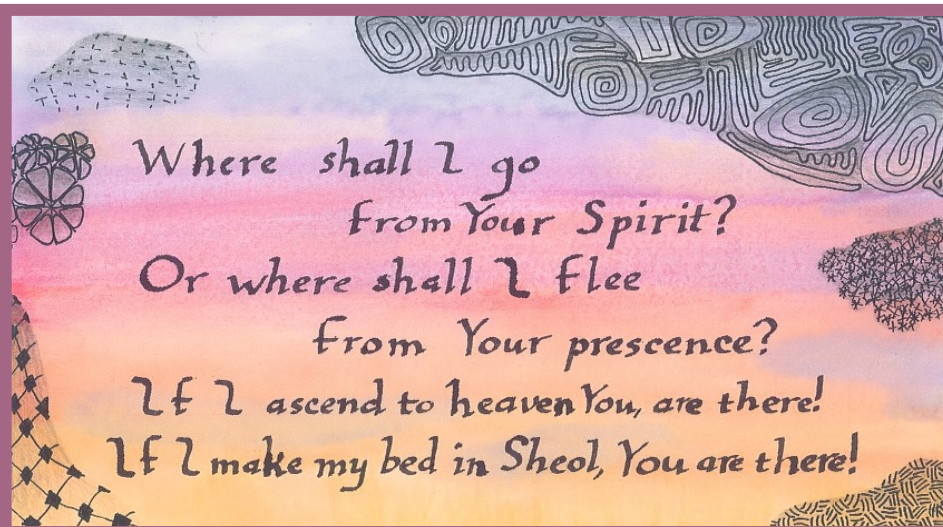




# Forerunner

First Baptist Church  
1024 E. Stuart Drive  
Galax, VA 24333  
276-236-5185  
[www.fbcgalax.org](http://www.fbcgalax.org)

Volume 50, No. 5  
May 1–31, 2023



**There is no place you can go to escape My presence**

*7 Where can I go to escape Your Spirit?  
Where can I flee from Your presence?*

*8 If I go up to heaven, You are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, You are there.*

*9 If I live at the eastern horizon  
or settle at the western limits,*

*10 even there Your hand will lead me;  
Your right hand will hold on to me.*

In today's Scripture passage, King David is declaring that there is absolutely no place he could go to escape the presence of God. If he goes to heaven, God is there. If he even descended into the earth, God is there. David goes on to say that wherever he goes, the hand of the Lord will lead him and hold him.

What an amazing promise! Wherever you go, God goes with you. The universe does not contain the Lord. The Lord contains the universe! In Acts 17:28, the Apostle Paul declares to the Greek philosophers that 'in him (God), we live and move and have our being.'



## Sundays

9:45 am—Sunday School  
(Classes for all ages)  
11:00 am—Worship Service  
(Live on FBC Website & 98.1 FM Radio)  
6:00 pm—Tru-North & Kids Explorers

## Mondays

5:30 pm—Bible Study Livestream  
[www.fbcgalax.org](http://www.fbcgalax.org) or through Facebook

## Wednesdays

6:00 pm—Prayer Group  
6:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal



## May 1—Soup Kitchen

*Please have desserts & bread to the Church by 1:00 pm*

## May 3—Kingdom Kids @ 5:30

## May 4—National Day of Prayer

## May 7—Kids & Youth Outing to Winston Salem Dash Baseball game

## May 9— Women on Mission @ 11:00 am

## May 14—Mother's Day

## May 15—Deacon Meeting @ 6:30 pm

## May 18— Loss Support Group @ 11:30

## May 24 - Preschool Graduation 9:30 am

## May 25—Preschool Graduation 9:30 am

Summer Break for Kids Explorers and Tru-North Youth Meetings will begin after the May 7 Baseball Game Outing

May 29—Memorial Day  
Church Office will be closed

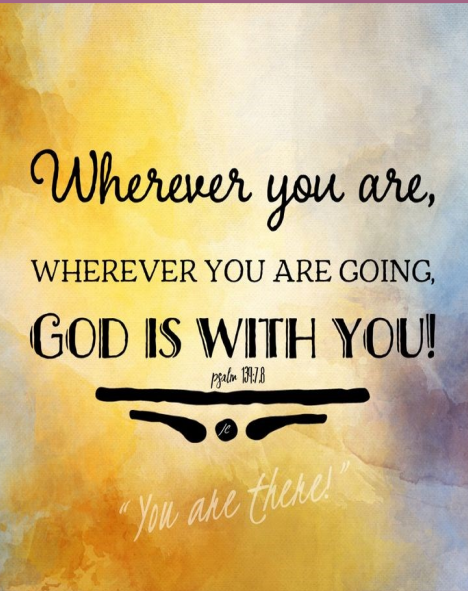


The Godhead is closer to us than we could possibly imagine. For those of us who have received Christ, we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. God dwells within us and has established His kingdom there.

