



Forerunner

First Baptist Church
1024 E. Stuart Drive
Galax, VA 24333

Volume 47, No. 07
July 1—31, 2020

**If My people, who are called by My name,
shall humble themselves, pray, seek, crave,
and require of necessity My face
and turn from their wicked ways,
then will I hear from heaven,
forgive their sin,
and heal their land.**

2 Chronicles 7:14

On July 4, 1776, Congress officially approved the Declaration of Independence. In response to this momentous declaration of the united colonies' separation from Great Britain, John Adams wrote these insightful words in a letter to his wife concerning the remembrance of this day, now known as Independence Day:

"I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."



~ continued on Page 2 ~

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays

10:00 am—Sunday School Classes:
Bill Davis & Kevin Spurlin
Online via ZOOM

11:00 am—Worship Service
Live on FACEBOOK

8:00 pm—TruNorth (Youth Group)
with Pastor Steve
Online via ZOOM

Mondays

6:00 pm—Pastor Kevin's Bible Study
Live on FACEBOOK

Wednesdays

6:30 pm—Meditation & Devotion
with Pastor Kevin
Live on FACEBOOK

Thursdays

8:00 pm—TruNorth (Youth Group)
with Pastor Steve
Online via ZOOM

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 06

Church Offices Closed

July 16

11:30 am—Grief Support Group

~ continued from Page 1 ~

Our early forefathers left England for the unfamiliar shores of America mainly because they were unhappy under the tyranny of religious persecution. Since those dawning years of our country, many others have migrated for the same reason. They gave up everything for the right to freely worship God here.

Among the many freedoms our country guarantees, what we as believers particularly hold dear is the right to worship God and to read His Word, the Bible, freely. In many countries on this earth, this freedom still does not exist. We need to thank God for the establishing of this country with such freedoms.

This July 4th we know will be like nothing we have celebrated before. No matter how bad things may seem or become, we should always take a moment to solemnly thank God for all that our freedom allows.

May we use our freedom to bless God, to thank God, to worship God and to express our deepest gratitude to God, for not only our independence, but for our salvation.

*In Christ,
Kevin*



... to Lib Russell on the death of her brother, **Ronald Vaught**, who passed away Saturday, May 31, 2020.

... to Gerald Cox on the death of his brother, **Gene Cox**, who passed away on Monday, June 8, 2020.

... to Lora Williams on the death of her father, **Bob Iroler**, who passed away on Friday, June 12, 2020.

... to Evelyn Beamer on the death of her husband, **Bobby Beamer**, who passed away Wednesday, June 24, 2020.



Minister to
Youth & Families

Good Morning FBC Family!

Allprodads.com recently published this article by Bobby Cooley that I thought we could all benefit from regardless of our family size, shape, or if you're a mom or dad! I hope you benefit from it as much as I.

Do your kids ask you a bunch of questions? What's for dinner? Why is the sky blue? Where do babies come from? They are searching and seeking answers to life's biggest questions. They want to know how the world around them works. As parents, we get the privilege of shaping their worldviews.

What if I told you that along with questions about life, your kids are asking questions about themselves? Questions are in the heart of every child—questions kids ask that will shape who they are for the rest of their lives. No pressure, parents, but you have the answers that will radically shape your kid's identity. Here are the 5 most important questions kids are asking about themselves.

1. "Do I have what it takes?"

All kids have this question on their hearts. They are experiencing new things every day in school, with relationships, and through sports. These new experiences bring to the forefront anxiety and pressure that asks a question. "Do I have what it takes?" As parents, we help them answer this question through support and encouragement. During our first season of basketball with my son, I realized he is a pretty good defender.

As the coach, I would put him on the best player. Each game, he would come up to me and say, "Dad, he's the best shooter" or "Dad, he's the biggest kid," and every time, I would tell him, "You got this." It was amazing watching his confidence grow in each game as his question was being answered. As parents, when we invest in and encourage our kids, we communicate that we believe in them. Every kid is unique and is asking this question in unique ways. You must be present and intentional to help them find the answer.

