

## *Renee Fulcher is celebrating 20 years at FBC*

On February 22, 1999, Renee Fulcher joined the staff as our Financial Secretary. Please join the church family in congratulating Renee for her **20 years** of faithful service!

The Personnel Committee will be hosting a celebration for the staff commemorating this important milestone in the coming weeks. Our ministries depend on her expertise and care, and we could not do what we do without her!

Please stop by the church and thank Renee for her dedication and service to First Baptist Church.



### Ash Wednesday Service, March 6th in the Chapel at 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Grammer will hold a service in the chapel on Ash Wednesday. This will be in place of our regular Wednesday night fellowship.

Also, during the Lenten season beginning with Ash Wednesday (March 6th), Community Midweek Lenten Services will be held at First United Methodist Church, on Wednesdays at noon, in the sanctuary. This series will include leadership from pastors from various denominations in town. On April 10th, Rev. Libby Grammer will lead the service.

#### **New Wednesday Night Dessert & Coffee Fellowship**

We will gather each week for fellowship, prayer time, and a program beginning at 6:00 PM.

Come explore the biographies of our Baptist Saints and learn about how Baptists came to be and what we have to glean from our predecessors.



Coffee Fellowship

#### **~Training Opportunities~**

##### **Saturday, March 9th– Deacon Training First Baptist Church, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

All current Deacons and anyone who is interested are welcome. Please sign up at the office so we have a head count. Lunch is provided.

##### **Saturday, March 16th– REShape Leadership Training, First Baptist Church Danville, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

This is for all who are interested in attending. Deadline to sign up is March 1st. Cost for lunch is \$10/person, you must have a reservation. **Please sign up in the church office.**

### **Deacon Crockpot Social Mission Opportunity Fundraiser Sunday, March 10th at 12:00 p.m.**



If you have a favorite Crockpot recipe, bring it to share for Sunday lunch. The Deacons will supply the salad, drinks, and desserts.

Come prepared to pay whatever you would pay for a meal in a restaurant. Join your church family for good food and fellowship.

# L

## *Libby's Letter*

*..from your pastor*

Dear Church Family,

We have exciting news to share!!

For nearly 60 years, our WEE Ministry daycare & educational program has served families in Martinsville and Henry County with affordable and loving childcare and education for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years, along with before- and after-school care. Because this ministry brings in families with children to our facilities five days a week, we are investing in its future by beginning renovations to the classrooms and play areas beginning this month. Our Board of Trustees has approved funding for this endeavor, and we have a four-year plan in place to accomplish the process. Our own Ruth Anne Collins, an Early Education Coordinator at Smart Beginnings (an organization committed to helping ensure the success of facilities like ours), has provided invaluable insight and assistance in this process.

Our Daycare Supervisor, Beth Kotchish, and her staff are also in the process of staff development and enhancing the quality level of the daycare in the Virginia Quality Standards program. We have recently become a Level 2 learning center because half of our lead teachers now hold at least an Early Education certificate. The teachers will now be working on improved use of our curriculum for the coming year and hope to be a Level 3 center by 2020! With only 5 levels, we're well on our way!

As a part of this process, and as we upgrade our online presence, we also just voted to rename our WEE Ministry / Daycare to "First Baptist Church Early Learning Center" or "FBC ELC" for short. The name better reflects that we offer so much more than daycare here – we offer age-appropriate education for kids up to age 5. It also streamlines our "branding" of the program and allows us to create a new logo for the ministry alongside a new logo for the church (which we will roll out for a final vote hopefully at the next business meeting!). This new name and logo will be officially filed with the appropriate agencies and will be on our new church website – with its own full page and photos to encourage families to bring their children to FBC.

We are blessed to have this wonderful ministry, and we look forward to enhancing these rooms that have been well-loved by so many generations of children in Martinsville and Henry County. Come by and see the new rooms as they are completed. This year, our focus is the infant room (just up the hall from our own nursery), which will have all new flooring, new paint, new lights, and new storage solutions. We'll also be working on the painting for the rest of the classrooms so they all get a "facelift" in the first year, and we'll repair and replace the flooring behind the elevator in the recreation room in the basement, where our children play when the weather is bad and they can't play outdoors.