If you feel that you are alone in this world, if you struggle to sense God's presence, be encouraged in this promise from our heavenly Father. God is with you. He is always with you, for there is no place that you can go to escape His loving presence!

In Christ's Love,

Kevin



Spring sports, academic achievements, school formals, beautiful flowers, chirping birds...**MAY** ushers in so many wonderful things. It's the month we celebrate **MOTHERS**. Mothers come in many shapes, sizes, and styles. They pray for us, teach us, bandage our scrapes, wipe our tears, and prepare us for what lies ahead. We find mother figures in grand-mothers, teachers, neighbors, and friends. However we have grown up, there are women who love us - Godly women who influence and teach us, who show us Christian faith with their daily walk. Proverbs 1:8 says, *"Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck."* Proverbs 31:26-28 says, *"She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed."*

As we take time to thank God for our mothers, to remember and celebrate those special women who have loved and raised us, reflect on these song lyrics by Cliff Duren.

*A Mother To Be Praised  
If you find someone who teaches her child  
The ways of Christ  
Who shows how far love reaches  
And that it doesn't have a price  
If you find someone who reveals  
The heart of God with each new day  
Then you've found a mother to be praised*

*If someone instills in her small child  
That salvation makes you free  
If she knows that she can love them best  
By praying on her knees  
If she intercedes on their behalf to God  
With each new day  
Then she is a mother to be praised*

*If you find someone who's Godly walk  
Remains with each new mile  
Who's course of life gives witness  
To the children of her child  
If you find someone who finds her peace  
In the arms of God's embrace  
Then you've found a mother to be praised*

CCLI Song # 4798248. Cliff Duren. © 2006 Thomas Peck Music (Admin. by Peck Music Group).

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved.  
[www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com). CCLI License # 102567



On May 7 the children and youth and their families will be leaving FBC following worship to attend a Minor League Winston-Salem Dash Baseball game at the Truist Stadium. The cost is \$15.00 per person. This includes entrance to the game and lunch. If you would like to attend this outing, please contact your youth leader or the church office. Summer Break for the 6 pm Kids and Youth Meetings will begin in May. Watch for upcoming news regarding summer camp and vacation bible school.



**Miss Lynn's  
Three –Day Class  
Preschool Graduation  
will be held on  
Wednesday, May 24  
At 9:30 am**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mrs. Rosenfeld's  
Four-Day Class  
Preschool Graduation  
will be held on  
Thursday, May 25  
At 9:30 am**





WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FOLLOW JESUS? PART II

THE LAST TIME WE SAID THAT THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST OR CHRIST HIMSELF CAN CAUSE BARRIERS OR DIVISION, AND MAYBE WE WILL SEE THAT AMONG THE PEOPLE WE LOVE THE MOST.

MATTHEW 10:35 FOR I HAVE COME TO SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND THE DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND THE DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW.

I THINK YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT AND POSSIBLY HAVE EXPERIENCED IT IN YOUR LIFE. WHEN SOMEONE IN THE FAMILY ACCEPTS JESUS, AND THE REST OF THE FAMILY DOES NOT, ONE CAN HAVE CONFLICTS WITH HIS FAMILY, WITH HIS MOTHER, OR WITH HIS FATHER, FOR BECOMING A CHRISTIAN. (A FOLLOWER OF JESUS)

AND THEN JESUS SAYS:  
MATTHEW 10:37 WHOEVER LOVES FATHER OR MOTHER MORE THAN ME IS NOT WORTHY OF ME; HE WHO LOVES HIS SON OR DAUGHTER MORE THAN ME IS NOT WORTHY OF ME.

