NEW MEMBERS



MARK, SUSAN, LYDIA, PATRICK, & JOEL KING



JOHN & KATHI BARBER



JESSEY GOLDSTON & STEPHANIE BECK

CONNECT WITH US ON:



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JOSH FORREST STUDENT PASTOR



DENA RILEY
PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN

DANA MCELMURRAY WEEKDAY EARLY EDUCATION DIRECTOR FIRST EDITION, July 2017 Volume 23 - Issue 3

Dear First Baptist Family,

I cannot thank you enough for a wonderful three years serving First Baptist North Augusta! You are a loving and caring church. It's been a joy watching God work through you over the past few years. It's amazing to think of all the ways God has moved through this church in a few short years. Here are some highlights:

- New vision Remember, you are merging faith and life each day!
- Joyful spirit among our church family
- Started the AWANA ministry with over 200 children enrolled
- Highest giving to Lottie Moon Christmas offering and Annie Armstrong Easter offering in our church's history
- Enhanced our greeter ministry making Hospitality Avenue a great place to gather
- Expanded care to our church through Deacon Ministry Teams
- Began Discover First to introduce newcomers to First Baptist
- A full church staff that is unified and passionate about serving our Lord
- Started Hope for our Schools that provides prayer, outreach and food backpacks to Clearwater Elementary
- Helped plant churches in Phoenix, AZ and Charleston, SC
- Began Christmas for our Community to serve children needing Christmas in our area
- Sent over 100 volunteers on North American and International mission trips
- Developed an international mission partnership in Nepal
- Launched new Connection Groups
- Reduced debt \$1.1 million in the past 12 months

This just scratches the surface of all the ways God has used you to impact the CSRA and world! Thank you for your faithfulness. Each of these highlights play a part in spreading the gospel and making disciples. The Pack family celebrates our time as a part of this church family. Thanks for loving us so well! We leave with wonderful memories and continued friendships as we follow God in His new calling on our lives.

To God be the Glory!

WORSHIP MINISTRY

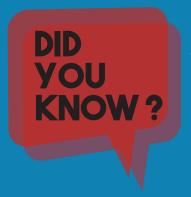
Choir Kickoff Night

Wednesday, August 2 — Come join us as we prepare for a new season of Worship Choir. For more info, contact Jeff Bumgardner at jeffb@csrachurch.org, and make plans to be with us each Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Choir Rehearsal room.

2017 Christmas Preview

Wednesday, August 16, in the Underground (Middle School room) in the Children's Learning Center. Come preview this year's Christmas Musical Production and learn how you can be a part of the Choir, Orchestra, and Theater Ministry as we present this brand new original musical.





LIFEWAY Worship is releasing a new Choral Project in September featuring
First Baptist North Augusta's Worship Choir? It will have 10 original songs with
choir music and orchestrations for churches around the world to lead in their
worship services every Sunday. We will be celebrating the project release as a
church family in September. This is Global Missions through Music,
and you are a major part of it.

Stay tuned for more info on how you can be a part of the celebration!



STUDENT WORSHIP CHOIR WENT TO ORLANDO FOR SONPOWER JUNE 19 - 23.

JULY

at a glance

Saturday - 1st

Prayer Quilt Ministry, 10:00am

Monday - 3rd

Romania Team Departs (Returns Wednesday, July 12th) Inez Priester Mission Group, 2:00pm Jackie Neely Mission Group, 7:00pm

Tuesday - 4th

INDEPENDENCE DAY (offices closed)

Wednesday - 5th

Mid-week prayer meeting, 5:45pm (Every Wednesday)

Thursday - 6th

Judy Barnes Mission Group, 7:00pm

Tuesday - 11th

Strom Fellowship, 10:30am

Wednesday - 12th

Youth Rally @ Decipher, 6:30pm (Every Wed.)

Saturday - 29th

Women's Book Club, 9:00am

Sunday - 30th

Baptism

ATTENDANCE

Attendance May 28 – June 11 (average) Connection Group – 717 Worship - 921

ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following who will celebrate an anniversary in July:

Roy Kiser – July 1st (8 years) Cheronda Harris - July 1st (3 years) Ellen Sanders – July 18th (1 year)

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Casey Powell, Kevin Leopard, Randy & Debra Armstrong, Lance Danko, Erin Jarvis and the families of Craig Lamar and Weese Stroupe

Sunday

8:30 am - Media Library Open 8:30 am - Traditional Worship Ext. Session (birth-5)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

9:45 am - Connection Groups

11:00 am - Contemporary Worship Ext. Session (birth-3) WOW Jr. (4-5 yrs)

WOW (grades 1-3)

Wednesday

9:30 am - Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm - Proactive Parenting Class

6:30 pm - Rally @ Decipher

7:00 pm - Orchestra

PEACH JAM

Snacks, brownies, cookies, rice krispy treats, etc. (no nuts), are needed July 12-14 for Peach Jam. Drop snacks off at the church office or Activities Center.

After Hours & Weekend Emergencies

Call the church office, 279-6370, press 9 and leave a message; it will be sent to the Minister-on-call.

