



The FIRST BAPTIST BUILDER

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First Baptist Church Mission Statement

**To exalt the Savior, equip the saints, and evangelize the world
through the power of God's Word.**

FEBRUARY, 2015



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

AT 5:30 PM

IN THE FLC

Meal includes:

Chicken Casserole, Green Beans, Salad, Roll and Dessert

Tea, Coffee and Water

(Proceeds benefit Youth Missions Through the Arts)



Skipper's Story's-
It's A Life Connection Thing!

Rise of the Droids - How to keep our church from becoming a Droid factory.

The following article is a summary of my message from Sunday evening, February 8, 2015:

What do you think of when I use the word Android?

Many will think about their cellular phone or maybe even Star Wars "These are Not the Droids you're looking for." Obi Won Kenobi -Star Wars episode 1 or 4 (depending on how you look at it).

Here is the definition of the word: *Android- automation in the form of a human being.* This android is often designed to do a task for a human or a task that a human does not wish to do.

We will get back to the Droids soon!

In a recent study by George Barna & David Kinnaman titled "Church-less". They share how a study from the 1990's showed that 30% of America's population was "Un-churched". Now fast forward 20 years and today you find that 43% are "un-churched". That's more than four out of ten that do not go to or are not affiliated with church. As you can see that is a 13% increase over 20 years. At this pace we will exceed the 50% margin sometime during the next 10 years. That means that in the next 10 years 1 out of every 2 people you pass on the street will say they don't have anything to do with organized religion! I hate math- but I get this!

Here is another alarming number- From the Un-Church we are now going to look at the "De-churched" There is an increasing number of people who have just stopped going to church. These De-churched individuals were most often servant leaders. They were among the dedicated and active people in their church who were part of the 20% club. The 20% club is the small group of individuals' doing 80% of the work in and for the church. **These are the Droids.** The droids are the laborers who do the work that we (the 80%) don't want to do. They work week after week, changing diapers, Teaching Youth or handing out a bulletin.

The church has become **Consumer Minded.** The modern church has created an environment similar to the consumer minded culture around us. The majority of church attendees come to church, they **Plop** into "Their" seat, **Pay** others to do the work, **Pray** and **GO!** They do this only to come back and do it all over again next week.

In a recent study conducted for Group publishing by sociologist Josh Packard titled *Future of the Church-* these De-church individuals stated the following as reasons for their quitting: I'm tired of being lectured to. I'm just done with having some guy ask me for money and tell me what to do. No one cares. I served my time. It's time for someone else to do this. **These Droids are tired of the plop, pray & pay Sunday after Sunday.**

In this study the De-churched were asked what they wanted. What might have helped them not quit: They want input. They want to be "thanked", appreciated. They want to participate at a higher level. **Understand- These De-churched individuals are not giving up on GOD! Just the church!**

So what can we do to help our church from becoming a Droid factory? Here are two **Action Points** to help us: First, **Say Thank You!** Tell everyone who is currently serving "Thank You!" Let them know how much you appreciate what they do. Psalm 138 can be a guide for saying "Thanks". I personally like the way the Message paraphrase words it. Second, **look for ways to Share YOUR story every day!** If you are actively seeking opportunities to share what Jesus is doing in your life He will provide them. The more you focus on what God is doing in your life, the more you will share with others about what God is doing in your life. The more you share, the more you will have a desire to find YOUR place of service. Soon we can make it the 50% Club. Remember what was said in Matthew 28- each and everyone one of His believers are called to serve!

So in conclusion I leave you with this challenge- Stop filling in holes and begin serving souls!

Blessings!

Skipper Rodgers
Associate Pastor



Crossroads Pregnancy Center's Inaugural Chili Cook-Off will be Saturday, February 28, 2015, behind the FLC. Admission is free, but donations are accepted for chili sampling. The event is from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm with games, concessions, vendors, and live music. The chili categories are Red-hot, Red-mild, and an Open Category. The entry fee is \$35 per entry, per category. The vendor fee is \$20. Registration forms are available in the Church Office, CPC, or emailing at sallymcquaid@yahoo.com.