JESUS IS NOT SAYING THAT WE HATE OUR FAMILY. IN FACT, HE WANTS US TO LOVE OUR PARENTS, OR OUR CHILDREN. BUT WHAT JESUS IS SAYING IS THAT HE WANTS US TO LOVE HIM MORE.

JESUS CALLS US TO LOVE HIM MORE, ABOVE ANYTHING OR ANYONE.

JESUS TELLS US THAT YOUR LOVE FOR ME MUST SURPASS ANYTHING OR ANYONE ELSE.  
JESUS SAYS, I WANT YOU TO LOVE YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER, BUT I WANT YOU TO LOVE ME MORE. I WANT YOU TO LOVE YOUR HUSBAND/WIFE, BUT I WANT YOU TO LOVE ME MORE. I WANT YOU TO LOVE YOUR CHILDREN, BUT I WANT YOU TO LOVE ME MORE.

FOLLOWING JESUS HAS DIFFICULT MOMENTS, BUT WE ARE NOT ALONE. IN CHRIST AND THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE CAN FOLLOW AND LOVE HIM AS HE WANTS US TO DO.

BLESSINGS, PASTOR LINO RODRIGUEZ



**A total of \$2,822.10 was raised for the Annie Armstrong offering. Thank you all for your donations.**

***It is time once again for the annual Baby Bottle Campaign sponsored by the Tri-Area Pregnancy Resource Center. This is a major fundraiser for this organization which ministers to the women in our community who are currently or have been involved in a crisis pregnancy.***

***The 2023 Baby Bottle Campaign will kick off with the distribution of baby bottles on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, and will end on Father's Day, Sunday, June 18. Everyone is asked to take a bottle on Mother's Day, fill it with loose change and return the filled bottles on Father's Day. These will then be delivered to the Tri-Area Pregnancy Resource Center. This is a local missional effort and your participation will be greatly appreciated. Baby bottles will be located in the annex and in the front of the church office.***

**-Christy Sumner**



This month at the Wednesday night meeting of Kingdom Kids youth and children's ministry the focus was on "Why should you trust God?" Here are 6 reasons to trust God.

# 1 God knows you by name. Isaiah 43:1

# 2 God will fight for you. Exodus 14:14

# 3 God thinks about you. Psalms 139:17

#4 God has good plans for you. Jeremiah 29:11

# 5 God is your refuge. Psalms 62:6-8

#6 God is always with you. Matthew 28:20



**April 2023  
Attendance Records**

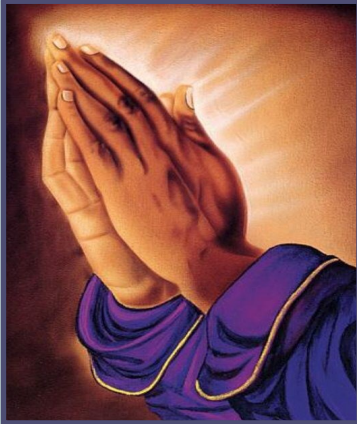
	<b>04/02/23</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>11 am Worship</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>Evening Attendance</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>Hispanic Worship</b>	<b>43</b>
	<b>425</b>

	<b>04/09/23</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>11 am Worship</b>	<b>290</b>
<b>Evening Attendance</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Hispanic Worship</b>	<b>48</b>
	<b>473</b>

	<b>04/16/23</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>11 am Worship</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>Evening Attendance</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Hispanic Worship</b>	<b>48</b>
	<b>335</b>

	<b>04/23/23</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>11 am Worship</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Evening Attendance</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Hispanic Worship</b>	<b>47</b>
	<b>336</b>

	<b>04/30/23</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>11 am Worship</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Evening Attendance</b>	<b>(to be added)</b>
<b>Hispanic Worship</b>	<b>39</b>
	<b>288</b>



*Jacob Holderfield, Linda Cooley, Tammy Mashburn, Lois Billings, Royce Easter, Frank & Sharon Plichta, Larry & Doris Spangler, Clifford Kempa, Hilda Hodges, Juan & Beverly Rios, Rose Houk, Bridget Kinzer, Mary Morgan, Tony Mays, Max Brown, Chuck Thompson, Tracy Hashbrouck, Bill Dunn, Joyce Fender, Benny & Shirley White, Bill Cox, Steve & Larkin Conley, Audrey Merrill, Frank Merrill, Betty Parks, Sam & Nancy Blair, Judy Hennis, Doris Bedwell, Ava Rhodes, Donald & Katherine Martin, & Denton Taylor.*

