

Kingdom

First Baptist Church
Wilmington | North Carolina

Issue 10
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News

HUNGER EMPHASIS

KICK - OFF IS OCTOBER 16TH!



As we continue our year-long mission trip, KOG2ILM, we journey into the second place of brokenness in our community – HUNGER. We are invited to Pray, Learn, Do and Reflect on what we are called to do to bring the Kingdom of God to Wilmington (KOG2ILM). North Carolina is one of five states with the highest number of people who struggle with food insecurity. But we are followers of a Savior who is capable of taking what we give Him and using it to feed the multitudes.

"FEED THE HUNGRY AND HELP THOSE IN TROUBLE. THEN YOUR LIGHT WILL SHINE OUT FROM THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS AROUND YOU WILL BE AS BRIGHT AS NOON." - ISAIAH 58: 10

LEVEL 1: LOW INVOLVEMENT

- Purchase food items: OUR GOAL is 10,000 lbs. of food for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard & Alderman's Weekend Backpack Food program
- Prepare a meal for Interfaith Hospitality homeless families once a quarter for one year (4 meals total)
- Donate to the Hunger Relief Offering: this year all the proceeds will be used locally

LEVEL 2: MEDIUM INVOLVEMENT

- Help cook & serve supper at the Good Shepherd House one night a month for one year (12 times)
- Pick up donated food from local businesses for the Tuesday Night Feeding Ministry (weekly or monthly commitment)
- Collect food outside a local grocery store for the Mother Hubbard's Cupboard food drive on Saturday, October 22: this is a great family project - shifts are 2 hour increments

LEVEL 3: HIGH INVOLVEMENT

- Serve lunch **once a week** at the Good Shepherd House
- Deliver a meal **once a week** to a senior or Veteran through Meals On Wheels
- Commit to sharing a meal around the table with our guests **every week** during the Tuesday Night Feeding Ministry to build relationships and show the unconditional love of Christ with homeless men and women

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To sign up visit the Connector Building after each worship service.
You can also sign up and get more details of each level of the Hunger emphasis at:

WWW.BECAUSELOVEDOES.ORG

Worship Schedule



October 2
Commitment Sunday
"The Spirit Within"
Ephesians 3:20-21
Matt Cook

October 9
"The Sign of Jonah"
Matthew 12:39-41
Dr. Bill Dunn



October 16
"Worth the Climb"
Ephesians 4:2-3
Matt Cook

October 23
"I Will Catch You"
Ephesians 4:30-32
Matt Cook

October 30
"Climb On"
James 1:19-20
Matt Cook

COMMITMENT SUNDAY: OCTOBER 2 IMMEASURABLY *More*

God has done Immeasurably More than we asked or imagined this year!

Breaking Bread for Strangers

In the 24th Chapter of Luke's story about Jesus, a guy named Cleopas and his unknown companion walk the dusty road from Jerusalem to Emmaus that Passover. We know how the story ends, so it's easy to forget how they must have felt as they left the city. For centuries, God's people had been waiting for the Messiah to come and now there was a small band of men and women who believed that he had come, and his name was Jesus.

But something went all wrong. A week earlier Jesus had come riding into town to the shouts of thousands, but only a few days later they watched with horror as he was put to death on the cross. And yet that very morning word spread that the women, who had gone to the tomb, had experienced something remarkable which was angels telling them that Jesus was alive! Now you and I know what happens next, but try if you can to put yourself in their shoes for a moment, into that strange mixture of uncertainty and also possibility.

That is when they meet a stranger on the road.

The strange events of the week become their conversation. At first Cleopas and unnamed disciple #2 do all the talking, but when they get to the point of wondering whether the women at the tomb were telling the truth, the stranger takes over. The stranger gets worked up in a hurry, talking about everything that God's been up to throughout history, and helping them understand that this Jesus they were following was the culmination of the whole plan.

Now you and I know who the guy is, but they don't, even when he's quoting scripture and preaching up a storm. **But then they invite him to dinner.**

And Luke says, "when he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. And then their eyes were opened."

So let me ask you...do you think it's just a coincidence that they finally see Jesus when they sit down to eat together? Not hardly.

