

FEBRUARY 2023

FBC

Remembering...



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
10:30 AM**

***“REMEMBERING...”* BRUNCH**

We do not want anyone to feel alone at this time of year, so we are hosting a special meal for anyone still feeling the loss of a husband or wife. Or mother or father, or son or daughter, or any other loved one. We invite you to join us as we gather to love on one another and be with people who know just what you are going through. Please RSVP (sign-up sheet on bulletin board) by Sunday, February 12, so we know how many to prepare for.

CALENDAR FOR THIS MONTH

On-Going Calendar Events

M-W-F—3:00 PM-4:00 PM—Hundred Acre Woods Walkers

Every Monday—AA Meeting—7:00 PM

Every Wednesday—LHS Cats For Christ—7:50 AM

Every Wednesday—Youth Group—6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Every Wednesday—1st Service Praise Team—7:00 PM

Every Thursday—Staff Meeting (off Site) - 9:00 AM

Every Thursday—Kids' Club 4:12—3:30 PM-5:00 PM

Every Thursday—Fellowship Group with the Gardners—6:30PM

Every Thursday—Fellowship Group with the Smiths—6:45PM

Wednesday, February 1

9:00 AM—LMA Pastors' Prayer

Friday, February 3

JESSE SMITH BECAME OUR LEAD PASTOR 4 YEARS AGO TODAY

Sunday, February 5

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 AM—WORSHIP

9:45 AM—SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES
(YOUTH & ADULT ELECTIVES)

11:00 AM—WORSHIP & KIDS' KONNECTION

11:00 AM—Deaconess Meeting

Monday, February 6

6:30 PM—American Heritage Girls (meets at Faith Chapel)

Tuesday, February 7

7:00 PM—Christian Ed Meeting

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 THRU SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

PASTOR KAMI & JAY AT CAMINO EVENT

Saturday, February 11

8:00 AM—Men's Breakfast—FLC

2:00 PM-6:00 PM—Atkinson family—FLC & kitchen

Sunday, February 12

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE (see February 5)

Monday, February 13

12:00 PM—Ministerial Alliance

6:30 PM—Deacon Meeting

Tuesday, February 14

1:00 PM—Women's Bookworm Café—FLC

(The Last Book Shop in London—Martin)

7:00 PM—Trustee Meeting

8:15 PM—Finance Committee

Thursday, February 16

DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER

Friday, February 17

5:00 PM-9:30 PM—CHILDREN'S RETREAT

Saturday, February 18

10:30 AM—"REMEMBERING..." Brunch

Sunday, February 19

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE (see February 5)

Monday, February 20—President's Day

Church offices closed

12:00 PM-5:00 PM—Crafter's Corner—FLC

6:30 PM—American Heritage Girls (meets at Faith Chapel)

7:00 PM—Building Committee

Tuesday, February 21

11:30 AM—Koinonia Cluster Pastors' Prayer

Wednesday, February 22—ASH WEDNESDAY

first day of Lent

Saturday, February 25

8:00 AM—Men's Breakfast—FLC

Sunday, February 26

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE (see February 5)

Monday, February 27

7:00 PM—Building Committee



As we wrap up our first chunk of Revelation and take a short break from it, here are some of my thoughts. The book of Revelation is a fascinating book. It is fun to read and dig in deep to try and figure out what everything means. However, much of what we covered in the first few chapters and definitely much of what is to come in the remaining chapters is almost useless to us in our everyday lives. Useless, IF we don't look beyond the intrigue of trying to map out specific dates, details, and timelines. However, when we come to understand the meaning of the book of Revelation we, like every generation of Jesus followers before us, are filled with hope and confidence each and every day. We are filled with purpose and meaning. So, as we take our short break please take the time to go back through and reread the opening chapters of Revelation and soak up what its saying to believers who live in a hostile and spiraling world.



As for our short break, we are going to start looking into the primary way in which we can continue to be an alive, healthy and active church for the next 150 years. It starts with each of us understanding our calling to be the hands and feet of Jesus and being equipped for the work of the ministry. We will begin by looking at what God has equipped each of us with to fulfill that calling; our spiritual gifts.

Jesse

Who
God
calls he also
QUALIFIES

2023—Whole Bible Reading Plan - Chronologically Thematic - from TreasureInTheBible.com

- Starting at Genesis 1, this plan moves chronologically through the Bible, but when a weighty person, place or theme is mentioned, other parts of scripture are read alongside to go more in depth with the person, place or theme (almost like cross reference)
- Four chapters per day, six days per week (schedule about 30 minutes per day for reading).
- Saturday off every week all year to review and share favorite parts with someone. Or to catch up :-)
- There are also some special readings (indicated by *) that are timed to go with calendar events, which interrupt the regular flow of passages
- Every chapter of the Bible appears on the schedule once during the year. Sometimes the chapter you would think would be next is temporarily skipped and then appears later on, to go with a special calendar event or theme.

