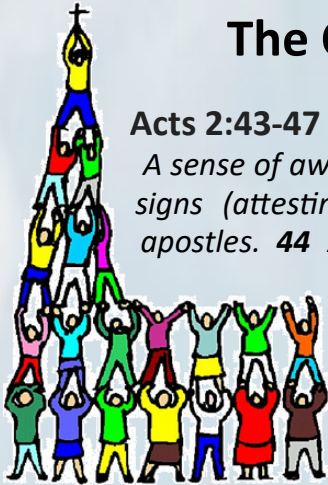




# Forerunner

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

**Volume 47, No. 05**  
**May 1–31, 2020**



## The Church is a State of Being

### Acts 2:43-47

*A sense of awe was felt by everyone, and many wonders and signs (attesting miracles) were taking place through the apostles. **44** And all those who had believed [in Jesus as Savior] were together and had all things in common [considering their possessions to belong to the group as a whole]. **45** And they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing the proceeds with all [the other believers], as anyone had need. **46** Day after day they met in the temple [area] continuing with one mind, and breaking bread in various private homes. They were eating their meals together with joy and generous hearts, **47** praising God continually, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord kept adding to their number daily those who were being saved.*

I am reminded during this pandemic that the church is still the church, and we continue to be on mission. The people of God were meeting daily in the temple as well as in various homes. The church is not something that is located to one specific physical address. As you can see in the early church, they were blessed, and God added to their numbers daily those who were being saved.

As stressful as these times are, they have provided an extraordinary opportunity in our Christian community to reflect on our identity and mission as the church and to imagine ways of being more connected than ever with one another. Now we have the chance to do something new, and I challenge all of us to take the time to reflect together on questions like these (communicated by C. Christopher Smith):

What is the church? A building? A particular gathering? A community?

What is worship? What really matters in a worship service? And given the limits forced on us by the pandemic, which technological tools can best help us embody our identity and mission?

~ 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  
“*The Book of Revelation*”  
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 EVENT

### MOTHER'S DAY GIFT BAG PIC UP

**May 08 (Friday)**

2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

**May 09 (Saturday)**

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

### May 18

6:30 pm—Deacons' Meeting

### May 25

Memorial Day—Church Offices Closed

~ continued from Page 1 ~

I ask us to keep this in our forefront rather than reminiscing on the "glory days" of what used to be. Things may not go back to being 100% "normal" or as they "used to be." As weird of a time as it is, and with the uncertainty of when we will be able to function as a community of faith in larger numbers, I am excited for new possibilities that will emerge from these ashes of quarantine.

I want to remind us all that as C. Christopher Smith states, *"Christianity is primarily a social faith, embodied in communities that express this faith in their everyday lives. Christianity is also incarnational, highly valuing bodily presence — both the presence of God-with-us and our presence with one another. We have no greater gift to give one another than our full, undivided presence and attention. We are the body of Christ, which is an interactive community in which there are no extraneous members and in which everyone has a role to play. We are called to be active participants in our faith, not just passive consumers of religion."*

I look forward to all of us getting back together for corporate worship and fellowship. May we seek our Creator, who is so creative, that He can use this pandemic for the glory of His kingdom. May we seek new ways to be the church and use the creativity that our God has resourced us with to reach the lost, the downtrodden and those on the margins of life. Lastly, may we find our mission in a new way of being missional to our neighbor, our community, one another, and to the stranger we will intentionally encounter along our shared journey together.

*In Christ's Love,*  
Kevin



## GREETINGS FROM OUR HISPANIC CONGREGATION!

**Psalm 46:10** says, *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

A wishful sentiment of going back to normal filled my heart the other day while I was driving through the city. It was very weird to see the streets with very few cars, stores were closed and also it was Sunday — a day in which we used to go to church and then go out to eat or have a meal with friends. But in a heartbeat everything changed! We can no longer meet for church, and many can't go back to their jobs. Others aren't allowed to see their family members, or see a child be born or go to a funeral. To be honest, we really cannot do much to change this situation, and not even the government knows for sure when we can go back to normal.

No, we are not in control as we thought we were. The Lord is in control and it comforts me to know that He is. He had a plan, He is teaching us something. He is powerful and in control over the life of this country and all the nations over the world. He is above all the powerful people, and over the church itself. He knows what He is doing, and if we have given our lives to him we can be sure that through this hard time He loves us and we can be still and know the He is Lord.