Beginning this month, we turn our attention to an additional area of brokenness in our community: hunger. North Carolina is one of the top ten states in the nation for people struggling with hunger insecurity, which means you don't know where or when to expect your next meal. That's not a problem that most of us struggle with, but apparently there are quite a few of our neighbors who do. And we can not only change that, but we can also experience something amazing along the way I think. What if we volunteered at Mother Hubbard's cupboard? What if joined the feeding crew at the Good Shepherd Center? What if we came downtown on Tuesday night and sat around the table? If it happened before, it can happen again. **When we break bread with strangers, when we open up our lives and let people in, then here's what happens—Jesus appears!**

Matt Cook

OUR VISION:

To become a community of believers that is open and welcoming to anyone, no matter where they are on their faith journey, and is intentionally joining with Christ in His redemptive work and purposes in the world.

OUR MISSION:

To become, and help others to become, fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

FALL BIBLE STUDIES

1 JOHN

THURSDAYS - 10 TO 11 AM
THROUGH NOVEMBER 17

BETH MOORE | ENTRUSTED
WEDNESDAYS - 6 TO 7:30 PM
OCTOBER 5 - NOVEMBER 9

FIRST BAPTIST
ACTIVITIES CENTER



FALL FUN

at First Baptist Church

CALL THE ACTIVITIES CENTER, 799-7564, TO TAKE PART IN ANY OR ALL OF THESE FUN FALL FESTIVITIES!

Team Spirit Tailgate Party- October 7th

Come show your team spirit on Friday, October 7 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Team Spirit Tailgate Party! We want to see the best of what your favorite team has to offer. Wear your team colors, chant your team song and show your team pride with gear including canopies, corn hole boards, etc! Bring the whole family and your favorite tailgate side dish to accompany the grilled hotdogs. RSVP so we can plan to have you!!



Seagrove Pottery Festival - November 19

November 19th is the day of our annual Seagrove Pottery Festival and Southern Supreme Fruitcake Factory trip. If you have never been to see the artistry of the more than 100 potters living in the Seagrove area, then this is a must-see trip. Visiting during the festival allows you to see the work of many more potters than you could ever see in a weekend. We will leave the Activities Center by 6:00 a.m., eat breakfast on the way to the fruitcake factory, grab a bite outside the festival and stop for dinner on the way home. The cost is \$15 to ride the bus and \$5 at the door for the festival. Oh, and spending money for fruitcakes and pottery! Call and sign up at the Activities Center.

Wildlife Banquet - November 20th

This treasured tradition brings us all around the table to share a Thanksgiving meal and have communion together as a church family. The banquet is Sunday, November 20th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Activities Center. The food will be plentiful with turkeys, hams and wild game provided by the hunters of the church. Each family should bring 2 sides to share, enough to feed your family plus 10 others. We will also collect Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes that evening. It will be a wonderful night, so mark your calendars!



Mike's Farm Christmas Show - December 2nd

Who knew that Mike's Farm has a Christmas Variety Show? Well, now that we know, we are going on Friday, December 2. The cost of \$48.50 will include the bus ride (leave at noon), the Mike's Farm famous family style meal at 2:30 p.m. followed by the variety show and the hayride through the Christmas light show at 5:30 p.m. You should return home full of holiday spirit and early enough to attend any other functions you might have that evening! Sign up soon because we already have a good list going.

Other Important Dates to Save!

Celebrate Christmas | December 3 | 9:00-11:30 AM
Christmas at First Baptist | December 9-10-11 | 7:30 PM

Community Life

Sharing Life Together

Welcome New Members



Lizabeth (Libby) Clements

We welcome Lizabeth ("Libby") Clements back home to First Baptist Church after being away for a few years. She has moved back to our area after living in Pender County and being a part of Hampstead United Methodist Church. Libby is still as busy as ever working

with the New Hanover County Sheriff Department and her energy, smile and passion for serving others in the name of Christ, is evidence of her commitment to being a fully devoted follower of Jesus.



Mary Beth & Bob Parker

We welcome Mary Beth & Bob Parker back to Wilmington and First Baptist Church after they have spent the last several years in Winston-Salem. They are both retired from their vocations now and look forward to enjoying their retirement years with long-time friends, children and grandchildren in Wilmington. They were a part of Knollwood

Baptist and First Baptist Church while in Winston-Salem. Mary Beth and Bob have re-engaged with the Forum Sunday School Class. Welcome home!



Frankie Robinson

We are delighted to welcome Frankie Robinson to our church family. He comes to us upon transfer of his membership from his home church in South Carolina. Frankie has been engaged in the ministries of our congregation since he relocated to Wilmington after marrying our Tracy Wood Robinson last winter. Like Tracy,

Frankie is a huge Clemson Tiger fan but more than that, he puts Jesus, Tracy and his family ahead of everything else. FBCW is made better with the addition of Frankie Robinson.

In Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to Becky Hughes on the loss of her husband, Craven, on September 15, 2016. Craven was a member of FBC for 18 years.