2. "Are you listening?"

"If you are not a good listener in

~ continued in the next column ~

your kids' early years, they will not come to you later." Fred Rogers once said, "Listening is where love begins." Your younger kids want to share everything with you. They may talk your ear off, and it may bore you to tears. They just want to know if you are listening. Do you hear them? Do you hear their hearts?

It's important for you to stop, slow down, and listen because as your kids grow, they change from just wanting to tell you stuff to wanting to ask you hard questions about life. If you are not a good listener in your kids' early years, they will not come to you later. Slow down and listen.

3. "Do you see me?"

They are asking this question to everyone, not just you as parents. They are asking this to teachers, ...

Please continue reading at:

<https://www.allprodad.com/category/parenting/kids/>

*Blessings,
Pastor Steve*



**GREETINGS
FROM OUR
HISPANIC
CONGREGATION!**

This past month, we finished most of the renovation projects at the church. It was such a blessing to see the brothers and sisters working so hard to beautify the house of the Lord and see them using all their God-given talents to glorify Him. They worked countless hours, never complaining, and completed the tasks without paying a penny on labor. The ladies at the church brought plenty of food while we were working, so we didn't even have to spend money on food. I am thankful to the Lord for the wonderful heart they have, and I praise the Lord that I am part of this congregation. Exodus 35:35 states "He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work."

We are eager to reopen and have regular services, but we are waiting and asking the Lord for guidance to do it at the right time and in a safe manner. For the month of July, we invited a brother from Rio Grande Seminary in Texas to come here and spend time with us. I think this will be a great blessing for the congregation.

*Many blessings,
Daniel Sanchez*



A WORD FROM THE MUSIC MINISTER

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD." Psalm 33:12 NIV

It's hard to believe that July begins in just a few days, and still we continue to distance ourselves from social activities. In the past, the Music Ministry would have already been hard at work planning a worship service where we could praise God and celebrate this great country we call "home." With that in mind, I find myself remembering the patriotic hymn, **"MY COUNTRY, 'TIS OF THEE,"** by Samuel Francis Smith. Robert Morgan tells us in **THEN SINGS MY SOUL** (the 2011 edition, pg. 165) that Smith was "a powerful preacher, pastor, college professor, hymnist, linguist, writer, and missionary advocate. He traveled the world in support of evangelism..., but he has always been most revered for the patriotic hymn he wrote as a 23-year-old student." Mr. Morgan also tells the story that while helping his friend and fellow hymn publisher Lowell Mason translate German songs, "[Mr. Smith] was struck by the words of **"Gott segne Sachsenland"** (**"God Bless Our Saxon Land,"** or as we know it today, Britain's **"God Save the Queen"**) and "...instantly felt the impulse to write a patriotic hymn of [his] own adapted to this tune." Let's reflect on these verses we learned as children in school, and **"may Your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in You."** Psalm 33:22 NIV.

**My country, 'tis of Thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring!**

**Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God our King!**

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Donor Fund In Memory of:

Gardner Brannon Mary E Brannon
Fran Cregar Fund

Thank you

To the Band of Brothers at FBC,

Words cannot begin to describe how appreciative I am that a group of men from your church built a wheelchair ramp for my sister, Hilda Hodges. She broke her ankle when she fell in December, and then fell once again in February and broke her hip. She has been hospitalized for several months and wants and needs to come home. A team from the hospital came and evaluated her house. One of the conditions for her release was a wheelchair ramp. I wanted to build the ramp for her, but chemotherapy has left my immune system so low that it would be difficult for me to fight off any infection. I'm sure that I could not have completed the job as well as the "Brothers" or as quickly. Once again, the family appreciates their willingness to do this for us, especially during these difficult times. It is a prayer answered and a true blessing.