In addition to the capital funding for these facility upgrades, if you were at our January business meeting, you know that we are also taking the \$1,500/month the daycare would have paid to the church and putting the money aside as an improvement fund administered by the committee and supervisor, alongside the pastor. We'll plan to use that funding to help our teachers do their jobs better – potentially doing some of these upgrades a little earlier as the funds are available.

I'll be leading children's chapel beginning the first Monday in March once a week, and my hope for these kids and their families is that they feel at home here at FBC, getting to know the pastor, and eventually, those who would like to volunteer for chapel with me. Our ELC committee will also be hosting gatherings for parents and kids beginning with an Easter Egg hunt on April 13th, and we hope you'll join in and find ways to engage these families who come to our church every week with the love of Christ and the beautiful community we share together. Volunteer opportunities will include welcoming parents and serving lunch. We'll also need monetary donations and donations of plastic eggs and candy.

Lastly, keep your eyes out for an invitation to help! We have a couple of projects we opted not to pay a professional for – like painting the walls our recreation area in the basement. We'll need your help to make that happen in the coming weeks/months.

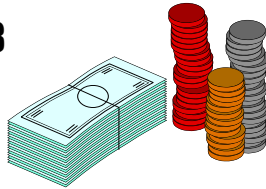
It's a good and exciting time to be at First Baptist, and I know these meaningful new ways of engaging our ministry to children are sure to bless your journey of faith – and the faith journeys we hope to inspire in these children and their families!

In Christ,

Libby

## Stewardship Report —February 2018

\$ 381,813 Total Budget  
\$ 63,635 Budget Needs Year to Date  
\$ 38,857 Budget Receipts Year to Date  
\$ 24,778 Budget Shortfall



[www.firstbaptistmartinsville.com](http://www.firstbaptistmartinsville.com)  
[www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchMartinsvilleVa](http://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchMartinsvilleVa)



### WMU News and Meeting March 4th at 10:00 a.m. Room 105

We are delighted to announce that our pastor, **Rev. Libby Grammer**, will be sharing with us about her medical-dental mission trips to Panama with the BGAV partnership, River Roads Church, Baptist and other churches. Our mission project for March is assembling personal hygiene bags for middle school girls. After our meeting, we will enjoy a salad luncheon together. So, ladies, we encourage each of you to prepare your favorite salad and come join us! It will be a morning of much excitement as we meet together.

**Looking ahead for April 1st:** We will travel to **Kings Grant** to tour the new **Memory Center**. After the tour we will interact with the twelve residence by having lunch with them. Lunch will be at 12:30 p.m., so we will be leaving from **church on the bus at 11:30 a.m.** so we can tour before lunch.



OFFERING FOR  
GLOBAL MISSIONS

Our **Global Missions** goal this year for First Baptist is **\$2,000**. During the months of March and through April, we will be focusing on reaching our goal for Global Missions. Anyone who watches the news, listens to the radio or reads a newspaper knows how desperately the world needs to hear the good news of Christ. Pray about how God would like for you to reach out to those in need.

## Library Drifts



March begins with the celebration of the birthday of prolific author Dr. Seuss, which is Saturday, March 2nd. The members of the Library Committee will host a party for the children of the FBC Early Learning Center on Tuesday, March 5th. 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.

Other dates unique to March are the beginning of Daylight Savings Time (March 10th), *Pi Day* (March 14th), and Saint Patrick's Day (March 17th). Perhaps the most important day is March 20th, which is the first day of spring. Although Spring may begin, Winter may not be finished with us. To have a snow day or weather that is wintry and blustery can not only occur in March but even in April. Some trees are in bloom, and bulbs are preparing to flower.

In March the Sunday School unit of study will be "Striving for Holiness." The lessons will be based on scripture in Ephesians and Romans. The five lessons are:

March 3rd– A New Way of Life, March 10th– Buried with Christ, March 17th– Freedom from the Law, March 24th– Who Will Deliver Me?, and March 31st– A Living Sacrifice

Stop by the cart in the narthex and the library rooms to select books that reflect your reading interests.