Feb. 1	Exodus 9-10	Psalm 82	Psalm 91	
Feb. 2	Exodus 11	Psalm 78	Colossians 1	Revelation 1
Feb. 3	Exodus 12	Matthew 26	Mark 14	1 Corinthians 5
Feb. 4				
Feb. 5	Exodus 13-14	Joshua 24	Psalm 136	
Feb. 6	Isaiah 63	Exodus 15-16	Revelation 2	
Feb. 7	Exodus 17	Psalm 95	Psalm 106	Hebrews 4
Feb. 8	Exodus 18-20	Deuteronomy 5		
Feb. 9	Exodus 21-23	Mark 7		
Feb. 10	Exodus 24-25	Hebrews 8-9		
Feb. 11				
Feb. 12	Acts 7	Exodus 26-28		
Feb. 13	Exodus 29	Luke 22	John 18	1 Peter 2
Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day*	Romans 8	1 Corinthians 13	Ephesians 3	1 John 4
Feb. 15	Exodus 30	Psalm 26, 43, 84		
Feb. 16	Exodus 31	Psalm 92	Isaiah 1	Mark 2
Feb. 17	Jeremiah 17	Ezekiel 20	Luke 6 & 13	
Feb. 18				
Feb. 19	Exodus 32-34	2 Corinthians 3		
Feb. 20	Matthew 17	Exodus 35-37		
Feb. 21	Exodus 38-40	Psalm 27		
Feb. 22	Leviticus 1-3	1 Peter 1		
Feb. 23	Leviticus 4-6	Psalm 20		
Feb. 24	Leviticus 8	Psalm 115	Psalm 133	Hebrews 5
Feb. 25				
Feb. 26	Leviticus 9-11	Psalm 23		
Feb. 27	Leviticus 13-15	Luke 5		
Feb. 28	Leviticus 16-17	Psalm 118	Colossians 2	



Looking at my February calendar sparked a memory. I looked at February 2 (Groundhog Day) and couldn't help but think about the iconic 1993 movie by the same name. I was quite surprised when I realized that 2023 is the movie's 30th anniversary! (Where did the time go?)



For the few who missed it, the movie is about a grumpy news reporter named Phil, played by Bill Murray, who is forced to relive the same Groundhog Day over and over (and over) again. The story is both humorous and touching as we see Phil struggle and stumble through the seemingly endless day while also trying, with equal difficulty, to win the affections of a young lady named Rita.

In fact, he is stuck in the loop of this one day for nearly a decade before he makes his way out. And how does he finally do it? That is the interesting part!

Phil finally triggers his escape by becoming a better person and being worthy of Rita's love. The moral that comes forth from this story seems to be something like "your days will be empty and meaningless until you learn to be kind to others." In other words, the key to his success is the same as yours and mine, and just as we are taught in 1 Peter 3:8-9:

"⁸ Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted be courteous ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing."

As usual, walking in the word is the best path. Love for one another is the heart of our calling, We, too, can escape the world's tedious and frustrating loop. And Jesus shows us how it's done.

Now there's something worth repeating!

Kami





FINISHING OUR 150TH YEAR Our church closed the year of our 150th church anniversary with a special service reviewing all the events and special times through our year. A time capsule will be made and it will be opened on the 200th year of our church—2072.

The new year began *with* **PERSONAL/FAMILY COMMUNION** served by our pastors and deacons. What better way to begin a new year than to recognize the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior!

Pastor Jesse has announced that the church theme for 2023 will be **"CALLED AND EQUIPPED"**. Theme verses will be Ephesians 4:12-16 -
¹² *to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,* ¹³ *until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,* ¹⁴ *so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.* ¹⁵ *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,* ¹⁶ *from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.*

We will discover the potential we have all been given. Also, as part of the "Called and Equipped" theme, Pastor Jesse will be leading us through the book of Revelation. Dates of remaining Revelation teachings are:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| February 19 | February 26 |
| March 5 | March 12 |
| April 2 | April 9 |
| April 16 | |



in person
ATTENDANCE

	8:15	11:00
Jan. 1	Communion Service - 43	
Jan. 8	52	55
Jan. 15	56	52
Jan. 22	53	46



Board & Committee Meetings

- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**
11:00 AM—Deaconesses
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7**
7:00 PM - Christian Education
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13**
6:30 PM - Deacons
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**
7:00 PM - Trustees
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27**
7:00 PM—Building Committee





FEBRUARY 3

Jesse Smith became our Lead Pastor 4 years

ago today. Be sure to let Pastor Jesse know how much he is loved & appreciated!