*God Bless,
Johnny Hodges*

Dear FBC Family,

Thank you so much for all of the prayers, cards, calls, and food after my recent surgery! I am blessed to be a part of this church and love you dearly.

*God Bless You!
Debbie Lineberry*

Dear Men of FBC,

Thanks so very much for building the ramp for my sister, Hilda Hodges. I don't know what we would have done without your help. Hilda is home, using that ramp with no problem!! What a blessing each of you are!

*Sincerely,
Nancy Hodges Sells*



Women on Mission

WOM will not meet in July but hopes to resume in August. We felt it was best for our group to wait until the church opens back up or until we feel safe to meet. We hope everyone is doing well and enjoying time with family. Be safe as you go out while our state starts the reopening process. In the meantime, you & your family are invited to download free resources and videos to learn about and pray for missionaries around the world and discover how your family can share Christ's love. Please visit this website to access all their free resources: <http://wmu.com/?q=article/national-wmu-news/wmu-blog/national-wmu/free-resources-you-and-your-church>. We hope everyone has a wonderful Fourth of July!



Grief Support Group (NEW Day & Time)

Everyone is invited to come and experience the strength and encouragement provided by this group of people who have suffered the loss of a loved one, a relationship, health, or other significant life event. This will be a safe place for you to connect with people who are feeling similar emotions without any pressure for you to share or to commit to the group.

The Grief Support Group meets in the Common Ground classroom on the **third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m.** FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV):
"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

For more information contact:

Debbie Adams
First Baptist Church
276-236-5185

Bruce Thomas
Mountain Valley Hospice and
Palliative Care
276-728-1030

Sunday School Classes—Online

Bill Davis and Kevin Spurlin are continuing their classes at 10 AM each Sunday morning through ZOOM Video Conferencing. If you are missing being in Sunday School, call the church office (236-5185), and we will help you connect with one of these "Virtual Sunday School Classes." Here are the *total number of families* who logged in to classes in the past month:

May 31 — 40

June 07 — 43

June 14 — 41

June 21 — 40

CURRENT WORSHIP STATISTICS

	05/31/2020	06/07/2020
Evening Attendance	0	0
Sunday School	0	0
11:00 A.M. Worship Service	0	0
Hispanic Worship Service	0	0
Total Worship Attendance	0	0
BUDGET REQUIRED	\$ 9,375.17	\$ 9,375.17
BUDGET RECEIVED	7,019.13	8,195.24
REQUIRED TO DATE	206,253.74	215,628.91
RECEIVED TO DATE	189,292.21	197,487.45
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	2,117.87	2,329.13
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 9,137.00	\$ 10,524.37

% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	92%	92%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	75%	87%

Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship Service	686	790
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	645	473

	06/14/2020	06/21/2020
Evening Attendance	0	0
Sunday School	0	0
11:00 A.M. Worship Service	0	0
Hispanic Worship Service	0	0
Total Worship Attendance	0	0
BUDGET REQUIRED	\$ 9,375.17	\$ 9,375.17
BUDGET RECEIVED	6,912.61	9,530.59
REQUIRED TO DATE	225,004.08	243,379.25
RECEIVED TO DATE	204,400.06	213,930.65
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	1,710.54	1,634.07
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 8,623.15	\$ 11,164.66

% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	91%	91%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	74%	102%

Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship Service	565	514
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	874	544



Monday - Thursday

8:30 to 5:00

Friday

8:30 to 12:00

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Kevin Rosenfeld	Senior Pastor
(Office) 236-5185	
Rev. Steve Goatley	Minister of Youth & Families
(Office) 236-5185	
Mrs. Wendi Pemberton	Minister of Music
(Office) 236-5185	
Mrs. Marlene Tipton	Administrative Secretary
Mrs. Marie Combs	Financial Secretary
Mrs. Nancy Hazelwood	Organist
Mrs. Patty Davis	Pianist
Mrs. Marian Porter	Weekday Preschool Director
	Preschool/Extended Session
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Spurlin	Sunday School Co-Directors
Mrs. Penny Adams	Bus Ministry Director
Mrs. Martha Easter, RN	Volunteer Health Nurse
Mr. Paul Sawyers	Sexton