Hunger Relief Offering

This year the October Hunger Relief Offering will be used to alleviate hunger issues through donations to several projects in our own community. One of those projects will help provide funds for our Children's Ministry's Thanksgiving Basket Project. The Thanksgiving Baskets will be distributed to our Karen families and to the families of children at Alderman School who struggle with food insecurities. If you would like to contribute, please indicate "Hunger Relief" on your donations.

FOOD LIST FOR MOTHER HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD & ALDERMAN BACKPACKS

Canned tuna or chicken
Mac n' cheese
Canned vegetables
Canned fruit & Canned soup
Cereal
Peanut Butter & Jelly

SPECIAL NEEDS FOR DIABETIC MEN & WOMEN

No-sugar cereal
Low or no-sugar fruit
Glucerna and Splenda
Plastic Grocery Bags



Memorial Gifts

The following memorials have been given generously, & we are deeply grateful:

General Fund

In memory of LouAnn Sidbury
by Susan & Carlton Prickett
by Dr. Calvin Doss
by Jay & Judy Brown

In memory of Andrew Truett Kester
by Mark & Becky Kester
by Robert & Karen Kester
by John & Karen Ballard
by Dan & Betty Huggins
by Marcus & Rebecca Kester
In memory of James E. Everette, Jr.
by Joan O. Norris

In memory of Pauline Nesselroade
by Richard & Carol Brocchi

In memory of Craven Hughes
by Ralph & Sandra Yaun

In honor of Jim & Lisa Everette
by Joan O. Norris

Harrelson Center

In memory of James E. Everette, Jr.
by Alan & Jennie Dalton

Music Ministry

In memory of James E. Everette, Jr.
by Dan & Donna Armstrong

In memory of LouAnn Sidbury
by Dan & Donna Armstrong

Inner City Missions

In memory of James E. Everette, Jr.
by the Lanier Ladies' Sunday
School Class

Local Missions

In memory of James E. Everette, Jr.
by Linda G. Carroll
by Lois M. Johnson

Campbell School of Divinity, James E. & Judy M. Everette Scholarship Fund

In memory of James E. Everette, Jr.
by the Friendship Class
by Bud & Ann Davis

Alderman Prayer Partners Go Above And Beyond

Five years ago I was lucky enough to have Heather Sutton's sweet boy in my class. Together we built a partnership with FBC Wilmington, where her family belonged. At that time, they were just helping needy children and with teacher requests on an individual basis.

Today I watched as the church delivered yet another truck load of supplies. Not one student in our school had to buy school supplies and snacks were provided for the first weeks. Also, the church members have been sending a group text praying for the staff each day. We also had the option of signing up for a prayer partner to pray for us individually and for any special prayer requests we may have. My prayer partner went above and beyond today in true First Baptist style, sending these goodies to me (pictured), plus a Chik-fil-a sweet tea

that was gone by the time I took the picture, because I love it sooooo much. I just had to share how BLESSED Alderman Elementary school is to have this wonderful connection.

- Holly Draughn,
Teacher at Alderman
Elementary



Connections Class

Connect with God • Connect with Others • Connect to Serve



We want to help you make real and meaningful connections at FBC. You are invited to join the Connections Class on Sunday, October 16, 23 and 30 at 10 a.m. in the church offices. Email Twila Rosonet at trosonet@fbcwilmington or call the church office for questions or to RSVP.

Join Us for Tuesday Noon Church

Join us for a midweek boost at Tuesday Noon Church! Come have a wonderful meal (\$5/person) and time of fellowship that is followed by a short devotional every Tuesday in October. The updated schedule, speakers and menu are always on our website under the Worship tab.

August Financial Report

Aug Goals: \$166,835.00

YTD Goals: \$1,336,265.00

Aug Receipts: \$157,756.00

YTD Receipts: \$1,259,042.00

Special Collections: \$10,921.00

Sunday Attendance

	SEP 4	SEP 11	SEP 18	SEP 25
Worship	460	560	534	527
Sunday School	484	514	487	462

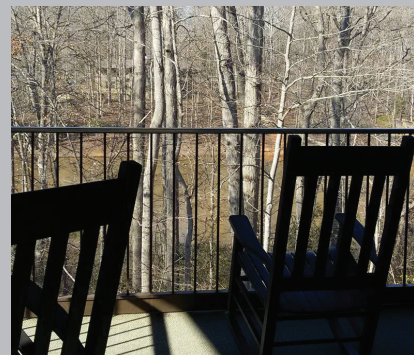


Plan to Buy a Christmas Tree or Wreath to help the FBC Youth Ministry

Students from the FBC youth ministry are preselling NC Fraser Fir Christmas trees and wreaths from October 16 – November 16. This is their annual fundraiser which helps students earn money towards next year's camps, retreats, and mission trips. The FBC Christmas Tree Lot will open from November 25 – December 10, at the Activities Center. Please tell your friends, co-workers, and neighbors to purchase a tree or wreath from a student and come visit us at the tree lot this year! Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the FBC Youth Ministry.

