

HEART

SOUL

MIND

STRENGTH

THE TIE

MAY 2018

Celebrating the Women of First Baptist Church
on Mother's Day
May 13, 2018

MAY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>9:30am Women's Breakfast Devotion</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>Joyce Dennis David Coggins Ruth Thompson Lindsay Wilson Matt Strickland</p>	<p>10am Senior Adult Game Day</p> <p>4pm Prayer Team</p> <p>6pm Adult Handbells</p> <p>Sally Hall</p>	<p>1pm Norton WMU</p> <p>Bland Roper</p>	<p>Wednesday Night Activities: See Below</p> <p>Nicole Firmin</p>	<p>Ray Hawkins</p>	<p>6pm Dominoes Tournament</p>	<p>8:30am Spring Workday</p> <p>Roy Lee Buzz York Robert Sherer Tommy West</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9:30am Women's Breakfast Devotion</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>Joyce Dennis David Coggins Ruth Thompson Lindsay Wilson Matt Strickland</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10am Senior Adult Game Day</p> <p>4pm Prayer Team</p> <p>6pm Adult Handbells</p> <p>Sally Hall</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7am Men's Study</p> <p>12pm Men's Study</p> <p>Hugh Stone Beth White</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Wednesday Night Activities: See Below</p> <p>Mary Cash Blakely Hall</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Nancy Burden Rhett Cothran Linda Wessell Taylor Thomasson Virginia Smith</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Herbert Adams Jeff Thompson</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Vickie Shearer Tiffany Hudson Jon Downs</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>Susan Carlay Ashley Buhmaster Collin Harlan</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am Senior Adult Game Day</p> <p>4pm Prayer Team</p> <p>6pm Adult Handbells</p> <p>Faye Yates Bettie Howe Vicki Coleman</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7am Men's Study</p> <p>12pm Men's Study</p> <p>Sybil Jeffords Anna Beth Martin</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Wednesday Night Activities: See Below</p> <p>5th Graders to Frankie's Fun Park</p> <p>Pat Meadows Patty Goode Jennifer Davis Van Tumblyn Dallas Pridgen</p>	<p>17</p> <p>2pm Knitting Group</p> <p>James Hall Karen Jacks</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Paul Gwinn Bobby O'Rear Cynde O'Rear</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship - Graduation Sunday</p> <p>Deacon Election</p> <p>2-5pm VBS Workday</p> <p>6pm Graduate Dinner</p> <p>Ami Hardy</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am Senior Adult Game Day</p> <p>4pm Prayer Team</p> <p>6pm Adult Handbells</p> <p>7pm Deacon's Meeting</p> <p>Betty Templeton Terry Vincent</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7am Men's Study</p> <p>11am CWA Meeting</p> <p>12pm Men's Study</p> <p>Cecil Brown Brenda Garrett Miranda Langston</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Wednesday Night Activities: See Below</p> <p>Nancy Todd Luke Kerber</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Tamara Nelson Jason Pridgen</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Autry Martin</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Preston Mahon Scarlett Kerber</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:45am Sunday School Leaders Meeting</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship - Memorial Service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Memorial Day</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7am Men's Study</p> <p>12pm Men's Study</p> <p>Jeanne Lindley</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Pete Angelakos</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Travis Riddle Rebekah Smith</p>		

Sundays

4:15 Youth Handbells
5pm Youth Choir
6pm Youth Group

6pm Men's Study

Wednesdays

5-7pm VBS Workday
6pm Adult Studies

6pm Youth Worship
7pm Adult Choir

Men's Encampment @ Camp McCall

Celebrating Our Mothers...

In 1908, in Grafton, West Virginia, Ann Jarvis led the first Mother's Day Service at the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church. At the time, Ann was still mourning the loss of her own mother who had died three years earlier in 1905. It was her mother's death that led Ann to realize not only what she had lost but to also understand the gift that so many people receive through the care, grace and love of their own mothers. As a result, she wanted to find a way to celebrate her mom's life and to call others to do the same. Still today, over one hundred years later, we still celebrate moms on this their special day all thanks again to the original idea and handiwork of Ann Jarvis, who interestingly enough, never married or had children of her own.