*Glenn Morris-Waddell Nursing & Rehab- Room 118B  
Martha Combs-Hillsville Health & Rehab—Room 116  
Charles Larrowe—Waddell Nursing & Rehab—Room 217*

*Sympathy to Kimberly Leming & Family for the passing of her mother, Carol Lammey.*

*Pray for our Country & the US Military & other coalition forces.*



**CHURCH STAFF**

Dr. Kevin Rosenfeld.....Senior Pastor

Mrs. Wendi Pemberton.....Minister of Music

Ms. Barbara Bourne.....Administrative Secretary  
Mrs. Marie Combs..... Financial Secretary  
Mrs. Nancy Hazelwood..... Organist  
Mrs. Patty Davis..... Pianist  
Mrs. Marian Porter..... Weekday Preschool Director  
Ms. Jennifer Shupe..... Preschool/Extended Session  
Pastor Kevin Rosenfeld.....Sunday School Director  
Mrs. Penny Adams..... Bus Ministry Director  
Mrs. Martha Easter, RN..... Volunteer Health Nurse  
Rod Hale..... Sexton

CHURCH PHONE: 276-236-5185  
CHURCH 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)

Church Office Hours:  
Monday—Friday 8:30—5:00 Friday—8:30—1:00

**MAY TEAM VOLUNTEERS**

**NURSERY**

May 7 Erica Testerman & Jennifer Shupe  
May 14 Tara Spurlin & Jennifer Shupe  
May 21 Penny Adams & Jennifer Shupe  
May 28 Sara Hall & Jennifer Shupe

**SECURITY TEAM**

May 7 Basil Carpenter & Gerald Cox  
May 14 Terry Anders & David Rikken  
May 21 Nathan Lyons & Phil Helms  
May 28 Jack Edwards & John Patterson

**WELCOME CENTER**

May 7 Debbie Harris  
May 14 Sarah Keatley  
May 21 Robert Leonard  
May 28 Debbie Patterson

**FIRST IMPRESSIONS**

Willie & Cheryl Harris  
Johnny & Karen Dickson  
Phil & Gay Helms  
Tony & Sonia Truitt

**TECH SOUND**

May 7 Trevor Anders  
May 14 Mike Stevens  
May 21 Bryan Dillon  
May 28 Gary Ballard

**TECH PROJECTION**

Bryan Dillon  
Jessica Whitaker  
Trevor Anders  
Jessica Whitaker



PASTOR KEVIN'S MAY 2023  
SERMON SERIES

May 7—Jonah 3; 2 Corinthians 5  
"Witness"

May 14—Jonah 4; Hebrews 3  
"Religion"

May 21—Jonah 4; Romans 9  
"Obedience"

May 28—Psalm 23  
"Who Is Your Shepherd?"



*Mother*

*Her children stand and bless her.*

*Her husband praises her.*

Proverbs 31:28

© 2023 TheRock.com



To those who have given birth and are called Mother—we celebrate you.

To those who have lost a child -  
we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches of raising children—we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, or failed adoptions-  
we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility and disappointment—  
we walk with you.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms,  
and spiritual moms—we need you.

To those who have warm & close relationships with your children—  
we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heartache,  
and distance with your children—  
we sit with you.

To those who have lost your mother—  
we grieve with you.

To those who have aborted children—  
we remember them and you on this day.

To those who are pregnant with new life -  
we anticipate with you.

Whatever it is you are feeling and needing today, you are not alone!

God sees your hurt and He cares. 1Peter 5:7

Say a special prayer for the people in your life

who may experience mixed emotions on Mother's Day.

You may consider sending a text or make a quick call to let  
them know you care and you are praying for them!