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

Bring an extra dollar (or two or twenty) with you to worship on February 12th. Soup pots will be located at the exits to receive your donations. Every dollar collected will go directly to Louisburg's Agape Food Pantry.



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
1:00 PM**

**WOMEN'S BOOKWORM CAFÉ
FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

Book to be reviewed:
The Last Book Shop in London
by Madeline Martin



Monday, February 20
12:00pm - 5:00 pm
Scrapbooking and all other crafting welcome (...or just chatting!)
Contact
Debbie Randolph
for more info

Thursday Night Fellowship Groups are back with two options—

***AMERICAN CAMPFIRE REVIVAL**—meets weekly at 6:30pm at the home of Dorothy & Mark Gardner

The American Campfire Revival with Kirk Cameron is sparking a personal and national revival in the hearts of Americans. With a refreshing focus on Faith, History, Patriotism and the Bible, Kirk discusses everything from current cultural events, heroes of faith, and the Biblically-based, historically-proven strategy to bring life and liberty to individuals, families, and nations.

***LIVING IN A MESSED UP WORLD**—meets weekly at 6:45pm at the home of Jordan & Jesse Smith

You might think that we have more intense issues in our world than ever before, but much of the New Testament was written to encourage believers living in similar volatile times. Like us, early believers had to navigate complex social issues while attempting to love their neighbors with varied values and beliefs. So how do we use our voice and still love well...simultaneously? Pete Briscoe helps us answer that question.

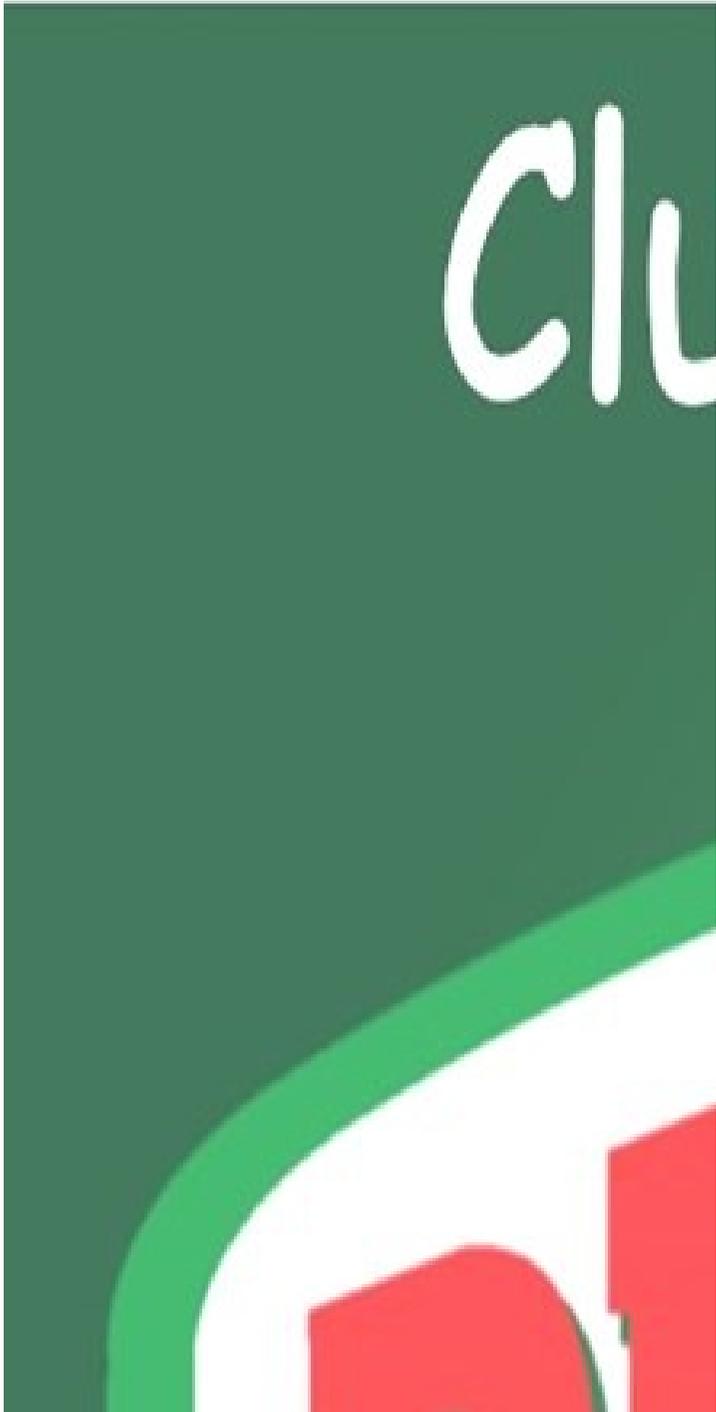


Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Lent helps us STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

We observe Lent because it tells us to STOP and rest awhile — and to stop sinning. Lent tells us to LOOK inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus with healing and love, and to look

forward to the hope of the Resurrection. And we observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN — to the voice of God, the words of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.