Of course, Mother's Day is not without its challenges. We must be clear that it can be a very painful day for some. There are those in our midst who were never able to have children and this day reminds them of a joy that they never had the chance to experience. There are also those whose mothers or whose children are now deceased and this day saddens them in light of their absence. And, there are those that have troubling rather than happy memories of their childhood as well as of the influence that their mother exerted over them. We should not and we must not lose sight of how hard this day is for some.

Yet, this does not mean that we cannot celebrate the role of both moms in our midst or the work of women in our lives who have been like a mom to us.

Personally, I am very thankful and grateful on both of these fronts. On the one hand, I have tremendous gratitude for my own mom who modeled love, patience, humor and faith for both me and my siblings. Ours was a good, stable, nurturing home. I have long taken our family life for granted. But, the older I get, the more I recognize that not everyone has these sorts of blessings or benefits. At the same time, I am also thankful for Ann Marie, the mother of our two children. Callie and Caleb are fortunate and I am equally blessed to have Ann Marie as my wife. She works incredibly hard in rearing our children and in ensuring that ours is a good life at home.

On the other hand, I am equally thankful for numerous women who have been like second moms to me. All along the course of my life, there have been strong, generous, kind, caring and encouraging ladies who have helped me, challenged me and supported me in all sorts of endeavors and ways.

On May 13th, I hope you too will join me as you thank your mom, the mother of your children and the mothering figures in your life. And, if you are or have been a mom or been like a mom to someone, I hope this Second Sunday in May will be a special day for you. You deserve all the gratitude and love you will receive...*Rickey*

Mother's Day Offering

In your May packet, you will find an envelope to use for our annual Mother's Day Offering to benefit Martha Franks Retirement Community and the work of the South Carolina Baptist Ministry of Aging. Martha Franks is a tremendous ministry partner to our work at FBC and to the health of our community. Please consider participating in this opportunity to support their work.

Deacon Election - May 20

On Sunday, May 20, we will elect 8 new individuals to serve us as Deacons over the next three years from those who were nominated in April. This is a very, very important Sunday for us to be present in order that we all might be a part of this process. The list of those who have been nominated will be published beginning Wednesday night May 2nd for your prayers and reflection. Those elected will begin their service on September 1.

Ministry Opportunity! We are still in need of additional volunteers (men and women) to serve on our *Safety Team*. This team provides leadership in the safety of our congregation on Sunday mornings. Teams operate on a rotation basis each month, with each team serving only one month per quarter. Please contact Robbie O'Bryant at (770) 337-0006 or rob.obryant@charter.net if you are willing to help.

Our next **Adult Sunday School Leaders Meeting** will be Sunday, May 27 at 8:45am in the Conference Room.

Attention Men! Our Men's Groups will continue to meet through the month of May. We are currently involved in a book study called *Meditations on Mark*. Groups meet on Tuesdays at 7:00am (Conference Room) and 12:00pm (Bobo Hall), as well as Sunday night at 6:00pm (Fireside Room). It's not too late to get involved! If you have any questions or would like more information, please see Tommy.

Wednesday Nights In May

Our Wednesday night opportunities for all ages will continue in May. In addition, each Wednesday evening from 5-7pm, we will also have the opportunity for those interested to assist with getting our set and other decorations ready for this year's VBS. We will not, however, be having Family Night Suppers in May. This is due to the fact that our attendance in May is very uneven as there are often end of the year school activities happening at the same time. Also, please note that our final Wednesday night of the Spring will be May 23rd. We will restart Wednesdays from our summer break on the first week of September.

Diverge Youth Ministry Graduation Sunday

We will honor the class of 2018 on Sunday, May 20 during worship, followed by a dinner in their honor at 6:00 that evening.

