

WEEKLY EVENTS AT FBC

SUNDAY
 Church Library (FLC).....9:00-9:30 & 10:30-10:40 A.M.
 Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
 Worship Service 10:45 A.M.
 Church Library (FLC)..... 4:30-5:00 P.M.
 Evening Service 6:00 P.M.

MONDAY
 Ladies Wellness Exercise Class 10:00 A.M.
 Women's Wellness Group 11:00 A.M.

TUESDAY
 Library 10:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY
 Preschool Play Day (FLC)..... 10:00 A.M.
 Teacher's Meeting (Chapel)..... 5:45 P.M.
 Prayer Meeting (Chapel) 6:05 P.M.
 IMPACT (Grades 6-12) 6:30 P.M.
 Celebration Choir 6:30 P.M.
 Praise Team 7:30 P.M.

THURSDAY
 Ladies Wellness Exercise Class 10:00 A.M.

CHANGES OR NEW EVENTS AT FBC

Sunday, February 5:
 Lord's Supper

Tuesday, February 7:
 Melody Makers9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, February 8:
 Pizza Hut Peru Mission Fundraiser All Day

Sunday, February 12:
 Deacon's Meeting.....4:45 p.m.
 Financial Peace Univ. (13 weeks)6:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 9:
 RTA's11:45 a.m.

Sunday, February 19:
 Business Meeting7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 21:
 Melody Makers9:15 a.m.

Sunday, February 26:
 SPAM Luncheon12:00 p.m.



If you can't make it to Sunday School or Church, watch the service on cable channel 2. Sunday School 9:30 A.M. Church 10:45 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.

Watch the previous weeks sermon at www.fbcwoodville.com

STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Ross D. Shelton ross@fbcwoodville.com
 Mark D. Tolar mark@fbcwoodville.com
 Todd Pounds todd@fbcwoodville.com
 Kay Katzen kay@fbcwoodville.com
 Richard McCullough richard@fbcwoodville.com

First Baptist Church
202 South Charlton Street
Woodville, Texas 75979-5293
 (address service requested)

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
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 Woodville, Texas 75979

VITAL SIGNS

Bible Study

| | 1st | 8th | 15th | 22nd | 29th |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Preschool | 14 | 23 | 26 | 21 | 29 |
| Children | 11 | 21 | 21 | 18 | 29 |
| Youth | 15 | 35 | 28 | 23 | 43 |
| Adult | 100 | 129 | 134 | 122 | 153 |
| General Officers | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| Total in House | 145 | 213 | 213 | 188 | 259 |
| Wed. Bible Study | 0 | 58 | 70 | 63 | 67 |
| Nursing Homes | 37 | 37 | 37 | 37 | 37 |
| Total | 182 | 308 | 320 | 288 | 363 |
| Avg. Attendance to Date | 241 | 242 | 243 | 242 | 245 |

Financial Report through January

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Annual Budget | \$671,329.00 |
| Budget Required to Date | 64,550.90 |
| Budget Received to Date | 50,440.66 |
| Budget Required Weekly | 12,910.18 |
| Budget Received this Month | 50,440.66 |
| Designated | 10,304.52 |
| Total | \$60,745.18 |

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Office 283-2588 **Prayer Room** 283-8557
Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Senior Pastor.....Ross D. Shelton
 Associate Pastor of WorshipMark D. Tolar
 Associate Pastor to Youth Todd Pounds
 Sunday School Director..... Richard McCullough
 Pastor's Administrative Assistant Kay Katzen
 Education Administrative Assistant Richard McCullough
 Director, Jacob's Ladder Learning Center Amber Robinson
 Custodian Orrill Davis
 Chairman of Deacons.....Marvin Katzen

FIRST NEWS

Our mission, centered in worship, is to REACH people for Jesus, CONNECT them in Christian fellowship, GROW together spiritually, and SERVE our community and world as we become mature followers of Jesus.

From the Pastor's Desk

I have been thinking recently about the importance of gratitude in relation to our church. I pulled the dictionary off my shelf and read the following definition for *gratitude*: "the quality or feeling of being grateful or thankful." Are you grateful for First Baptist Church? Here is the reality: there are times when it can be hard to be grateful for our church. First, people in the church can let us down or even hurt us. I know, even as a pastor, that at times I disappoint people, make mistakes, or say things I regret. Second, the call that Jesus has given to every church often times does not match with reality. When the ideal and real seem far apart in some areas, it can make it hard to be grateful. Finally, we live in a time of rapid change, and we find that many of the ways and methods of how we have done church are no longer as effective as they once were. When our preferences for how church has been done or how we think it should be done begin to change, it can be difficult to be grateful.