Kids' Konnection

SUNDAYS
(SECOND SERVICE ONLY)
KIDS' KONNECTION
KIDS K THRU 5TH GRADE



YOUTH GROUP
(GRADES 6-12)
WEDNESDAYS
6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Don't miss food, friends and fun as we explore what the Bible has to say to us today.



KIDS' CLUB 4:12
THURSDAYS
3:30 PM-5:00 PM

KIDS K THROUGH 5TH GRADE
Games, snacks, surprises and fun Bible experiences!

**VOLUNTEERS
ALWAYS
WELCOME!!**



Check with Pastor Kami to see where you can help 816-916-KAMI (5264).

FIRST BAPTIST BAKERY & BUFFET

Joann Hook, recipe coordinator

TRIPLE LAYER LEMON PIE

from the kitchen of Kay McClintock

Ingredients:

- 2 pkg (3 oz) lemon instant pudding
- 2 cups cold milk
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice (I use ReaLemon™)
- 9-in prepared graham cracker pie crust
- 1 (8 oz) tub Cool Whip, thawed

Preparation:

- Whisk together the lemon pudding, milk, and lemon juice for 2 min (will be very thick).
- Spread 1 ½ cups of the pudding mixture on the crust; set aside.
- Whisk the remaining pudding mixture with half the Cool Whip; spread over the mixture in the pie pan.
- Top with remaining Cool Whip.
- Cover & refrigerate to set.

**You may substitute coconut or banana pudding for the lemon pudding and eliminate the lemon juice to create a different pie.



ABW Bible Book of the Month ***Esther***

Purpose: To document God's preservation of the Jews from genocide at the hands of Haman, and to record the origins of the annual Jewish Feast of Purim, which celebrates the Jews' deliverance.

In some people's minds, chance and coincidence, fate and fortune determine how life turns out. The book of Esther, however, refutes that notion. Life is providential, not coincidental.

When King Cyrus of Persia gave permission for Jews to return to their homeland after living in captivity for seventy years, not all Jews returned. Many remained in Persia, since they had been born there and had established roots in that land. A young Jewish woman named Esther was elevated to a place of influence in King Xerxes' court—and when opposition against the Jews arose, she managed to save the Persian Jews from extinction. This book highlights the fact that God is in the details; that nothing in life is coincidental; that He is behind the scenes working out His purposes in every area of life. Through seemingly mundane, everyday, unpredictable events, God preserved His people in Persia—a victory still celebrated annually by Jews the world over in the Feast of Purim.

The Book of Esther contains no explicit references to God, yet God is still prominent throughout the book. The reason the author chose not to mention God explicitly may be that he intended his book to become part of the royal archives of the Persian kings, and references to the God of the monotheistic Jews would have hindered such a goal in the polytheistic Persian culture.

-Discover God Study Bible



Alise & Mark Juanez - ABC Global Servants in Thailand

Chiang Mai, Thailand
December 2022

Sweet December is a celebration similar to Advent celebrated by Christians from the Karen hill tribe. It is a time of celebrating the harvest, family, joy and the hope found in Christmas from the birth of Jesus. As we reflect on all that has happened this year, we are thankful and full of hope for what God has planned for the House of Love and House of Blessing!

We have seen many of our older residents, college students and recent graduates struggling to make it on their own. Thailand's economy has suffered which has added difficulty for our young adults to obtain jobs that provide sustainable income. We have realized the need to be more intentional about life skills training and mentoring these young adults as they strive for independence. In the past few months, we have launched a training program beginning with financial budgeting, tracking finances, debt, and savings. We will be incorporating life skills training modules such as business start-up, what is family, positive parenting, healthy communications, social issues and protecting children. We have used the "What is Family?" module with families of children from the House of Love, the preschool and to all the students of the House of Love.

On December 3, we enjoyed our annual Christmas celebration at House of Love. It was a joyous occasion as we could finally celebrate together after two years of small, separate parties. Residents and families, past and present came together to worship, sing songs, open gifts and be reminded of the gift of Jesus. As we wrap up another year, we are reminded of how blessed we are to be a part of everything happening here. We are blessed by all of you who join us in this journey through prayer, financial support or encouraging words. Thank you for your faithfulness, carrying us through the storms, celebrating the joys and surrounding us with love so we can carry on loving the people here!



Remembering...



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
10:30 AM
"REMEMBERING..."

BRUNCH

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Postmaster: Returned Service Requested

FBC Love God,
Love Louisburg,
Serve the World.

Monthly publication of

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM & 11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

9:45 AM BIBLE CLASSES

Feb. 16—Deadline for March Newsletter

Non-Profit Org

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