College Graduates - Graduate Recognition will be Sunday, May 20. We would like to recognize any December 2017 or spring 2018 college graduates at that time as well, so if you know someone who will be graduating this year, please email Carl Tolbert so their information can be included in the order of worship.



FBC Children's Ministry

- We will be working on the VBS decorations each Wednesday night in May (2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd). We'll work from 5-7pm. We could use lots of help!
- VBS Workday on Sunday, May 20th from 2-5pm! Come join us!
- 5th Graders to Frankie's Fun Park and Fuddruckers on Wednesday, May 16th!

Women's Ministry Breakfast Devotion Sunday, May 6 - 9:30am - Bobo Hall

During 2018, FBC Women's Ministry will host a series of **Breakfast Devotions** with the theme of *Seaside Escape*. We'll use items commonly found on a beach vacation to remind us of God's love and purposes for us as women and girls. Come, relax, and enjoy time together studying God's word.

One Family - One Mission Capital Campaign Update

- To date we have received 198 pledge cards for a total of \$1.855 million in commitments toward our goal of \$1.75 million. We have also received \$703,589.85 in gifts.
- In April, our Deacons gave their unanimous approval for FBC to move forward with having Furman Architects finish the drawings and engineering work on all four projects outlined in the campaign. We hope to begin receiving bids for the projects in late Summer/early Fall and to be underway on the projects with a General Contractor this Fall as well.

Intergenerational Recreation Event Mexican Train (Dominoes) Tournament

Friday, May 4 @ 6:00 pm - Come and test your Mexican Train skills against other church members and enjoy great conversation and chili.

Men, Mark Your Calendars!

The 2018 Spring Men's Encampment will be May 18-19 at Camp McCall. The retreat features worship and a speaker as well as a time of friendly competition in a variety of activities. Cost of the event is \$60 per person, which includes all events and meals. A \$26 green fee for golfers is extra. All participants must be at least 18 years old. You may register on the pew pad or by contacting the church office by Sunday, April 29. If you need more information, please contact Tommy.

Worship in May

May 6	<i>Moved to Act</i>	Esther 4:1-9
May 13	<i>Mother's Day: For Such A Time As This</i>	Esther 4:10-17
May 20	<i>Graduate Sunday: The Courage to Speak</i>	Esther 5:1-8, 7:1-7
May 27	<i>Memorial Service: Let Us Not Forget</i>	Esther 9:20-23

MINISTER ON CALL

One of our ministers will be on call every weekend, so if you have a need, please don't hesitate to call us! The minister on call schedule is:

April 30-May 6	Rickey Letson	678-230-8341
May 2-8	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631
May 9-15	Carl Tolbert	229-798-0620
May 16-22	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
May 23-29	Rickey Letson	678-230-8341

THE TIE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

First Baptist Church	U.S. Postage Paid
300 West Main St	Permit No. 70
Laurens, SC 29360	Laurens, SC 29360

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FOR THE RECORD - FBC IN APRIL

Average Sunday School: 337
Average February Worship: 450
Average February Worship & Extended Session: 476

OFFERING TOTALS

As of April 23, 2018 YTD
General Fund Goal: \$330,048.64
General Fund Receipts: \$322,742.03

Senior Adult News

Our Senior Adult group called CWA (Comfortable with Age) will have its May meeting on Tuesday, May 22, at 11:00am in Bobo Hall. Christy Henderson from Channel 7 will be our guest speaker. Our meal will be prepared by Til Culbertson and will be \$7 per person. You may call the church office to sign up or sign up on the pew pads.

Orlando Youth Choir Trip June 18-23, 2018

The Rosen Center Hotel, Orlando, FL
SonPower is a powerful, action-packed week of exhilarating worship, engaging mission projects, enriching Bible study, and enlightening music rehearsals that culminates in a LIVE recording session for students that love music. Students will spend every minute of the event's five days growing musically, emotionally, and spiritually. Call Adair for more information!