FROM YOUR DEACONS

As I consider my walk with Christ, I am ever inspired and challenged by the men that God uses. God uses sinners to accomplish his work on this earth. He gives us exactly what we need when we feel totally inadequate, but that doesn't mean that we don't have a part in it. Let's look at one of the greatest evangelists/missionary that ever was – Paul. In scripture, we hear him giving his testimony to King Agrippa in Acts chapter 26. He is telling the King of his encounter with Jesus and how he had been totally transformed and commissioned to tell the Jews and Gentiles alike about Jesus that they may receive forgiveness of sins and be sanctified by faith in Jesus. Then he makes a powerful statement:

"Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision." Acts 26:19

How many times in our Christian lives can we make this statement? Have you had a heavenly vision and have not been obedient to it? Maybe you buried it deep in your memory and are waiting for the right time. Maybe you think that God is going to reveal to you the exact steps necessary to fulfill this heavenly vision. All of God's promises in scripture that we see can become real to you and me. They begin with a step of obedience. It is the same way with your heavenly vision, if you haven't made a small step of obedience in the direction of your vision, then perhaps it is time to do so and see how powerfully God can work. What have you been doing lately to fulfill your heavenly vision? That is your part.

Obedience is the key to spiritual growth and spiritual effectiveness.

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments." John 14:15

Obedience is also the test of love. It is the key for us as Christians to become more Christ-like.

"Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." John 14:21

As Christians we certainly don't feel like we always have all of the answers, but when God has given us a vision no matter how big or small, it is up to us to be obedient to it.

Deacon's on-call list:

Feb 9th – March 18th

*David Friar 386-497-4307 (h) 352-262-1773 (c)
Brent Douglas 386-454-1577 (h) 352-665-5638 (c)
Rex Hancock 386-935-2261 (h) 352-318-2389 (c)
David Rendek 386-454-3010 (h) 352-494-2971 (c)
Tim Staley 386-462-7000 (h) 352-317-2495 (c)

* Team Leader



Library News:

I can't believe we are going into February and school is half over. I guess my age is telling on me, time flies as you get older, didn't you know that.

I am looking forward to Dr. McMurtry coming to speak to us on Creation. The library has a number of books and DVDs dealing with Creation and evolution and will probably be purchasing some new items from the Dr. McMurtry meetings.

The library has added a couple of new books we would like to mention:

America: Turning a Nation to God by Tony Evans: "In this illuminating work by Dr. Tony Evans, he examines the root of our nation's social, economic and political unrest. Through insightful truths and illustrations, Dr. Evans not only brings to light the core cause of our country's current instabilities but presents a plan for reclaiming freedom, morality and strength. We hold within the collective body of Christ not only the power but also the capacity to put our country back on the path of ascendancy. This straightforward teaching, when embraced by believers in our nation, will usher in the greatest revival in American history." – Provided by publisher. (Call # 269.0973 Eva)

God, Guns, Grits, and Gravy by Mike Huckabee: The author asks the question, "Have I been taken to a different planet than the one on which I grew up?" The New York Times bestselling author explores today's American culture, drawing from his travels as a presidential candidate to present average, small-town people and families, and their optimistic resilience in the face of hard times; their stories, says Huckabee, "will inspire readers to think about their own values and rediscover what makes America great." At times lighthearted, at others bracingly realistic, Huckabee's brand of optimistic patriotism lends itself to discussing the reintroduction of fundamental American values, as well as a bright outlook for future generations." – Provided by publisher (Call # 973 Huc)

Come check us out. We have added quite a number of new books and DVDs. We also have computers available for use. We are a friendly library.

Janet Bridges
Library



TIM'S NOTES

Throughout the year there are several opportunities given to our church family to celebrate together at one time in one place. Sadly, many do not take the opportunity. While I do understand how much demand is made from each of us from activities our children participate in at school, our jobs and other various activities we love (i.e. Gator Football, Basketball and other Sports) what about your church? Where does it fit into your schedule?

It's just an observation but when I hear people talk about how overwhelmed and busy they are the first thing they back away from is the church. First, it's teaching or serving in some capacity and then it's coming and worshipping together. We cease to come to pray and support / encourage each other. 1 week, then 2 or 3 more and pretty soon months pass by and then we just disappear Why? Because we're tired, wore out, stressed out.

Today everyone wants to find a church that can minister both to them and to their entire family. One that is alive and vibrant, one they can come together to worship in with other believers, that their children can worship with other children, and youth can worship with other youth.

Well, you found one. Let me ask a simple question. What would happen to this church if every other church member served as you do? What would that look like? I'm not trying to guilt anyone into doing anything but look around. We are the church! We are its hands and feet. We are the Body of Christ. We are His.

It really is true that many hands make little work. If everyone would just do a little there wouldn't be any need to ask for help, there would be plenty. No need to ask God's people to be obedient and give back (time, talents, gift's) to God as opposed to I'm not going to give to you all anymore because I don't like what you're doing. In other words...I'm not going to give anything to you God until I'm happy? Obedience...What does it really mean? I'll be obedient when I agree with you? Or does it mean I own nothing of my own. It's all yours God, including my time, talent, gift's, possessions, the clothes I'm wearing, the shoes on my feet, the money in the bank account. No it's all yours Lord, everything!