Our Hispanic congregation has been having services online and also still doing quite a bit of remodeling in the church building. We are eager to be able to have regular services, but we know it will be on His time.

**1 John 4:16** states *"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them."*

*God bless you all,*  
Daniel Sanchez



## Minister to Youth & Families

Hello FBC Family!

It seems like forever since we've been able to gather together physically doesn't it? Never fear though, this too shall pass, and I believe it will just make our gatherings all the sweeter. Until then, I am here to support you in any way I can.

I know that many of our parents have taken on many new roles during this time, and I pray for you daily! I've been emailing to our families regularly with resources ranging from Children's church at home to family devotions and games. If you haven't been receiving these and would like to, please email me at [sgoatley@fbcgalax.org](mailto:sgoatley@fbcgalax.org) and I will be sure to get those out to you and add you to the mailing list! Also, if you have friends or neighbors who might be interested in these resources, please feel free to share! If they are open to it, you can also connect them with me or Pastor Kevin. This is just one more way we can be the body of Christ in this time!

At this point both summer youth trips have been cancelled. However, we are already in the early process of planning some outings and a mission trip for when we are able to meet again.

The CentriKid trip for the children's ministry is still in play, and I will update you as soon as I hear anything. As for VBS, we have discussed the option of doing it online and have agreed that we will wait and host it when we can do so physically. It will be a great way to celebrate being able to gather again!!

I pray you all will continue to be well and stay safe. Please be mindful of and follow the social distancing protocol and try not to dwell on the negative but celebrate this time with your families. Soon enough we will all be longing for more time with our families again. I will leave you with this: Jesus said, *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* John 16:33 NIV

May the love and mercy of our Father in Heaven keep and hold you in His peace.

*Blessings,*

Pastor Steve



## A WORD FROM THE MUSIC MINISTER

**"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you."** Isaiah 43:2 NKJV

Hello Church Family! As the May Forerunner goes to print, we are continuing to distance ourselves from social gatherings...indeed, these are interesting times!! So while I do hope that you are considering joining the Music Ministry when we are able to be together again to help lead in worship and to fellowship with the Choir, let me take this opportunity to share with you once again from **THEN SINGS MY SOUL** by Robert J. Morgan. In this **2011 edition**, he writes about some of the world's greatest hymns and the stories behind them. This month, let's focus on **"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"** (pg. 101), and may you and your family remain safe and healthy in the days ahead.

Robert Morgan writes that *"The Great Awakening of the 1700s was a heaven-sent revival to many parts of the world."* From America to England and Wales, multitudes were reached through *"electrifying preaching."* One of the converts was William Williams. He became a preacher and spent *"43 years traveling over 95,000 miles"* spreading the gospel. *"Williams is best remembered, however, for his hymns. In all, he composed over 800 hymns, his best known being this autobiographical prayer with its many Old Testament allusions."* Mr. Morgan writes that many years later, this hymn was sung to President James Garfield as he lay dying, and it was also sung at Princess Diana's funeral. Take a moment to ponder these powerful words:

**Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing  
stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through;  
Strong Deliverer strong Deliverer  
Be Thou still my  
strength and shield  
Be Thou still my  
strength and shield.**

CCLI Song # 1448 John Hughes | Peter Williams |  
William Williams © Words: Public Domain Music:  
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### Donor Fund In Memory of:

Gardner Brannon Mary E Brannon  
Fran Creggar Fund

Frances Halsey J.A. Eads  
Capital Campaign

## Thank you

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you for your participation in Operation Christmas Child in 2019. Each box collected allows a child around the world to hear and feel the love of Jesus! If we can be of any assistance as you plan and pack shoeboxes in 2020, please let us know.

*God Bless!*  
Tabitha Norman  
OCC Year Round Volunteer  
Crooked Road Team



... to Joyce Orwig on the death of her brother, **Johnny Schultz**, who passed away Saturday, March 28, 2020.

... to Joyce Orwig on the death of her mother, **Bernice Schultz**, who passed away Saturday, April 4, 2020.

... to Lora Melton on the death of her stepfather, **Forrest Crowder**, who passed away Friday, April 17, 2020.

## 2020 Graduates

We will feature this year's graduates in our **June Forerunner**. If you are graduating from high school or college, we would love to have your photo, name of the school you are graduating from and your future plans, if known. **DEADLINE: May 25.** Please email your picture and information no later than May 25 to [secretary@fbcgalax.org](mailto:secretary@fbcgalax.org) or drop it by the church office. Your picture will be scanned and returned to you.