# Welcome

New Members



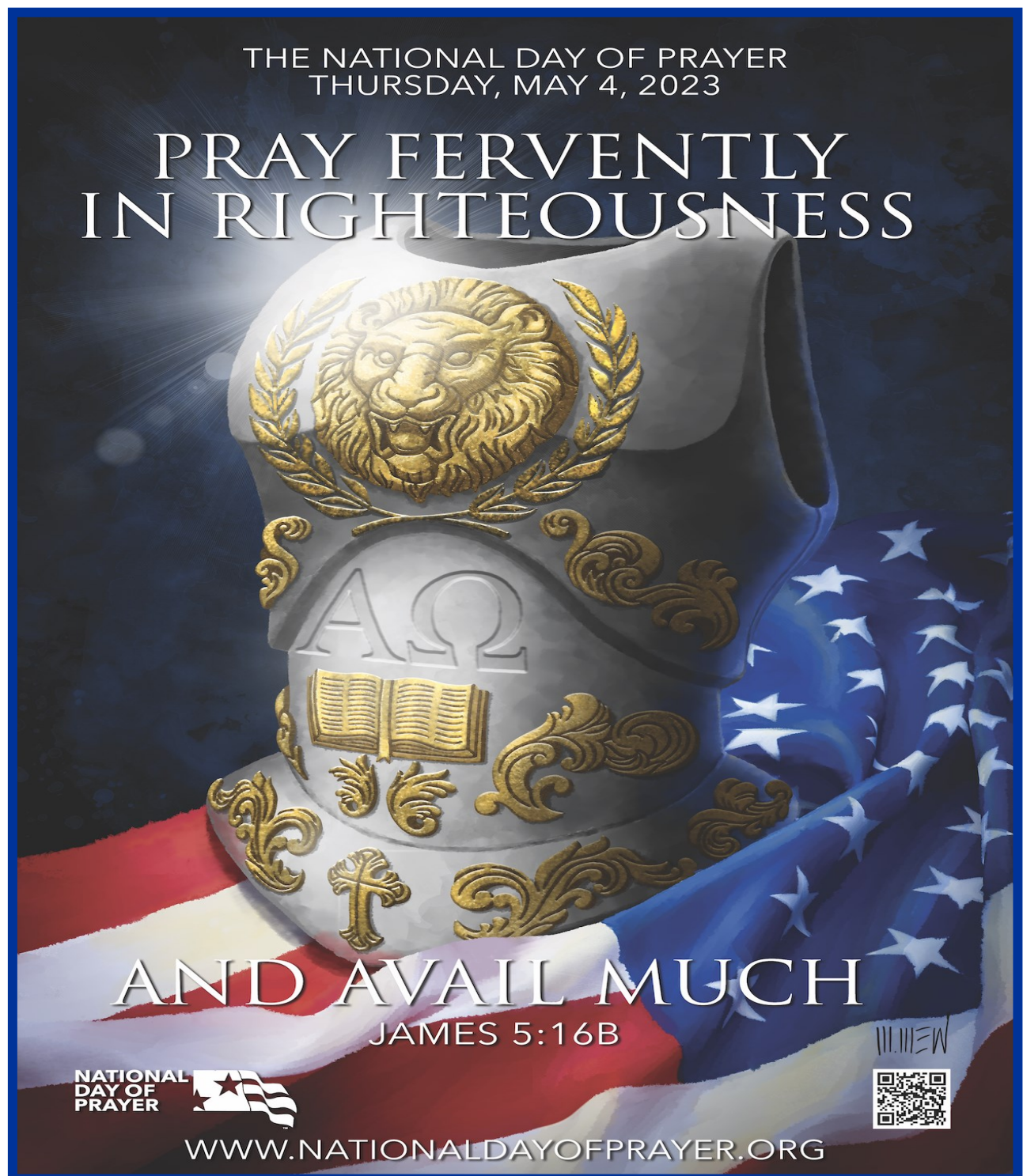
**Octavia Simmons  
Joined on 4/23/23**



**Jacob Dowell &  
Will Gravely  
Joined on 4/30/23**



**You are invited to Exalt the Lord in Prayer  
Thursday, May 4, 2023 @ 12:00 Noon  
Galax Courthouse & Police Department Courtyard  
353 N. Main Street**



NATIONAL  
DAY OF  
PRAYER



[WWW.NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG](http://WWW.NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG)





## **2023 National Prayer for America**

**We come with fervent hearts to praise You Lord.  
You are the Word, the Way, Truth and Life.  
The Alpha and Omega, Lion of Judah, Almighty God who was,  
and is, and is to come.  
You clothed Yourself in flesh and dwelt among us, to remove our sin and  
clothe us in Your righteousness that we might dwell with  
You forever and ever.**

