

# First Light

First Baptist Church - Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Vol. XLVIII- No. 05

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March 12, 2024

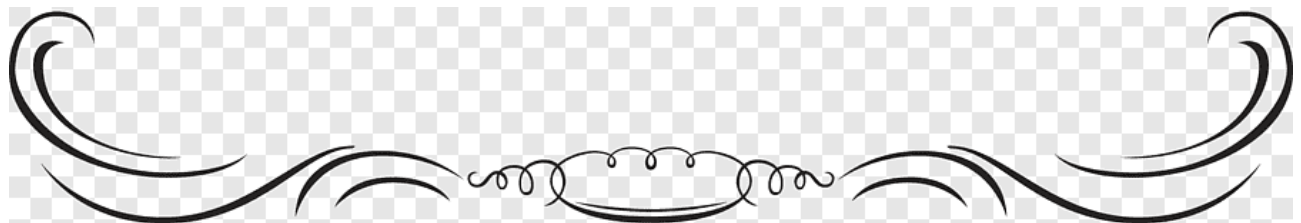


*Chancel Choir Easter Cantata & Communion*  
Sunday, March 24, 11:00 AM

*Maundy Thursday Service & Seder Meal*  
Thursday, March 28, 6:00 PM

*Easter Sunrise Service*  
Sunday, March 31, at 7:00 AM, in RM. 105.

*Easter Worship & Communion*  
Sunday, March 31, 11:00 AM



# REFLECTIONS

*"Calling them like I see them"*

I was riding shotgun in a 15-passenger van with a full load of teenagers in the back. My boss and the head Youth Minister was driving. We were both aching with laughter. Somehow we had got to imagining hosting a youth ministry conference. We weren't serious about it because my minister, Tim, thought those kinds of things ridiculous. What really starting us laughing was creating a promotional video where we'd outline the "10 Ways to Ignite Your Ministry!" Tim put on this cheesy, cool youth pastor voice and said, "Step 1: tear down your youth area and build a skateboarding park." That was the beginning of the end. We started going back and forth with more and more outrageous and inane 'steps.'

That was 20 years ago and the only difference is that those are digital videos instead of VHS tapes. But that sort of marketing to churches still exists and they still promise those sorts of things. Here are the 12 things your music ministry needs to do. These are 9 guaranteed children's ministry boosters. Maximize your outreach with 23 proven methods. I've been listening to these kinds of promises for my entire professional life and I can tell you that just about all of that is snake oil flim-flam. They want to charge you \$120 (or just \$500 for your whole church!) for this life-changing content and they don't mind padding out these lists and videos to get you to do it.

I've heard the pitch for dozens of these things, but I've only had someone pony up the cash on 1 or 2 of these over the years. When you strip away the fluff and carnival barker away from them, there's usually something left that's very basic and practical, but you were probably already doing it. Stuff like, "really care about people" or "make deep friendships outside of the church" or "be authentic." Love God and love others, you might boil them down to.

I was at a meeting recently and a fellow pastor friend of mine from Georgia happened to be there. He's now the Executive Coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Anyway, he's in a room with 8 of us church ministry types and someone teed him up an easy one. "Any advice for us?" He said (essentially), do basic things beautifully and excellently. That's some of the best how-to church ministry advice I've ever heard and I didn't pay a dime for it.

If you want to do youth ministry well, you just need to be excellent at meeting teenagers where they are and genuinely care about them. Having a couple of games in your back pocket and a bag of burgers doesn't hurt either. Those are basic things, but do them beautifully and excellently and you'll be fine. I'll tell you the truth, "do basic things beautifully and excellently" isn't just good ministry advice. It's good life advice. You don't have to come up with grand schemes. Just make something basic beautiful and excellent and watch your world change.

*Peace, Rory*

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## Prayer Requests

**SYMPATHY:** Mary Dowdy, longtime member of First Baptist Church, passed away March 5, 2024. Services were held March 10 at Mott-McKamey Funeral Home.