CHURCH PHONE 276-236-5185

FAX 276-236-5186

E-MAIL: secretary@fbcgalax.org

Website: www.fbcgalax.org



www.facebook.com/FBCGalax

Prayer Requests

Linda Riddle; Debbie Lineberry, broken wrist; Everett Bryant; Carolynne Johnson (Susan Higgins' sister); Judy Hennis; Mark McMickle; Miles Compton, lung cancer; Hilda Hodges; Betty Parrish; Cami Gathercole & her daughter (Cami is daughter of Joe & Barbara Sizemore); Stanley Armstrong, cancer; Johnny Hodges, cancer (Hilda Hodges' brother); Chad Trent, cancer (Linda Riddle's nephew); Sharon Garrett, cancer; Barbara Baxley; Laila Cox; Alice Hasbrouck (Susan Honaker's sister); Kim Kinser, cancer (Mary Dotson's daughter); Lou Brock (Betty Parrish's daughter); Wanda Jean Harris; Mike McMillan; Juan Rios; Colene Larrowe; Geraldine McMillan (Rhonda McMillan's mother); Fran Halsey; K.T. Carico; Betty Walker, Stage IV cancer (Penny Adams' sister); Stanley Meador (Marie Combs' son); Gladys Catron; Max Brown, leukemia (Martha Dozier's great-grandson); Mary Littreal; Nell Bartlett; Betty Robinson, kidney failure; Judy Fayne, cancer (Eugene Fayne's daughter); John & Debby Stringer; Ronald Cummings (Dolly Moss' brother); Betty Fender (Ann Roberts' mother); Our Country; The Unemployed; USA Military and other coalition forces;

NURSING HOMES: Hillsville Health & Rehab - Martha Combs, Rm 203 (Dennis Combs' Mother); Doris Marshall, Rm 206 (Benita Bryant's Mother); **Waddell Nursing Home** - Gaye Iroler, Rm 14 (Terry Anders' Mother); Glennis Morris, Rm 118-B; Helen Robinson, Rm 209-D

A Prayer for America

Father in Heaven, we, the people, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, desperately need You. Oh that we would leave our ways of seeking to be blessed, and instead seek to bless others. We beg for Your guidance and wisdom for our leaders.

We ask You to protect our land from enemies, both within and without. And we praise you for the freedom we have through the blood of Your Son. May Your plan be the desire of our nation.

Amen.

First Baptist Church
1024 E. Stuart Drive
Galax, VA 24333

July 2020

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar events are subject to change, and an updated calendar will be emailed to you if changes are made to the posted events.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>2</i> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 
<i>5</i> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>6</i> Church Offices Closed: July 4th Holiday	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>9</i> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>13</i> 6:00pm-Bible Study <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>16</i> 11:30am Grief Support Group 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>20</i> 6:00pm-Bible Study <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>23</i> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM <i>with Pastor Steve</i>	<i>27</i> 6:00pm-Bible Study <i>with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>	



July 2

Hilda Hodges

July 9

Ben Williams

July 18

*Linda Cooley
Susan Honaker*

July 3

*Joyce Orwig
Betty Parrish*

July 11

Joyce Phillips

July 19

Lupita Ramirez

July 4

Frances Halsey

July 12

*Phyllis Barker
Donnie Handy*

July 22

Linda Rosenfeld

July 6

Dan Schultheis

July 13

*Kayla Archer
Bill Davis*

July 23

Royce Easter

July 8

*Steve Hazelwood
Eugenio Ibarra
Barbara Leonard
James Sumner
Benny White*

July 16

Nancy Carpenter

July 25

Eula Merrill

July 29

*Ruth Hall
Mark Painter*