As your pastor, I know full well the challenges, disappointments, and unfulfilled expectations that can lead to a spirit of ungratefulness. Nevertheless, I am consciously choosing to cultivate within my life a spirit of gratefulness for what God is doing and is going to do in and through First Baptist Church. Allow me to share with you some ways to cultivate a spirit of gratitude. First, it begins with our relationship with God. If we do not spend time in the Word of God and prayer daily, then we will primarily be guided by our moods and attitudes. When we allow God's word and communing with Him in prayer to guide and refresh us every day, we will begin to find the spirit of gratitude permeating every part of our life. Second, we can learn to forgive one another. There are few things harder than to seek out someone who we have hurt or disappointed and ask forgiveness. It is also challenging to forgive someone who has hurt us. In Woodville, we are good at faking nice with people (i.e. acting nice to someone in the restaurant or grocery store while still maintaining bitterness and unforgiveness towards that person). The Bible, though, calls us to reconcile with one another (Matthew 5:23-25). It is amazing the amount of freedom that is provided and the gratitude that springs forth when there is forgiveness and reconciliation between people in the church. Third, we can move from the sidelines to the field of ministry. I have found that gratitude comes quickly when we find ourselves serving and engaging in ministry. It is easy to show up, warm a pew, benefit from others' service, and then go home and criticize the church for what it is not doing. Being a "Monday morning quarterback" cultivates a spirit of ingratitude, but when we decide to move off the sidelines and engage, we find that even though we are not a perfect church and there will always be room for improvement, we can still be grateful for what God is doing. Finally, cultivating a spirit of gratitude comes when we evaluate a ministry according to its purpose and not our preference. Right now I am reading Wayne Cordeiro's *The Irresistible Church: 12 Traits of a Church Heaven Applauds*. He writes about how often we evaluate a ministry primarily according to our preference (i.e. our likes and dislikes). When we evaluate our church or one of our ministries solely according to our preference, then often we become ungrateful when something is not according to our likes. On the other hand, when we evaluate our church or one of our ministries according to its purpose, we can appreciate what God is doing even when it is not our preference. For example, a ministry that is called to reach senior adults is going to look different than one called to reach teenagers. If we evaluate each of these ministries by our preferences, then we are going to find something in one of them that does not meet our preferences, and we can easily become ungrateful. If, though, we evaluate each according to its purpose, then we can see that even though there are differences in reaching senior adults and teenagers, we can celebrate and give thanks for their purpose even when it doesn't meet our preference. I am finding that distinguishing between *preference* and *purpose* is a great way to cultivate gratitude.

How about you? Do you want to cultivate a spirit of gratefulness in relation to our church? It doesn't take much work to be ungrateful. It takes intentionality to be grateful. As your pastor, I want to cultivate a greater spirit of gratitude in myself and in our church. Yes, there will always be challenges, mistakes, and corrections. I believe God is calling us to a deeper trust and focus on Him. If we allow God and His word to transform us daily, then the result will be springs of gratitude gushing forth from our lives.

Grateful to be Your Pastor,
 Pastor Ross

With Gratitude

First Baptist Family,

Thank you so much for the kind words, prayers and food during our loss. Mother loved watching Sunday services every Sunday morning.

The Odessa Murphey Family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your kind expressions of love you gave our family during our loss. First Baptist Church has meant a lot to the Hatton family for several generations, and Ralph loved you all. We appreciate your prayers during this time.

Gladys Hatton

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, visits, food, and phone calls during my recent illness.

Jo Ann Price

Recycled Teenagers

The next RTA's luncheon will be Thursday, February 9 in the Family Life Center. The luncheon will start at 11:45 a.m. Be sure and bring a covered dish.

On Mission Celebration

Mark your calendars! The churches of the Sabine Neches Baptist Area will be celebrating missions during the days of March 17-21. Each night missionaries will be speaking in different Baptist churches including our church. This will be a wonderful time for our church to hear from the missionaries we support through our mission offerings.

February Birthdays

2. James Watts, Hannah Williams 4. Becky Tucker, Karen Robinson 5. Alexis Polk 6. Cody Jarrott 7. Jean O'Connor, Margaret Pope, Nancy Pilgrim, Brian Walker 8. Nelda Johnston 9. Ruth Rice 10. Robert Harrison, Sharon Jeansonne, Matthew Wagner, Lathan Weaver 12. Neva Davis, Betty Holton, Bryanna Bythewood, Shane Monzingo 14. D.J. Lowe, Dorothy Oates, Keith Reese, Mallory Watts, Sarah Shepherd 15. Harold Pritchard 16. Louise Johnston 17. Max Lade, Janis Boykin 19. Larry Dickerson, Bryce Fowler 20. Sarah Loving 21. Sharice Allison 22. Ruby Knight, Joe Smith, Laurel Weaver, Karson Fowler 23. Stanley Hensarling, Boone Spurlock 24. Eva Kimbrough, Robbie Pike 25. Helen Grammer, Earl Blanchard, Jeannie Harvey 26. Brent Blanchette 27. Thelma VanSlyke 28. Micah Satterwhite.

Financial Planning Study

Jack Clark is going to facilitate a 13-week video-based teaching by Dave Ramsey called "Financial Peace University." Financial Peace University is focused on financial planning from a Christian viewpoint. The start date is Sunday, February 12 in the Chapel at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$99.00 per family, which includes a book, study guide, and financial planning tools. Child care will be provided. Please call the church office to sign-up or you may register online at <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/38235/class/203200>.