**IMMEDIATE:** Jackie Bounds Roach (Tim Bounds' sister). Jim Gibson. Debbie Pulliam (Carol O'Shaughnessy's sister). Charlotte Bounds. Johelen Stephenson. Liane Aldridge (Mary Jane Williams' daughter). Kaye Wimberly (Lois Scott's neighbor). Katie Vogel (Johelen Stephenson's friend). Heidi Rose Harris. Bruce Marshall. Barbara Pruett (Karen McCall's friend). Larry Carter. Ray Roach (Tim Bounds' brother-in-law). Stephen Bethinger (Anna King's nephew). Jackie Laney's dad, Barney. Sherry Bath (Gigi Naeve's friend). Diane Ray's friend, Donna. Mark Ebeler (friend of Carol O'Shaughnessy). Tammy Lee (Kay Smith's sister). Adrian Flory. Sandra Burns (Johelen Stephenson's cousin). Wanda Vines (friend of Sandy Davidson). Carolyn Maples (Brandon Weaver's aunt). Kay Smith. Michael Turnbill (Lela Moore's brother-in-law). Roy Smith (Carl Smith's father). Joyce Dippel (Jan Stoutland's sister). Robert Darnell (Diane Qualls' brother). Frances Darnell (Diane Qualls' mother). Richard Evans. Cheryl King (Diane William's sister-in-law). Ben Davidson (Tom Davidson's nephew). Debra & Mark Belvin's neighbor. Mary Jane Williams. Ginger Tevault (Ginny Bowers' friend). Lynn Satterfield (Gary Giles' sister).

## Wednesday Bible Study

There will be no Wednesday Bible Study March 13, 20 & 27. Bible Study will resume Wednesday, April 3, at 6 p.m.



### Discussion Group

**Movie:** Out of Africa (1985)

starring Meryl Streep.

**Viewing:** Streaming on many pay-per-view platforms for ~\$4.

**Time & Place:** Friday, Mar. 15, 6:30 p.m. at Joy Reedy's home - 109 Downing Drive, Oak Ridge

**Questions:** Contact Mike Crowell (505-695-1757), Brandon Weaver (865-384-5833), or Joy Reedy (815-922-8992).

## Agape Workday

Agape has been blessed recently with clothing that assistance is needed to categorize these items. Please come and assist on March 23, from 9 a.m. to noon.

## Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast

Join us for an Easter story, egg hunt, and breakfast on Sunday March 24th at 10 a.m., in the fellowship hall. This event is for toddlers through elementary schoolers. Family and friends are welcome! Registration in the lobby is optional, but it helps to know if you are bringing friends. Please let us know of any allergy or other concerns. Questions? Contact Hannah Simic 865-393-0599.

## Children's Ministry VOLUNTEERS

### Sunday, March 17, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. Ginny Bowers & Meghan Bowers  
Children's Church..... Brenda Story & Karen McCall

### Sunday, March 24, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. Jackie Laney & Amber Slessinger  
Children's Church..... Lela Moore & Susan Williams

### Sunday, March 31, 2024

Nursery 11:00 a.m. .... Tedi Newman & Angie Walls  
Children's Church..... Hannah Simic & Jackie Laney



## Baby Shower for the Simics

The Children and Youth departments of FBC will host a drop-in baby shower to celebrate with Hannah and Shawn as they prepare for baby Samuel's birth! The shower will be Sunday, March 24 between 4:00-5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The Simics are registered on Amazon, and have also requested diapers of any brand, sizes 1-3. If you have any questions, contact Gigi Naeve or Kate Page. Thank you for helping us shower the Simics with love and baby supplies!

## Passport

**When:** June 16 -21

**Where:** Converse University, SC

**Who:** Students who have completed 6th - 12th grade

**Your cost:** \$150

**The last day to register is MARCH 30<sup>th</sup>.** Due to this we are requiring 2 things for students who are attending:

- 3 hrs. of fundraising - Opportunities including pumpkin patch (Oct) and Spaghetti dinner (Apr).
- 5 church attendances- These include Sunday School, Sunday Service, and Feast.

