



Forerunner

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

Volume 47, No. 08
August 1–31, 2020

Worship Resumes August 9 - 11:00 am

After much discussion, planning and prayer, we have decided to return to onsite worship beginning August 9, but under very careful guidelines. We realize there are risks involved, but this is important for several reasons:

- First, with the public schools opening, and with businesses and organizations doing likewise, we cannot remain unendingly closed.
- Second, Christians need to gather for worship and community. Such is an essential element of our faith.
- Third, our virtual church can only carry us so far. Come August 9th, it will be 5 months since we were together for worship. It looks like Covid-19 is here to stay, so we need to begin to come back together, as safely as possible, as a church community.

We also fully understand and appreciate that many will choose to remain at home for the time being. There are a variety of reasons and concerns for this, and all are valid! We respect everyone's right to choose what is best for their family and themselves, and we will continue to offer Livestream and radio for the benefit of those who wish to worship from home.

~ continued on Page 2 ~

Hey!
WELCOME
We're very GLAD
you're here!

**Meet our NEW
Church Sexton**



We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new sexton, **Scott Bedsaul**, who joined our staff on July 7th. Scott worked in the fitness industry for the last 20 years as a program coordinator and has been involved in school fitness programs as well as personal training and rehab. In addition, he has provided the lawn care for First Baptist during the past 30 years. Scott is looking forward to meeting and serving our First Baptist family.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays

Sunday School Classes:

- times to be determined

11:00 am—Worship Service
FACEBOOK each Sunday

and

11:00 am—**Worship in the Sanctuary
Resumes August 9th**

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

August 4

10:00 am—Staff Meeting

August 17

06:30 pm—Deacons' Meeting

August 20

11:30 am—Grief Support Group

~ continued from Page 1 ~

To view our guidelines, visit our website <https://www.fbcgalax.org/> and click on the COVID-19 tab.

Our guidelines are reasonable given the situation. By following these, we will be just as safe in our sanctuary as in the grocery store, pharmacy, medical center, or in those essential places we must venture to live. There is always a risk when venturing out in public. However, coming together with all the precautions in place, makes us just as safe, if not safer than going to a restaurant, grocery store, or home improvement stores.

Health experts note that Bibles and hymnals are susceptible to holding germs, so we have put those into storage until Covid-19 has passed.

The golf cart will be available to pick you up and take you back to your vehicle. Our drivers will be wearing face coverings and the golf cart will be sanitized after each use.

Even under these circumstances, we are excited to reopen onsite worship. May God's blessings be with us as we seek to accomplish His will during these very unusual times.

*In Christ's love,
Kevin*

Children's Sunday School PreK - 5th Grade

Our regular Sunday school curriculum is digitally accessible! Each week, content is provided for the following age groups - preschool, elementary, and preteen. An engaging video shares songs and a Bible story, while a downloadable parent guide provides ideas for discussion and suggested fun family activities.

Please go to the website <https://theparentcue.org/>. In the drop down menu, choosing the option, FAITH, will take you to "Sunday At Home" where the resources are accessible. You can also have direct access through this link <https://theparentcue.org/faith/>, or the downloadable *Parent Cue App*.

For August, the theme is **Indescribable: Our Creator Has No Limits. Imagine what you can do because you are made in God's image!**

Bible stories will be found in Genesis, Esther, Matthew, and Mark.

Lord, You are great. You are really worthy of praise. No one can completely understand how great You are. Psalm 145:3 NIRV



Minister to Youth & Families

I wonder how many of us are still struggling with being the new "do everything" parent of our current reality. I know it can be difficult to keep coming up with fresh ideas to keep your children engaged with everything from school lessons to family worship. I was reading this article by Sandy Swartzentruber and thought she had some amazing insights on how to make family worship time fresh, exciting, and comforting for your little ones. I hope you find it as helpful as I did.

Jesus Cooks Breakfast: Ideas for Sharing Sensory Bible Stories with Kids

It just might be my favorite Bible story of all.

Looking for a bit of normalcy after the emotional rollercoaster of Jesus' death and resurrection, Peter decides to go fishing. A few other disciples join him. They fish all night, flinging out their wet, heavy nets over and over.

Nothing. Still nothing. Not. One. Fish.

Early in the morning, they're tired, hungry, and discouraged. As they near shore, they see—Jesus! But what's he doing? He's not standing there looking holy with his hands raised in benediction. The risen Lord is bending over a fire frying up some crispy fish fillets, tending them carefully so as not to burn them. And to top it all off, he provides Peter and company with their own catch in nets full to bursting.

