March 26th Tracy Hinchcliff, Executive Director of Grace Network, will be speaking on the services of Grace Network and the Back to School project. Please make your reservation the week before by calling the church office.

The Bassett Historical Center & DAR are sponsoring a Martinsville Henry County Memorial for Vietnam Veterans. They are "Looking for Vietnam Veterans". To have your name or the name of a family member on the memorial please call the Bassett Historical Center- 629-9191.

Children's Worship March

- 4 Linda Gale
- 11 Linda Gale
- 18 Marsha Garren
- 25 Gary & Crystal Darden

Remember to keep the Pastoral Search Committee in your daily prayers.

Library Drifts



A new project of the Library Committee involves coloring books for adults. On February 28th, members of the Library Committee went to King's Grant providing pages to color and colored pencils to use. The Activity was publicized to FBC members living at King's Grant by postcard (thanks Mary Taylor for the help) and to other interested residents at King's Grant with posters which displayed the details.

In celebration of prolific author Dr. Seuss' birthday, members of the Library Committee will host a party for the children at FBC Wee Ministry. His birthday is observed in schools throughout the United States as Read Across America where volunteers read to all ages of children in libraries and schools. Dr. Seuss' birthday is actually March 3 which is a Saturday; the Library Committee will have their party on Friday, March 2.

Other days unique to March are the beginning of Daylight Savings Time (March 11), Pi Day (March 14), Saint Patrick's Day (March 17), and the beginning of Spring (March 20). This year March 25th is Palm Sunday; March 30th will be Good Friday.

Stop by the Sue McCabe Library or one of the carts to check out a book to read.



Daylight Savings Time-March 11



January-March

Cereal (12-18 oz)

Please leave food in Room 101
Always needed:
Hygiene products

WMU News & Meetings

Monday, March 5 at 10:00 a.m. We met at the church for a cross necklace workshop. Thanks to all the women & men who came to help, we made 290 necklaces! They are such a blessing to the children in Honduras. Global Mission goal \$1,000.

Henry County Baptist Association
Senior Adult Trip
Ark Encounter & Creation Museum
April 16-18, 2018
For more information see bulletin board outside of the office.

XYZ Outing: Tuesday, March 27th at 10:00 a.m.

Meet at church to tour the Virginia Museum of Natural History and afterwards go to lunch. The cost is \$5 per person, for 10+ people \$3, and 15 or more we can have a private tour.

E-mail addresses needed

Newsletters are being sent by e-mail or 1st class mail. Please notify the church of your email address if you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Our Church Staff

Steve Manuel, Interim Pastor

pastor@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

David Lewis, Music Director

david@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Ross Gale, Worship Leader

ross@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Baxter Jennings, Organist

baxter@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Renee Fulcher, Financial Secretary

renee@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Mary Taylor, Admin. Assistant

mary@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Birthdays in March

4 Ann Draper	22 Susan Sapp
5 Benjamin Shires	23 Emmett Grogan
6 Lynn Ward	24 Marie Dalton
12 Marie Lannom	25 Ross White
13 Sue Martin	26 Rebecca Stone
John Fulcher	28 Jerry Perdue
14 William Ratcliff	29 Jane Hughes
16 Shannon Winters	Smitty Doyle
Dennis Knight	Stacey Steagall
17 Thomas Doss	30 Pat Jordan
19 Brenda Hundley	Randy Joyce
20 Clifford Minter	
21 Lillie Doyle	
Jesse Roark	

At Home Ministry

Sybil Cochran, Helen Dandridge, Lottie Estes, Annie Lee Ferrell, Neville Frith, Jean Gray, Helen Hay, Betsy Miers, John Pedigo, Shirley & Jesse Roark, Kitty Sparrow, Jeanette Stone, Melva Stultz, James Turner

Blue Ridge Manor: Esta Wilson, Iva Bumette, Catherine Shires

Blue Ridge Rehab: Betty Prillaman

King's Grant: Onslea Gesell, Frances Weaver, Mary Bull, Charlene White, Clifford & Elsie Minter, Bruce Spencer, Pat Jordan, Mary Elizabeth Wells, Betty Minter, Catherine Collins, Judy & Jim Minter, Beverly Estes, Gayle Williams

Out-of-town: Betty Brown, Mildred & Clyde England, John Holmes, Frances Whitlock, Davis Walker

First Baptist Church

Return Service Requested

23 Starling Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112
www.firstbaptistmartinsville.com
www.facebook.com/
FirstbaptistchurchMartinsvilleVA
Office: 276-632-6336
Fax: 276-632-6337

March Calendar

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Bible Study–Luke 10:00 a.m. | 25 No Sunday School |
| 4 Deacon's Meeting 9:00 a.m. | Palm Sunday in the Park 10 a.m. |
| Sunday School 9:45 a.m. | Worship 11:00 a.m. |
| Worship 11:00 a.m. | 26 Baptist Men & Women 6:00 p.m. |
| 5 Women on Mission 10:00 a.m. | 28 No Family Night Dinner |
| 6 Personnel Cmte 5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary Choir 7:00 p.m. |
| 7 Family Night Dinner 5:30 p.m. | 29 Bible Study–Luke 10:00 a.m. |
| Prayer and Devotion 6:05 p.m. | Family Supper 5:30 p.m. |
| Sanctuary Choir 7:00 p.m. | Maundy Thursday Service in |
| 8 Bible Study–Luke 10:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall 6:15 p.m. |
| 11 Daylight Savings Time begins | 30 Good Friday |
| Sunday School 9:45 a.m. | |
| Worship 11:00 a.m. | |
| 12 Knitting ministry 10:00 a.m. | |
| 14 Family Night Dinner 5:30 p.m. | |
| Prayer & Devotion 6:05 p.m. | |
| Sanctuary Choir 7:00 p.m. | |
| 15 Bible Study–Luke 10:00 a.m. | |
| 18 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. | |
| Worship 11:00 a.m. | |
| Luncheon for Trustee | |
| Dr. Marvin Midkiff 12:00 p.m. | |
| 20 WEE Ministry 1:30 p.m. | |
| Business & Finance 5:15 p.m. | |
| Buildings & Grounds 5:30 p.m. | |
| 21 Family Night Dinner 5:30 p.m. | |
| Business Meeting 6:05 p.m. | |
| Sanctuary Choir 7:00 p.m. | |
| 22 Bible Study–Luke 10:00 a.m. | |