**With broken, humbled hearts we repent of our sins. Confessing to You our faithlessness,  
prayerlessness, and disobedience. Forgive us for our doubt, our prideful  
and quarrelsome words that reveal our unclean hearts.  
Cleanse us and renew a right and steadfast spirit within us we pray.**

**With grateful hearts we thank You fervently for the blessings in our life  
and throughout America; they are more than we are able to count.  
We will remember Your grace and testify to Your goodness in all generations.  
Help us to refrain from complaining, but instead be prompted to pray  
faithfully in every circumstance. Teach us to have a content heart  
knowing You are always enough for our every need.**

**As the Church we commit to pray and love our neighbor and nation as You loved us, that  
our reputation in this world would be rooted in Your love. Holy Spirit work and overflow  
through us in every prayer, thought, word, and deed. May our character, conversations,  
and conduct reflect the righteousness in which You clothed us and command us to live.**

**With an obedient heart we put on the full armor of God; Your breastplate  
of righteousness guards our heart from which flows the springs of life.  
We pray fervently for our communities and country; the people who are in the Church,  
Family, Education, Business and Workplace, Military, Government,  
Arts, Entertainment and Media.**

**Every person is Your workmanship, fearfully and wonderfully created and loved.  
With hopeful hearts we pray that all would choose to receive Your love and follow You.  
We pray that America would confess, "Jesus is Lord" and reflect Your righteousness  
in every sphere of influence, and every aspect of our lives.  
We ask that heavenly hope would flood our hearts, silence hate, and that  
You will heal our land.**

**Believing You; all You are, all You said, and all You have promised,  
we pray fervently in righteousness and avail much.  
In Jesus Name we Pray. Amen!**

**First Baptist Church  
Is So Blessed To Have These  
Very Talented Ladies!  
We Truly Appreciate All You Do!!!**



**Wendi Pemberton– Minister of Music  
&  
Lynn Frank  
Assistant Organist & Pianist**





**Nancy Hazelwood—Organist  
&  
Patty Davis—Pianist**





# Reflections of Easter 2023



HE  
L  
I  
V  
E  
S







**"An Easter  
from  
Barabbas'  
Perspective"**

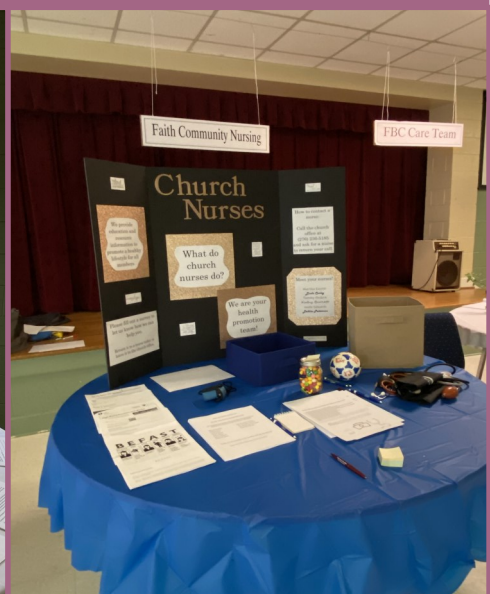
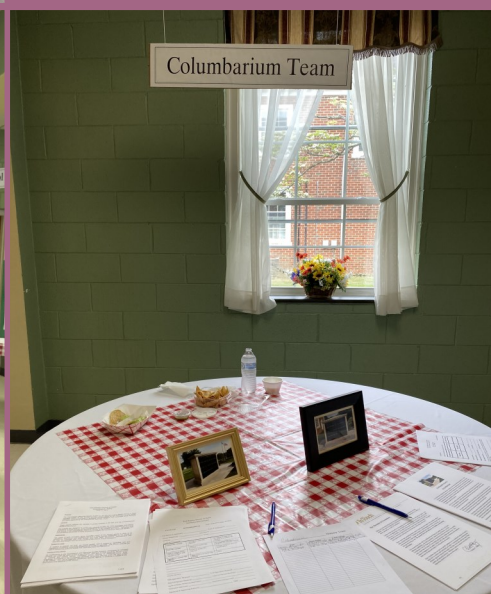




**THE 2023 TEAMS FAIR WAS A HUGE SUCCESS  
THERE WAS GREAT FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SIGN-UP TO SERVE ON A TEAM,  
PLEASE CONTACT CATHY PARKS  
OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE @ 276-236-5185**