Save the Date!

Save the Date! March 3-5, 2017 to attend the Spiritual Formation Retreat at Caraway Retreat Center. In our hectic pace of life, we need to carve out spaces where we intentionally rest, breathe, and listen for God's voice. Make plans now to be a part of this retreat. You will be refreshed and renewed by the One who longs to lift your spirit and guide your path. Registration will begin November 1st. For more information contact Jayne Davis.



Join us at CrossTraining!

Join us at Cross Training on Wednesday nights in October! Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. Children's programs begin at 5:45 p.m. and Youth small groups start at 6:15 p.m.

The following adult seminars will start at 6:15 p.m.:

October 5: The Gospel & the Star News – Stories on Education in our community read through the eyes of faith, led by John Daniels

October 12: A Panel Discussion on Hunger with community leaders, led by Matt Cook

October 19: Bible Study on Hunger, led by Bill Dunn

October 26: Learning & Laughter with Gary Harris, Leader of our Tuesday night Dinner Ministry



A Wonderful Women's Retreat

The 2016 FBC Women's Retreat, held September 24th, was a beautiful day on the ocean with great conversation and wisdom on finding our Spiritual Rhythm. It was a wonderful time shared with special ladies. Thanks to Sara Williams for leading the Women's Retreat!





Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) will once again deliver millions of shoe boxes full of Christmas gifts to needy children all over the world. First Baptist will collect many of these terrific boxes for the children during November 12-20.



You may pick up empty OCC shoeboxes downtown in the connector building or at the Activities Center. The final date to bring in the boxes is on the night of the Wildlife Banquet which is November 20th. For ideas of items to pack in your shoe boxes, visit: www.samaritanspurse.org.



Harrelson Center Thankful Hearts Luncheon

Join the Harrelson Center for their 5th Annual Thankful Hearts Luncheon on November 17, to hear about all of the wonderful things that are happening at the Harrelson Center! Nonprofit partners and those served from the Harrelson Center will share their stories, along with a beautiful musical performance. Middle of the Island will once again provide a delicious lunch! If you are interested in attending or sponsoring, contact their office at 910-343-8212 or info@harrelsoncenter.org. They also need volunteers if you can give the gift of time!



New Children's Sunday School App

Children's Sunday School continues to provide engaging, biblical teaching and life application for our children. Parents are encouraged to download and use the App that accompanies our new Sunday School Curriculum: *Bible Studies for Life for Kids*.





FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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A Beacon of Light & Hope



Seven years ago, Tameka Nixon dreamed of owning her own home. And every day since then she has leaned into that dream, by will and by faith, with great courage and strength and self-determination. But she has not walked alone. For those seven years, The Bridge-CWJC (Christian Women's Job Corps) has walked along side of her, believing in her, encouraging her, equipping her, loving her. Giving her a hand up, not a hand out.

That dream is almost a reality now. In April, ground was broken on Tameka's new Habitat home. Last month, Mary Margaret Brooks prayed a blessing over each of the rooms in the house during a service of dedication. Soon, the loan will close and the keys will be in Tameka's hands, and she and Joshua and Kamahra will move in. A dream realized.

It has been a long journey – out of homelessness, through college, into employment, and now, owning a home. During the dedication, Tameka talked about the people who continue to walk with her along the way, who have poured themselves into her life and the lives of her children. We could stop right here and celebrate the happy ending to this story. But Tameka's story is just beginning.

Tameka's desire for her home is not just a place of shelter and rest for her family. Her desire is to be a beacon of light and hope in her community.

Tameka's determination to live into her dream is not just for the satisfaction of accomplishing what she set out to do, but to show other women who are struggling, that dreams are possible for them as well. Tameka's faithfulness in how she is living her life is not only a way for her to honor God but a witness to her family, to inspire and encourage them to follow her along the way.

Women of The Bridge – CWJC invested themselves in Tameka. That investment is already returning ten - and twenty-fold as Tameka invests herself in the lives of others. That is how God's economy works – always returning abundantly more than we could ever ask or imagine.