



March at First Baptist

Vol. 39, Issue 3

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave in Radford, Virginia

March



The Deacons are planning a church-wide Fish Fry Fellowship for Saturday, March 17. You can eat anytime between 5:30 – 7:00 pm. We are inviting students from The Shelter and from BCM to join us, along with the folks of First Baptist Church on Rock Road. The fish are being provided through one of Roanoke’s highest rated restaurants, The River and Rail. Musical entertainment is also being developed. There is no cost to attend, as the Deacons are providing the meal at their own expense. However, you are encouraged to make a cash donation to support our work with food pantries to feed hungry residents and students. Please help us plan for quantities by signing up.

Each year in March is our church’s turn to keep the Radford Food Pantry stocked. It is supported entirely by participating churches, individual donations, and the occasional short-term grant. You can, throughout the month, contribute any non-perishable food items that are well within date, along with infant products.



SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS						
MAR	Ushers	Hall Monitors	Deacon of Week	Prayer Room	Sound Tech	Tellers
4	Ben & Paige Selvey	Kenny Alderman	Bonnie Graham	Anne Aker	Steve Tickle	Betty Daniels Ed Soucek
11	K. Joyce, D. Ridpath, J. Semones M. Patterson, D. Aubrey	Carl Stoots	Jim Mitchell	Shirl Cube	Steve McClellan	Luther Dickens, Dave Moore
18	D. Gardiner, B. Arnold, J. Griffiths, B. Winesett	Kenneth Cox	Misty Henderson	Phyllis McCauley	Steve Tickle	Fran Shelton, R. Quisenberry
25	K. Alderman, D. Worrell, N. Sifford, K. Mitchell	Fred Kelleman	Jim Baucom	Koni Millisaps	Brad Winesett	W. Overstreet C. Ford
MARCH BIRTHDAYS						
2	Jan Levy		14	Lots Devilbiss, Shawn Marshall, Carter Edmondson		
6	Jim Mitchell		19	Kay Dunlap		
7	Grace Edwards		20	Robert Mitchell		
8	Bonnie Hurlburt		21	Tori Price		
9	Harriet Price, Meg Weddle		24	Becky Ridpath		
10	Robin Hall, Kennedy Marshall		26	Anna Lane Mongold		
11	Keiran Blanchard		27	Nathan Marshall		
12	Bob Cruise		30	Bob Gibson		



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

215 Third Avenue Radford, Virginia 24141

www.fbcradford.org

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HOLY WEEK

The congregation will move through the narrative of Holy Week through worship, reflection, and a new experience of fellowship together as we prepare for the celebration of Easter:

Palm Sunday, March 25

Children will process in to worship with palms. Special music and liturgy are planned.

Maundy Thursday, March 29

All are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm for an **Agape Meal**. Scripture readings, prayers, and hymns will accent each course of a special dinner. Sharing around each table will be both informal and at times, directed. The evening will culminate with an observance of the Lord's Supper around the tables.

Good Friday, March 30

A community-wide Good Friday service is being planned by the Radford/Fairlawn Ministerial Association. It will be held at Central United Methodist Church at 7:30.

Easter Sunday, April 1

Continental Breakfast, 9:00
Sunday School, 9:45
Easter Celebration Service,
11:00 am



FORGIVENESS

Forgiveness is at the heart of Christian faith. But how well do we understand it – and practice it? A 3 week small group study is being developed and will be offered to adults in March, taught by Cathy Scharlau. Watch for more details!



Kids Picnic and Games at the Park

Children of all ages are invited to join Kaitlyn Thompson and friends at Bisset Park in Radford on Saturday, March 24 for a picnic and games. Meet at the park, Noon until 1:30.

Our Turn at Community Meal

Our next turn at Community Meal is March 24, and we are seeking a number of volunteers to help in various ways, including: providing desserts (some sugar-free), preparing side dishes for 50 or more persons, helping with onsite meal preparation, serving patrons, visiting with those who come to eat, and cleaning up afterwards. Please sign up on the Sunday bulletin tear-off form to help, or contact the church office by phone or email.

JOURNEY

Forward By *God's* Call

The work of the Vision Team is now in the final phases of development. The group is preparing to soon begin sharing various concepts with the congregation in order to refine what will become the final proposal. God-sized dreams are being identified, and a variety of approaches are being evaluated for implementing the vision over the next few years.

The team will invite the entire congregation to hear and interact with presentations in two town hall meetings. The responses from those meetings will factor into the final version of the Vision proposal, which will then be mailed to the congregation in early May for a special called business session May 20 for consideration and adoption.

The dates and plans are as follows:

Sunday Worship: Introduction to our God-sized Dreams - April 8 at 11:00 am

Town Hall Meeting #1 - Wednesday, April 11 at 6:45 pm

- Discussion of the four over-arching God-sized dreams and the basic structure needed to implement them

Town Hall Meeting #2 – Sunday, April 29 at 6:00 pm

- Introducing the detailed plans for each God-sized dream and the detailed structure proposed

Congregational Lunch and Called Business Meeting – Sunday, May 20 at Noon

- Opportunity for the congregation to consider the entire Vision Proposal and act upon it

Launching the Vision – begins immediately after adoption by the church

- The congregation will be asked to volunteer for Ministry Teams and Action Groups, according to each individual's passion, gifts, and sense of leading by God

GOD'S WILL

Nothing More Nothing Less Nothing Else





Many new and exciting avenues to serve are unfolding at First Baptist Church. One of these is the Women's Ministry, which is in the process of being reactivated. There are tremendous opportunities for women to serve both in our church and in the surrounding community and we hope that you will join us as we seek to minister to others.