The deadline for signing up is February 5.

Generosity Challenge

During the next two weeks, you are going to hear Pastor Ross talk about the "Generosity Challenge." You will have an opportunity to sign-up to accept the challenge on Sundays February 12, 19, and 26. The Generosity Challenge will look different for every family. You may feel called to start giving financially, to become more obedient in your current level of giving, or to simply do a better job of connecting your spiritual growth with giving. By signing up and accepting the challenge you will receive or be part of the following:

- The first 50 families/individuals to sign-up will receive a copy of Andy Stanley's "Fields of Gold: A Place Beyond Your Deepest Fears. A Prize Beyond Your Wildest Imagination."
- A weekly email or letter of encouragement will be sent during March-May to help you think and pray about God's call to give in your life and how God provides.
- At the end of May, there will be a time of celebration and testimony to hear how God worked during the months of living out the challenge.

2012 Ladies Retreat

February 24-25

East Texas Baptist Encampment

"Love Unhindered"

Main Speaker: Sandy Wisdom-Martin

Worship Leaders: Holly Blalock & Meredith Ramos

Missionary: Margaret Johnson (Brazil)

Bible Study: Revelation

Cries from I-10 Corridor: Virginia Kreimeyer

Crafts: Joan Estes

Laughter: Jeanne Robertson (video)

Registration form is on ETBE website: etbe.org

Peru Mission Trip Fundraiser

There will be a Pizza Hut fundraiser to help support the Peru mission trip Wednesday, February 8. You can get your coupons in your Sunday School class, the church office or the church foyer.

worship

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The Celebration Choir meets every Wednesday night at 6:30. We lead in worship every Sunday. Join us as we are rehearsing new tunes for this semester. Child care is provided.

Melody Makers resumes February 7th. We meet at 9:15 in the parlor. Our primary ministry is singing to shut-ins and nursing homes. This is a great opportunity to bring music to those who can't attend here.

The Youth Praise Band will begin soon. This band will include players who are already leading on Sundays. They will lead worship for our youth group in the Family Life Center on Wednesday nights. Thank you, Todd and Lauren, for your leadership with this group. Pray for our students and those who lead. We are blessed here to have so many youth.

The next SPAM Fundraiser will be Sunday, February 26. You continue to amaze me with your constant love and support for our youth. Thanks from our team!

Howard Payne University Concert Choir March 27

We will host the choir here that Tuesday night. The choir is led by Dr. Monte Garrett, associate professor of music. Garrett joined the HPU faculty as director of choral activities in 2001. He earned both the bachelor and master's degrees in music from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and the Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting at The University of Texas at Austin. He has done additional study at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth and The Conductor's Institute at Southwestern University in Georgetown. He has conducted several region/honor choirs. In the summers of 2005 and 2009, he directed the Texas Baptist All-State Youth Choir. Prior to his appointment at HPU, he served as choral director at Cisco Junior College. We will be looking for host homes for this event. You may recall that we had them once before!

I am grateful for this opportunity.

Mark

Deacon Officers

Know of a way our deacons can serve?

Contact:

Marvin Katzen- Chairman
283-8429

Lindsey Whisenant
Vice-Chairman
283-7051

Preston Broom- Secretary
283-2731



I want to express my appreciation to the church for approving the acquisition and installation of the audio/video/lighting system for the FLC. Thank you for joining us in our vision and mission to impact the youth in Woodville and Tyler County. In the next few weeks we hope to have our worship team trained, rehearsed, and ready to lead worship on Wednesday evenings. Please continue to pray for us during this exciting time of transition.

We will enjoy the Super Bowl together Sunday, February 5. Kickoff is set for 5:30 p.m. See you at the game!

The Chris Allen Band will lead worship during IMPACT, Wednesday, February 15. Invite your friends to come join us in worship and hear the gospel of Jesus preached.

The next SPAM Fundraiser lunch is Sunday, February 26. Thank you church for your continued financial support and prayers for our youth and their families.

April 13-15: DNow Weekend (our best ever!) Speaker: Mike Satterfield, Worship Band: Micah Tyler Band. The registration fee is \$35 per person and is due March 4, 2012.

May 20: 2012 Senior Recognition Sunday

February 26, March 11, May 20: SPAM Fundraisers (SPAM Sunday)

Student Life Youth Camp JULY 7-13, 2012: We will be blessed to have Matt Chandler as the camp pastor and Aaron Keyes as the worship leader. The camp is located at Orange Beach, AL. With that being said, it's time to reserve your slot! You can do that with a \$60 non-refundable deposit. If you didn't get your deposit in by the deadline, there is still time.

God Bless,
Todd

Women's Bible Study

There will be a Bible study of Beth Moore's "David" starting Monday, March 5. This is a 11 week study that will be at 6:00 p.m. each Monday in the Chapel. The facilitator for the study will be Anne Garner. Contact Erlene Ingle for more information at 331-9228. R.S.V.P. with the church office if you will need child care.