**Arrangements/Decorations  
Band of Brothers  
Baptism Prep  
Building/Property  
Care Team  
Children's & Youth Ministry  
Columbarium  
Faith Community Nursing  
Fellowship/Hospitality  
Fiddler's Convention  
First Impression**

**Grounds Grooming  
Kingdom Kids Bus Ministry  
Library  
Media Tech  
Music Ministry  
Preschool Ministry  
Security  
Soup Kitchen  
Transportation  
Welcome Center  
Women on Mission**









SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNEDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Paola Galvan
7	8	9 Arthur Cox	10	11	12 Mimi Pemberton	13
14	15 Scott Hall Joe Lindsey Audrey Schultheis	16	17 Charles Burnette	18	19	20 Carolyn Matthews
21	22 Karen Dickson Marlene Johnson	23 Judy Brannock Pam Turner Maggie Williams	24	25 Tammy Anders Austin Lumpkin Isabel Robles	26	27
28	29	30	31 Bryan Dillon			





# MAY 2023

## Services & Activities

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>  5:30 pm Pastor Kevin's Bible Study Livestream <a href="http://www.fbcgalax.org">www.fbcgalax.org</a> Or on Facebook	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Kingdom Kids	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Following Worship Kids & Youth & Families will be leaving FBC to attend Winston Salem Dash Minor League Baseball Game.	<b>8</b> 5:30 pm Pastor Kevin's Bible Study Livestream <a href="http://www.fbcgalax.org">www.fbcgalax.org</a> or on Facebook	<b>9</b> 10:00 am Paper Pals 11:00 am Women on Mission 	<b>10</b> 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship No Kids or Youth Evening Meeting Summer Break	<b>15</b> 5:30 pm Pastor Kevin's Bible Study Livestream <a href="http://www.fbcgalax.org">www.fbcgalax.org</a> or through Facebook 6:30 pm Deacon Meeting	<b>16</b> 10:00 am Paper Pals	<b>17</b> 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 11:00 am Loss Support Group 	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship No Kids or Youth Evening Meeting Summer Break	<b>22</b> NO Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Ms. Lynn's 3 day class Preschool Graduation 	<b>25</b> 9:30 am Mrs. Rosenfeld's 4 day class Preschool Graduation	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship No Kids or Youth Evening Meeting Summer Break	<b>29</b>  Church Office Closed NO Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:00 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Kingdom Kids			



## **Monday May 1**

**Please have bread &  
desserts to the church  
by 1:00 pm**

## **Bible Study**



### **PASTOR KEVIN'S MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

**@ 5:30 PM**

**Livestream on [www.fbcgalax.org](http://www.fbcgalax.org)  
or through Facebook  
(No Study on May 22 and May 29th)**



**May 9th**

**@ 11:00 am**

**Please contact  
Christy Sumner  
for more information**



*Grief has no timeline*

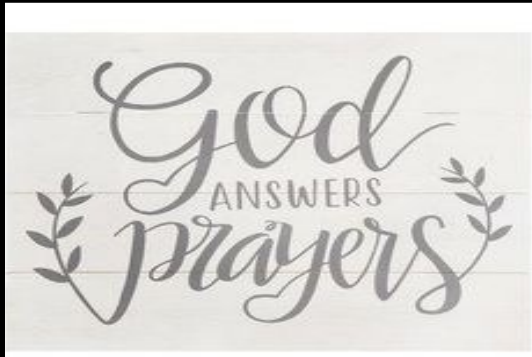
## **Loss Support Group**

**May 18th @ 11:30 am**

**For More Information**

**Please Contact  
Bruce Thomas or  
Call the Church Office**





**PRAYER TIME  
LED BY PASTOR KEVIN  
EACH WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 PM  
IN THE CHURCH PARLOR**



**Join the Choir...  
You'll Be Glad  
You Did!**

**CHOIR REHEARSAL  
EACH WEDNESDAY @ 6:30 PM  
If you would like to join the choir,  
please see Wendi Pemberton.**



**Kingdom Kids  
May 3, 17, & 31st  
@ 5:30 pm**



**Tru-North Youth  
& Kids Explorers  
Summer Break  
Will Begin After The  
Baseball Outing on May 7**



**PAPER PALS  
Each Tuesday @ 10:00 am  
Church Parlor  
(Summer Break Will Begin after May 17th)**