The Women's Ministry will focus on building a community of women to minister to our church family, to grow our faith together, and to share God's love in the surrounding community.

In order to form this ministry around the interests and needs of our women, surveys will be handed out to the women in our church on Sundays and Wednesdays from March 11 through March 21. Please contact the church office if you prefer a survey be mailed to you.

In addition, all adult women in the church are invited to join us on Saturday, April 21 at 11:30 am for a **Kickoff Luncheon** with a guest speaker. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about the women's ministry, to have any questions answered, and also to sign up to serve along with us. We hope to see you there!

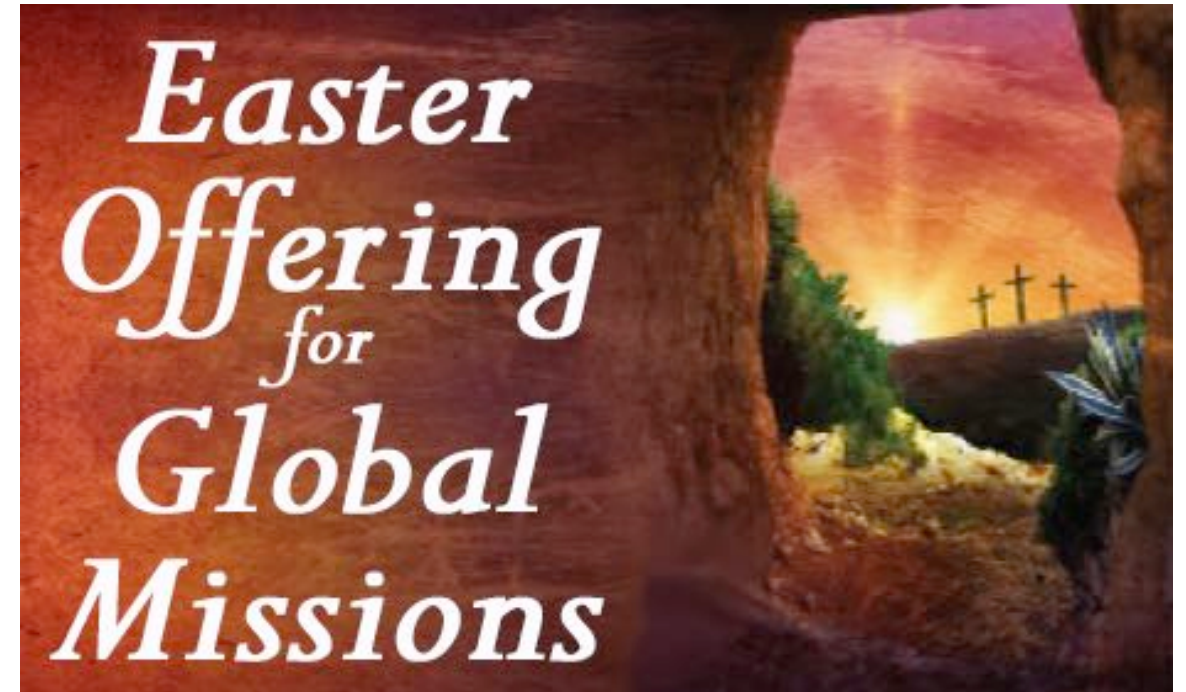
Our opportunities to connect with college students in our community are coming fast and furiously in 2018:

Robert Morris continues to develop long-term plans for **The Shelter**, using our ministry house as an intentional Christian community that assists students in crisis. In addition to providing shelter and moral support for homeless students, we have applied for a grant from CBF to address the officially recognized problem of student hunger. Kent Taylor was invited to lead their Wednesday night Bible study recently, and 5-8 students continue to eat with us on Sunday and Wednesday nights. The Shelter group will take our blue van to Corpus Christi, Texas over RU spring break to help with hurricane recovery efforts.



Paul Lane has been meeting with the new Baptist campus minister and is attending Thursday night worship at **Radford BCM** in early March to make new connections with their students. This group will be using our white bus over RU spring break to do mission work in Kentucky.

An **African-American sorority** that connected with us at Rise Against Hunger is planning to join us in feeding the hungry at Community Meal on Saturday, March 24. Additionally, several students who first were exposed to our church through Rise Against Hunger are now regular worshipers with us on Sunday mornings. And since interest is so high among students for community service, we are looking at opportunities to create another community service event in April to connect with additional student organizations. Let's thank God for all these openings, and pray for his continued guidance!



The Good News of our risen Lord is news worth sharing – in our community and around the world. The Easter season is our opportunity to support the work of missionaries in the United States and in more than 30 other countries who minister to the hungry, the lonely, the overlooked, and even groups that are targets of hatred and violence.

This year, for the first time, your gifts to our Easter Global Missions Offering will go entirely to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's missionary force. These include friends we know and who have visited our church, such as Larry and Sarah Ballew in Macau, China, Kirk and Suzie Person in Thailand, and Marc and Kim Wyatt in Raleigh, North Carolina (formerly in Toronto).

You may give using the special envelope included in your offering envelope set, or online at www.fbcradford.org/give.