When we surrendered our lives and asked Christ to rule and reign in our hearts and minds, What exactly did that mean? I'm glad you asked. This is what I believe...

Galatians 2:20 (New International Version)

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

My prayer? Lord help me understand what worship really is. Surrender all... time, talents, gifts, possessions...everything is Yours!

In Christ, Bro. Tim

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Valentine Banquet

Sunday, February 15th - 5:30 pm

Menu:

Chicken Casserole, Green Beans, Salad, Roll, Dessert,
Tea, Coffee or Water

Cost:

Adults \$8.00 Children \$5.00

Family \$25.00

Missions Through the Arts

Luncheon Fundraiser

Sunday, March 15

Jesus Only Jesus

An Easter Celebration

Easter Sunday Morning April 5

8:30 am & 11:00 am

Missions Through the Arts

Luncheon Fundraiser

Sunday, April 26

Redeeming Love (Has Been My Theme)

A Musical Worship Celebration

Presented by

The Young at Heart Choir and
The Senior Saint Singers from Westwood Baptist Church in
Live Oak

3 Presentations in 3 Locations

Sunday Evening, April 26th - 6:00 pm
At Westwood Baptist Church in Live Oak

Sunday Evening, May 3rd - 6:00 pm
At First Baptist Church in High Springs

Thursday Morning, May 7th - 11:00 am
At Madison Street Baptist Church in Starke

Agape League

A Children's Musical Presentation

Sunday, May 17th - 6:00 pm

Children's Choir Musical

Student Choir

Missions Through the Arts

Dinner Theater & Musical Presentation

Sunday, May 31st - 5:30 pm



HEAR US ROAR! *"No greater joy can I have than this, to HEAR that my children follow the truth. 3 John 4*

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR:

February: Re-enrollment month for 2015-2016 at FCA

February 8-11: The SACS/ACSI accreditation visiting team on campus

February 16: President's Day; FCA closed

February 23: ACSI Spelling Bee in Jacksonville and our Third Progress Reports go home

February 24: First and Second Grades field trip to the Jacksonville Zoo

FCA School Board Members: Kathy Barnes, Shelly Donnelly, David Friar, Ruth Lord, Drew Mock, Daniel Shepherd, Kim Carter and Kim Teele.

Accreditation: We are well on our way to becoming a fully accredited school. It has been a grueling process but the end result will be awesome. We are currently a candidate school for dual accreditation through SACS and ACSI. Our Steering Committee has completed an 85 page Accreditation Report and submitted it for review. To God be the Glory! On February 8-11, the External Review accreditation team will be on our school campus for the purpose of meeting with various stakeholder groups (board members, staff, students, parents) and for classroom observation. Part of the accreditation report included summary results of the stakeholder survey. Details of our survey results will be shared at our Town Hall meetings.

Spelling Bees: Our FCA school Spelling Bee was held on December 17. The winners were Jacob Baggs, Blake Petteway, and Jacob Potter! Jacob Potter and Blake participated in the county-wide Spelling Bee held on January 21 at the Alachua County School Board office. They did our school proud! Congratulations to these spellers! On February 23 these three boys along with Alex Cangelosi, Emily Keene, Kaitlyn Petteway, Michaela Potter, and Kristina Turner will represent FCA at the ACSI Spelling Bee held in Jacksonville. Go Lions!!

Website: Have you looked at our school website lately? See what's new on www.fcahighsprings.com. It is being constantly updated and now includes our lunch order forms and our sports teams and schedules.

School Patrol News: Students in grades 5 and 6 that were members of our Safety Patrol program at FCA last year or at another school or are currently a Safety Patrol in 5th grade will be going to Washington, D.C. this spring! We will visit our Nation's Capital for a trip of a lifetime.

Yearbook Ads: If your business would like to purchase a page or partial page in our upcoming FCA Yearbook, please contact Lauren Hacht. Lauren can guide you through the process of designing your ad and getting it ready for publication. . Ads are \$45 - \$200. Our yearbook staff is now at 11 hardworking members. These students meet with our faculty advisor, Lauren Hacht, during 5th period each week. They are responsible for taking pictures of student activities and classroom events and completing homework tasks for layouts and design of the yearbook pages. Students in grades 9 and above receive credit on their high school transcripts. We will be publishing approximately 400 yearbooks this year.