## APRIL FBCFBC

On Monday, April 1, our church's book club will be discussing *The Widow of the South* by Robert Hicks. This novel is based on the true story of Carrie McGavock of Franklin, Tennessee. During the Civil War's Battle of Franklin (1864), there were over 9,000 casualties. Mrs. McGavock's home (Carnton) was turned into a field hospital. Following the battle, wounded men crammed every square inch of her house; Mrs. McGavock found purpose in caring for those wounded soldiers. And she devoted the rest of her life arranging for the interment of 1,500 soldiers on her and her husband's property. Join us at 12:30 in the library as Dianne May leads our discussion of this book. You can reach Dianne at [diannemaylibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:diannemaylibrary@yahoo.com).

## Volunteers Needed

On April 19, at 5:30 we will be hosting a dinner for the community at our church. We aim to provide a sit down dinner to those who need one in Oak Ridge. If you are interested in helping or would like to learn more, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

# MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym]	2 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
3 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service <b>2:00 PM Finance Mtg./RM.105</b> 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.	4 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 12:30 PM FBCFBC/Library 6:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH] 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym] <b>7:00 PM Trustee Meeting/RM. 105</b>	5 <b>9:00 AM [Film Crew]</b> 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy] <b>7:00 PM -9:00 PM [Y.P.'s Theater Rehearsal/FH]</b>	6 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends (Stephenson) /Parlor]</b> 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] <b>6:00 PM [Grow Oak Ridge/RM. 105 &amp; nursery]</b> 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study/FH 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] 5:30 PM [ORCband /FH] 6:00 PM -7:00 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	8 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>12:00 PM Fellowship Table</b> <b>8:30 PM [Lassiter School-gym]</b>	9 <b>9:00 AM [Ecumenical Storehouse Pickup]</b> 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball] <b>[Lassiter School-gym]</b>
10 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service <b>2:00 PM Church Council Mtg./RM.105</b> 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] <b>3:30 PM Deacons Meeting/RM.105</b> <b>4:00 PM [ORPhilharmonia Concert]</b> 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL. <b>[Lassiter School-gym]</b>  <b>Daylight Saving Time Begins</b>	11 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 6:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH] 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym]  ~First Light~	12 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy] <b>7:00 PM -9:00 PM [Y.P.'s Theater Rehearsal/FH]</b>	13 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends (Stephenson) /Parlor]</b> 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] 5:30 PM [ORCband /FH] 6:00 PM -7:00 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	15 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>6:30 PM Movie Discussion Group/J. Reedy's</b>	16 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
17 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor 11:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.	18 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 2:00 PM Library Mtg. 6:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH] 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym]	19 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy] <b>7:00 PM -9:00 PM [Y.P.'s Theater Rehearsal/FH]</b>	20 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends (Stephenson) /Parlor]</b> 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 7:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	21 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] 5:30 PM [ORCband /FH] 6:00 PM -7:00 PM Chancel Bells 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	22 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym]	23 <b>9:00 AM -12:00 PM Agape Workday</b> 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
24 <b>10:00 AM Kids Party &amp; Egg Hunt</b> 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor <b>11:00 AM Chancel Choir Cantata &amp; Communion</b> 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] <b>4:00 PM Simic Baby Shower/FH</b> 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	25 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] 6:30 PM [ORPhOrchestra]/FH] 6:30 PM -9:00 PM [Scouts129/gym]  ~First Light~	26 11:00 AM Staff Mtg. 1:00 PM Pastor Study Time 5:00 PM -7:45 PM [Basketball/Abernathy] <b>7:00 PM -9:00 PM [Y.P.'s Theater Rehearsal/FH]</b>	27 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>1:30 PM -3:30 PM [Fiber Friends (Stephenson) /Parlor]</b> 5:00 PM -7:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] <b>6:00 PM Chancel Bells</b>	28 1:30 PM Agape Help Center 4:30 PM -6:30 PM [Basketball] <b>6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service</b> 6:30 PM [Pickleball/gym]	29 9:00 AM -11:30 AM [Pickleball/gym] <b>Church Office Closed</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	30 10:00 AM -12:00 PM [Adult Basketball]
31 <b>7:00 AM Sunrise Service/RM. 105</b> 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM First Christian Church/2nd Floor <b>11:00 AM Worship &amp; Communion</b> 3:00 PM [Pickleball/gym] 5:30 PM -7:00 PM Feast (Youth) 6:00 PM First Christian Church/2ndFL.  <b>EASTER</b>						