### Children's Nursery March

- 3 Joan & Steve Haynes
- 6 Joan & Steve Haynes
- 10 Marsha & Ronnie Garren
- 13 Martha Perdue  
Linda Gale
- 17 Marcia & John Collins
- 20 Marcia Collins  
Linda Moore
- 24 Julie Hall  
Nita Gauldin
- 27 Nita Gauldin  
Linda Gale
- 31 Roslyn Wingett  
Linda Gale

## Music Notes



We are beginning to work on special music for Passover and Easter. The choir is excited as we prepare for the season. Please make plans now to join us for this blessed celebration.

I would like to thank Ross Gale and John Fulcher for filling in for me. These men have done an amazing job while I was out. Thank you Ross and John.

Additionally, thanks to you all for the many prayers and well wishes. I am blessed beyond measure to be part of such a loving Body of Christ.

David Lewis



**XYZ Outing**  
Tuesday, March 26th  
1:00 p.m.

**Bingo and prizes**  
**Come join the fun!**

## Our Church Staff

**Rev. Libby M. Grammer, Senior Pastor**

libby@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

**David Lewis, Music Director**

david@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

**Ross Gale, Worship Assistant**

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
Karmon Martin	23 Emmett Grogan
5 Benny Shires	24 Marie Dalton
6 Lynn Ward	25 Steve Haynes
12 Marie Lannom	Ross White
13 Sue Martin	26 Becky 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
21 Lil Doyle	
Jesse Roake	



## At Home Ministry

Sybil Cochran, Annie Lee Ferrell, Jean Gray, Helen Hay, Betsy Miers, Jeanette Stone, Melva Stultz, Gayle Williams

**Blue Ridge Manor:** Catherine Shires

**Blue Ridge Rehab:** Betty Prillaman, Jesse Roark

**Fork Mountain Adult Rest Home:** Barbara Williams

**Haven of Rest:** Neville Frith

**King's Grant:** Frances Weaver, Charlene White, Bruce Spencer, Pat Jordan, Mary Elizabeth Wells, Betty Minter, Catherine Collins, Jim Minter, Helen Dandridge

**Out-of-town:** John Abbott, Iva Burnett, Clyde England, Frances Whitlock

# 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

3 Deacons Meeting 9:00 am	Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 pm
Sunday School 9:45 am	14 Bible Study– Acts 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am	17 Sunday School 9:45 am
4 Women on Mission 10:00 am	Worship 11:00 am
Children's Chapel 10:00 am	18 Children's Chapel 10:00 am
SR Singers Reh. 7:00 pm	SR Singers 7:00 pm
5 Personnel Committee 2:30 pm	19 WEE Ministry meeting 1:00 pm
6 Ash Wed. Service	Business & Finance 5:15 pm
in the Chapel 6:00 pm	20 Wed. Night Fellowship 6:00 pm
Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 pm
7 Bible Study–Acts 10:00 am	21 Bible Study–Acts 10:00 am
9 Deacon Training 10:00 am	Buildings & Grounds 2:30 p.m.
10 Sunday School 9:45 am	24 Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 11:00 am	Worship 11:00 am
Crockpot Social 12:00 pm	25 Children's Chapel 10:00 am
11 Knitting Ministry 10:00 am	SR Singers Reh. 7:00 pm
Children's Chapel 10:00 am	27 Library Committee 10:00 am
SR Singers Reh. 7:00 pm	Business Meeting 6:00 pm
12 Lil Clickers 10:00 am	Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 pm
13 Library Committee 10:00 am	28 Bible Study– Acts 10:00 am
Lil Clickers 10:00 am	31 Sunday School 9:45 am
Wed. Night Fellowship 6:00 pm	Worship Service 11:00 am



January-March

**Beans & Peas (15 oz.)**  
(pinto, kidney, navy etc.) No black beans  
Please leave food in Room 101  
Always needed:  
Hygiene products

*March 10th*