The Women on Mission meeting is canceled for May, but we hope we can resume in June. Since we are continuing to be safe by not meeting, here are five ways you can serve others during this time.

1. Pray for the people working the front line. Pray for the online streaming church services to reach many people. Pray for the people that have been directly affected by this virus and for God to give them comfort and healing. Pray for the people who have lost their jobs and income to see God's provisions.
2. Connect with doctors, nurses, first responders. Offer to send a meal to them or their staff. Encourage and thank them for all they do.



3. Call an elderly person or a person who has a compromised immune system and offer to pick up groceries for them.
4. Write notes of encouragement to those living in nursing homes or long-term care facilities. You can mail or email it to the administration for delivery to residents.
5. Call and check in on 2-3 different people each week. Words of encouragement go a long way.

We hope everyone is well and pray that every one of our congregation is safe and healthy.



## Sunday School Classes—Online

**B**ill 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 is the total online viewers for these classes this month:

April 05 — 40  
 April 12 — 50  
 April 19 — 53  
 April 26 — 58

### CURRENT WORSHIP STATISTICS

	04/05/2020	04/12/2020
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	8,031.87	13,868.65
REQUIRED TO DATE	131,252.38	140,627.55
RECEIVED TO DATE	117,102.36	130,941.01
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	2,562.13	2,738.48
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 10,594.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,577.13</b>
% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	89%	93%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	86%	148%

#### Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship Service	1,100	781
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	2,042	942

	04/19/2020	04/26/2020
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	6,808.69	6,981.98
REQUIRED TO DATE	150,002.72	159,377.89
RECEIVED TO DATE	137,749.70	144,731.68
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	1,646.17	3,921.52
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 8,454.86</b>	<b>\$ 10,903.50</b>
% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	92%	91%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	73%	74%

#### Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship Service	918	698
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	1,340	339



### 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](mailto:secretary@fbcgalax.org)

Website: [www.fbcgalax.org](http://www.fbcgalax.org)

[www.facebook.com/FBCGalax](https://www.facebook.com/FBCGalax)

## Prayer Requests

Everett Bryant; David Fender, lymph node cancer (Ann Carol Roberts' brother); Carolynne Johnson, awaiting shoulder surgery (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; Ronald Vaught; Alice Hasbrouck (Susan Honaker's sister); Imogene Frye; Kim Kinser, cancer (Mary Dotson's daughter); Lou Brock (Betty Parrish's daughter); Wanda Jean Harris; Mike McMillan; Juan Rios; Colene Larowe; 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; Sylvia Robinson, cancer; 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** - Gene Cox, Rm 225-D (Gerald Cox's brother); Gaye Iroler, Rm 14 (Terry Anders' Mother); Glennis Morris, Rm 111-B; Helen Robinson, Rm 209-D



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

# May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve	<b>4</b> 6:00pm-Bible Study with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK	<b>7</b> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve  National Day of Prayer	<b>Mothers' Day Gift Bag Pick Up Times</b>  <div> <b>Friday 2-6pm</b> </div> <div> <b>Saturday 10am-1pm</b> </div>	
<b>10</b> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK  HAPPY <i>Mothers</i> DAY	<b>11</b> 6:00pm-Bible Study with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK	<b>14</b> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve	<b>18</b> 6:00pm-Bible Study with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK 6:30pm-Deacons' Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK	<b>21</b> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve	<b>25</b> 6:00pm-Bible Study with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK  MEMORIAL DAY (Church Offices Closed)	<b>26</b> 10:00am-Staff Meeting	<b>27</b> 6:30pm-Meditations & Devotions with Pastor Kevin on FACEBOOK	<b>28</b> 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10:00am-S.S. Classes Meeting via ZOOM 11:00am-Worship Service on FACEBOOK 8:00pm-TruNorth Meeting via ZOOM with Pastor Steve						



**May 05**

*Lora Melton*

**May 15**

*Scott Hall  
Joe Lindsey*

**May 23**

*Judy Brannock  
Pam Turner  
Maggie Williams*

**May 06**

*Paola Galvan*

**May 20**

*Carolyn Matthews*

**May 25**

*Tammy Anders  
Austin Lumpkin  
Isabel Robles*

**May 08**

*Rhonda McMillan*

**May 22**

*Karen Dickson  
Marlene Johnson*

**May 31**

*Bryan Dillon*

**May 12**

*Mimi Pemberton*