The sensory elements of that story are SO compelling. The sight of Jesus in the early morning light, the sound of the waves lapping the shore, the smell of frying fish sizzling over a smoky fire, the welcome taste of food after a long hungry night, and, I like to think, the feeling of Jesus hugging his friends as they climb out of the boat.

Exploring the Bible with All Five Senses

The Bible is full of sense-tingling stories like that one. With just a little imagination, you can weave sensory elements into the exploration of any Bible story, whether you're at home, at church, or any other place. Here are some ideas.

~ continued in the next column ~

NOSE

- When you read a Bible story, **make a "smell list"** with kids. Write down all the things you might smell if you were there while the story was happening.
- **Go on a smell hunt.** Read a Bible story and look for things around the house or your church that smell like things on your smell list.
- **Light a scented candle** or some incense each time you read a Bible story together, so kids associate a special smell with the "special revelation" of God's Word.

MOUTH

- **Use food as a prop.** For example, put Cheerios on the floor to represent manna and let your kids gather and eat them while you read the Exodus story (might wanna clean that floor first, just saying.)

Please continue reading at:

<https://network.crcna.org/childrens-ministry/jesus-cooks-breakfast-ideas-sharing-sensory-bible-stories-kids>

*Blessings,
Pastor Steve*



GREETINGS FROM OUR HISPANIC CONGREGATION!

In July, we had hoped to bring a pastoral candidate from Texas to visit our congregation, but because COVID-19 cases were rising in this area, we were not able to do so. We are still praying and believing that in His time He will bring a pastor to the Hispanic congregation, and we ask for you to join us in prayer for this.

In the meantime, we continue preaching and worshipping with the music band on Facebook live every Sunday at 10 am. We are hoping to reopen soon, but we understand that this is not in our time but in the Lord's time. We glorify Him and believe that in hard times, like the present time, He still has a purpose, and we pray that He will keep us safe in the midst of the storm.

God bless you all and keep you safe.

*Many Blessings,
Daniel Sanchez*



A WORD FROM THE MUSIC MINISTER

"Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38 NKJV

In these uncertain times, some things remain steadfast, and I am reminded of this with **"Jesus Is the Sweetest Name I Know"** by Lela B. Long. Robert J. Morgan (**THEN SINGS MY SOUL**, 2011 edition, pg. 575), retells the story of Dr. P.W. Philpot, then-pastor of Moody Church in Chicago, meeting Ms. Long after he "received a frantic phone call about a young lady who was very ill...and appeared to not have long to live." He went to her and "spent time talking with her and was eventually able to lead her to the Lord. Her family thanked [him] and assured [him] they would keep [him] informed as to her progress." Sadly, he never heard anything more about her.

Years later, Dr. Philpot became a pastor in California. "One Sunday afternoon after the service, who should come to see me but the three people I had met at the hotel in Chicago those many years before. They had seen a church ad in the paper and had come to thank me for my help and to apologize for not advising me sooner of what had transpired. The young lady especially thanked me for leading her to Christ and testified to the fact that her life had been wonderfully changed." God had gifted her with a talent for music. She gave him a manuscript, written for him "in remembrance of the day that [he] introduced [her] to the most wonderful person [she had] ever known."

**There have been names that I
have loved to hear,
But never has there been a
name so dear
To this heart of mine
As the name divine,
The precious, precious name of
Jesus.**

**Jesus is the sweetest name I know,
And He's just the same as His
lovely name,
And that's the reason why I love
Him so;
O Jesus is the sweetest name I
know.**

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Donor Fund In Memory of:
Gardner Brannon Mary E Brannon
Fran Cregar Fund

Thank you

Dear First Baptist,

God has truly blessed us with an amazing church family. We would like to "THANK" everyone for their prayers, calls, cards and texts during the time of illness and loss of my brother "Gene."

Gerald & Kathy Cox

Dear Fellow Church Members,

I want to thank you so much for the wonderful ramp you built so I can get in and out of the house after my hip operation and hospital stay. I could not have come home without your help. You are wonderful, and I am thankful for you.

Love,
Hilda Hodges

Dear FBC Family,

I wish to thank all my dear church friends for the cards, phone calls and prayers during my illness. You all mean so much to me, and your concern is deeply appreciated.

Love in Christ,
Linda Riddle

FBC Church Members,

Thank you for your kindness and generosity provided to our family during this difficult time. We appreciate all the supplies and all the 'must haves' for the coffee and other items. Words can't express how grateful we are. May God bless each one of you.

Love,
The Melton Family



... to Lora Melton on the death of her father-in-law, **Billy Melton**, who passed away on Monday, July 13, 2020.



The WOM meeting is canceled for August, but we plan to resume in September. If church reopens in August, we may consider having a meeting later in the month.