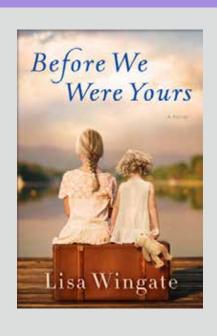
Strom Fellowship Senior Adult's

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall Blood Pressure Checks at 10:00 am Program Presented by:
Spirit Fiddle
Robin Warren on Viola
and
Brian Clancey on Guitar

If you are not a member of Strom and would like to attend, please contact Vivian Bishop at 803-279-9045 by July 4.

Women's Book Club July 29 at 9:00 at Sunrise Grill

> To discuss the book "Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate



MISSIONS

June Missions Charge

"For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power." -1 Corinthians 1:17 (ESV)

After studying the first chapter of 1 Corinthians, I keep coming back to verse 17. In this verse, Paul justifies his main priority: to preach the gospel. Although baptism is a picture of the gospel (and modeled by Christ), it is not salvific. The proclamation of the gospel, on the other hand, is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes (Rom. 1:16).

Many times we land in a similar trap, just as the church of Corinth did. We desire to have all of the answers, or eloquent wisdom/speech, before we share the gospel. But that empties the cross of Christ of its power. Later in 1 Corinthians, Paul mentions how that may lead people to place their faith in the wrong place, the wisdom of men rather than the power of God (1 Cor. 2:5).

The gospel message is simple yet it is the most transformational and life-giving message that someone could ever hear. Let's determine to share/teach/preach the gospel, no matter how much we may know (or not) or how polished we feel that we are (or not). God uses the willing, no matter their abilities, to share His message and to bring lost souls into the kingdom of God for eternity. Remember, "I (Paul) planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (I Cor. 3:6).

Keep sharing.

-Pastor Thomas Ratchford

Connected Hearts Ministry

We are partnering with Connected Hearts Ministry for the United For Orphans Fundraiser Event in November. We are looking for volunteers for the event and leading up to the event. Check out their website for more information: connectedheartsministry.org/unitedfororphans

Ladies' South Asia Trip

Ladies, please let us know if you are interested in a short-term mission trip to South Asia in the Fall.

Travel Dates: September 30 - October 8, 2017 Cost: \$1700-\$1900 (depending on airfare)

Trip Details: Discipleship training, relationship building, and feminine-hygiene training Contact Ellen Lloyd at ellenl@csrachurch.org or (803)279-6370 with any questions or concerns.

Upcoming Mission Trips

Romania: July 3 - 12

Please be in Prayer for the youth who are a part of the Romania Team.

Mexico: July 8 - 15

Please be in Prayer for the Mexico Team, led by Susan Minolfo.

- -Pray for the Millar family and how they will utilize the team.
- -Pray for relationships that have been built over the years.
- -Pray for gospel opportunities and discipleship with children.

Constructors For Christ: July 16-21

Please be in prayer for the Constructors For Christ Team, led by Tim Thornton. They will be heading to Pisgah, Alabama. The team will be assisting Rosalie Baptist Church in rebuilding their facility after it was destroyed by a tornado.



The Place for Kids!



Like us on facebook Children's Ministries First Baptist Church, North Augusta



VBS 2017

WOW! What a tremendously blessed week!
We had a total of 507 in attendance.
Best of all we had 12 professions of faith. God is incredibly good!

Thank you to all who served in so many capacities because without you, we could not do VBS.

GREAT IOB!

Our VBS Mission Project was collecting school supplies for HOPE 4 Our Schools
The kids collected 2818 items with a competition between the boys and girls with the boys winning this year.





Mark your calendars for August 30

Awana 2017—18 Begins 6:00 Pm

If you are interested in serving in Awana
(ages 2—5th grade) for the upcoming year
as a leader or listener, please contact

Dena Riley at Denar@csrachurch.org



Parent/Child Dedication Aug. 6 in both services If you are interested in participating,

email Rebecca Webb at rebeccaw@csrachurch.org

THE ROSES IN THE WORSHIP CENTER ARE
PLACED IN HONOR OF:
KINLEE REECE BORN MAY 20 TO
BREANNE CRAVEN
BLAINE "RYKER" ALLEN BORN JUNE 8
JEREMY AND BREANNA ALLEN

Pray for our Romania Mission Team

Also pray for those they are ministering to during July 3-12, 2017
Amelia Murdock, Carrie Forrest, Jacob Stawney, Josh Forrest, Julia Katterjohn, Mallory Bryant, Molly Greenway, Morgan Glover, and Tori Pack.

SMORES: Summer Mission Opps and Recreation for Every Student

- Tuesdays 6-7:30pm at Summerfield Park through August 15
- * Wednesdays meet by $9:30\,\text{am*}$ at FBCNA Admin Building and carpool w/leaders to CSRA mission sites through August 2

*12:15 LUNCH-BRING \$5-10 IF PARTICIPATING AND

1:30-3:30PM HANGOUT FOR GAMES AT FLC

 SATURDAYS HELP WITH REC'ING CREW AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT SUMMER

RALLY @ DECIPHER

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6:30-8:30PM AT THE FLC (NO RALLY ON JULY 5)



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