Ongoing Fundraisers: Here at FCA, we have several fundraisers that go on year round. We appreciate all of our parents and church family helping in the collection of the following: Campbell's Soup Labels, Box Tops for Education, Tyson Project A+ labels, Sunny D labels, Coke Rewards. The Funding Factory recycles cell phones and printer cartridges. They also buy renewable tablets and laptops. If you work at a business that would donate these items or if you have these items in your home, please let us know. Thank you and please keep up the great work of donating to FCA!! (We recently received a check for \$386.70 from Box Tops for Education, thanks to your donations.)

The following teachers are reporting some very exciting things going on at FCA:

Preschool: We are working on adding new monthly themes to our learning. We have a need for a few donations of items: stuffed animals, old keyboards, brown paper bags from the grocery store and/or empty small food boxes for playing store. '

VPK: We received notification that signups for VPK for the 2015-2016 school year began on January 1st. Last year the signups began in March. If you are interested, please contact the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County.

Mrs. Shoran Potter, Fine Arts: "All students are currently working on their March Art Show projects. Our Art Club students will take a field trip in March to Museums in Montgomery and Atlanta. Also our 2nd - 6th grade students are studying music theory with instruments.

(Continued on next page)

Mrs. Lori Clark and Katie West, Kindergarten: "We have been studying most recently, the children of the Netherlands, England and Italy. Our students are learning the continents and the world that needs Jesus. We have begun memorizing Psalm 23 to be recited in May at our annual Little Red Hen musical performance. The children are reading and enjoying stories together and responding in their Writing Journals!"

Mrs. Cammey Hinton and Lindsey Bigelow, First Grade: "We have several special events happening in February for First Graders! We will be having a Valentine Card Exchange on the 13th followed by a long weekend to observe President's Day on the 16th. Perhaps what we are most looking forward to is our field trip (along with second grade) to the Jacksonville Zoo on Tuesday, February 24! We are learning about animals in our science book, "Discovering God's World", in preparation for our trip and will spend some time before the trip engaged in special learning activities to prepare us as well. We have just begun two-column addition in math and are learning the basic capitalization rules in language. In Bible class the children have been learning about the life and ministry of Jesus and hearing stories about some of the miracles He performed. They have successfully memorized several passages of the Bible and continue to amaze us with their ability to learn and retain the words of Scripture!"

Mrs. Melody Petteway, Middle School: "The 7th – 9th graders took a field trip to the Holy Land Experience in Orlando recently. It was a wonderful trip which allowed the Bible to come alive through many exhibits and dramas. In February students in 5th – 8th grades will be representing FCA at the ACSI Spelling Bee. Go L-I-O-N-SI!! Did you know it snowed in High Springs? FCA had the privilege of experiencing a "Snow Day" complete with hot chocolate and donuts with lots and lots of snow, toboggans, and sleds. Thanks for your continued prayers and support for FCA. God is at work in the lives of our students and families."

Submitted by Linda Petteway



The next Sr. Adult Day Trip will be Tuesday, February 17th. We will be leaving at 9:00 am to go to Ayers Nursing Home, then lunch at Akins BBQ. Please sign up in the Church Foyer if you plan to attend.



Pray-then-Play Football Registration is open. We need a cheerleading coach, football coaches, referees, and concession workers. If you are willing to volunteer, a sign-up sheet is in the Church Foyer. Football Evaluation is Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 9:00 – 11:00 am.



Mr. Garrett Smith
16794 NW212 Terrace
High Springs, FL 32643
601-325-6214
Joined by profession

*Charles and Susan Alexander
21702 NW CR 2054
Alachua, FL 32615
352-505-1272
Joined by letter

*Eric and Kristen Danella
302 SW Burgundy Lane
Ft. White, FL 32038
386-853-0199
Joined by statement

*Upon completion of New Members Class



Dear FBC Family,

Thank you recognizing my 20 years of service at FBC during the Ministry Celebration and for the gifts, cards, and well wishes. You are a very special group of people to me and it has been my privilege and honor working here with you and being a part of your family. A lot of the faces have changed over the years. Some great friends and encouragers have been called home; others have moved on or started families of their own. One thing that remains the same is the love you show people and each other.

May God continue to bless you, your families and the staff, as you continue to serve him.

Kelly Redding



Save the Date! Saturday, March 7, 2015 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm is a Ladies Tea, hosted by FBC in the FLC. We are seeking individuals that are willing to create and donate a Springtime Seasonal Wreath for the Silent Auction. All proceeds will go directly to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Wreaths are needed by March 4th. For more information, please contact Sue Cary at grancary1@yahoo.com or 352-316-5509. Thanks for your donation!