As schools prepare to open, let's pray for families that are weighing options to send their kids to school or homeschool. We usually do "Christmas in August", collecting school supplies for Galax school. I will let you know if they are still collecting school supplies for this year, as school is looking different for a lot of students this year.

Food for thought: In an article from June's *Missions Mosaic* entitled "A Sign for the Times," Sandy Wisdom-Martin, executive director of the National WMU, tells a story about COVID-19 canceling many events and giving her time to go through boxes of stuff she had stored away. She writes about finding a sign that says 'stop, go ahead, calm down, and quiet.' She thought her daughter would love to use this as she is preparing to be an elementary school teacher. But her daughter gave it back to her stating, "under the current circumstances this may be more helpful in your job." As her article went to print, Sandy stated the COVID-19 tsunami had hit full force with no clear end in sight. She is bombarded with demands for decisions that she feels ill-equipped to make. Some times she wants to hold up the "stop" sign to give herself a momentary break. Other times she needs to point the "calm down" sign at herself to remind her to speak peace in the lives of those she guides, stating, "I cannot lead during a crisis with a posture of nervousness." The "quiet" signal remind her to still her heart before the Father and center on His will. The "go ahead" signal has limited use in these days of uncertainty but is used with less bravado and more quiet confidence in His leading. She mentioned Samuel from the Bible and his mother who displayed a quiet confidence in God. Because of her persistent prayers and wholehearted surrender to His will, God granted the desires of her heart. Her steadfast faithfulness changed the course of a nation. So when you feel uncertain, turn to God's Word for a "sign" from Him!

Sunday School Classes—Online

Bill Davis and Kevin Spurlin will continue Zoom classes on Sunday, August 2 at 10 am. However, our church will reopen for Worship Service on August 9, so please check with them to see what their plans are for class times and locations beginning August 9th. Here are the *total number of families* who logged in to Zoom class the past month:

June 28 — 38
 July 05 — 37
 July 12 — 36
 July 19 — 38
 July 26 — 36

CURRENT WORSHIP STATISTICS

	06/28/2020	07/05/2020
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	4,661.06	8,933.99
REQUIRED TO DATE	243,754.42	253,129.59
RECEIVED TO DATE	218,591.71	227,525.70
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	729.49	4,013.03
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 5,390.55	\$ 12,947.02
% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	90%	90%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	50%	95%

Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship Service	595	663
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	571	334

	07/12/2020	07/19/2020
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	10,136.40	6,443.80
REQUIRED TO DATE	262,504.76	271,879.93
RECEIVED TO DATE	237,662.10	244,105.90
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	853.80	233.85
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 10,990.20	\$ 6,677.65
% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	91%	90%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	108%	69%

Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship Service	518	714
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	418	480



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. Scott Bedsaul 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

The family of Mary Medina (Chachy Demolina's mother); The family of Lamar Hebert; Dr. Bill Eddings; David Peterson; Carolynne Johnson, hip replacement (Susan Higgins' sister); Everett Bryant; 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); 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); Nell Bartlett; 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

STATISTICS - CONT'D

07/26/2020

Evening Attendance	0
Sunday School	0
11:00 A.M. Worship	0
Hispanic Worship Service	0
Total Worship Attendance	0
BUDGET REQUIRED	\$ 9,375.17
BUDGET RECEIVED	9,933.09
REQUIRED TO DATE	281,255.10
RECEIVED TO DATE	254,038.99
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	4,201.15
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 14,134.24

% Required Yrly Budget Rec'd	90%
% Required Wkly Budget Rec'd	106%

Facebook Views

11:00 A.M. Worship	532
Bible Study/Prayer Mtg/Other	342

True Wisdom

*True wisdom is in
 leaning on Jesus
 Christ, our Lord;
 True wisdom is in
 trusting His own
 life-giving word;
 True wisdom is living
 near Jesus every day;
 True wisdom is in
 walking where He
 shall lead the way.*

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

August 2020

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



August 1

Elesha Robinson

August 10

Johnny Dickson

August 20

Mike Coomes

Kayleigh Robinson

August 4

Sara Hall

Marlen Robles

Kevin Rosenfeld

August 12

Dick Adams

August 22

Joseph Adams

August 13

Arthur Pemberton

Ana Zatarain

August 28

Benita Bryant

August 5

Marie Combs

Joe Soles

August 15

Travis Robinson

August 29

Debbie Lineberry

August 7

Ann Carol Roberts

August 18

Paul Walker

August 30

Cobey Adams

Kathy Cox

August 8

Bruno Zatarain

August 31

William Bowles