



Holy Week

April 14-21

During Holy Week, we focus intensely on Jesus' last days, his execution, his burial, and finally, with Easter Sunday, his resurrection.

Palm Sunday in the Park, April 14th, 9:45 a.m., J. Frank Wilson Park

We will come together as Christians to greet other people in our community, sing together, and praise God. This year we will be led by our own Rev. Libby Grammer. We will leave the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. You may walk to the park or ride the church bus. There will be no Sunday School, so that everyone can take part in this community event.

Palm Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 a.m. , Sanctuary

Join us for the blessing and procession of palms, which reenacts the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday Dinner and Tenebrae Service, April 18th, 5:30 p.m.

This week, we will meet on Thursday for a meal in the Fellowship Hall. **Please call the church office to make a reservation for dinner by noon on Monday April 15th.** After dinner, we will go into the Chapel for a Tenebrae Service (service of darkness) at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 21st

- ◆ 9:30 a.m. Early Service on the terrace.
(weather, permitting; if bad weather we will meet in the fellowship hall).
- ◆ 10:00 a.m. A Continental Breakfast hosted by the Deacons in the Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ 11:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service, Sanctuary



Covered Dish Luncheon

honoring
Mr. Hal Prillaman
Sunday, April 28th
12:00 p.m.

Join us for a covered dish lunch honoring Mr. Hal Prillaman for his 40 years of faithful service to First Baptist Church as a Trustee. Please bring a vegetable or salad; the meats, drink and dessert will be provided. There will be a basket for cards.

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Libby's Letter

..from your pastor

Dear Church Family,

During this season of Lent, we focus on the spiritual disciplines of fasting and prayer. Sometimes that is tedious work, but it's fruitful as we grow and become a little closer to who God wants us to be. Sometimes the work of the institutional church can be similar. We hunker down and do some tedious work so that we can see the fruits of being well-prepared for ministry.

Since I have been here as your pastor, we have taken on a few of these background projects that need to be done to make the church more ready to live into its mission in this community. I think of it a little like constructing a building. You can't throw up the walls until you've taken the time to lay a solid foundation – pouring your concrete over intricately set rebar. Before a building or a road is constructed, you feel as if you stare at an empty trench for weeks, even months, before things finally start looking like they're going somewhere. But without that foundation, carefully built, the road or the building would fall flat with the least interference.

And so, we are constructing a stronger First Baptist together by taking some time in these early days to get to know one another, to share in fellowship and worship, and finally – to do some of the good, tedious work of building a foundation together.

First, we have a dedicated personnel committee that has spent countless hours researching and rewriting our personnel manual. As a church with an Early Learning Center (and thus more employees than most churches!), we need to have a plan in place for our employees – from the part-time to the full-time, we want to be clear about our expectations as well as their rights and responsibilities. Our manual is 15 years old, and so this work is not easy. But it's worth it. Of course, this good work cannot be completed without the updating of our church by-laws...

Second, we have an *ad hoc* committee spending many hours poring over our by-laws and thinking about what makes us, well, "us." This group is working hard to be clear, concise, and up-to-date

with our church by-laws. By bringing our by-laws firmly into the 21st century, we will be primed for planning our ministries in the future based on a solid understanding of how we work together as a church body. Knowing who does what and why is a good place to begin shared ministry.

Third, we have a dedicated website caretaker, Linda Dorr, who is assisting me in the revamping of our church website. We are writing updated information about all our ministries; we are reorganizing the data; we are creating ways to give online; we are visioning a new logo and "branding." In the next couple of months, we are going to launch this brand-new site built by Faithlab, a company nationally known for its church and nonprofit website building. The Trustees who are funding this project, and those of you helping us write the information for the site, are integral parts of getting our name and message to those seeking a faith family. This project has been underway since September, but though it takes a while to build, the result will be well worth the wait.

Fourth, we are capitalizing on those ministries we already do well. I'm listening as I get to know you all, and I am seeing some of the ministry strengths already of this church. Where we're doing well, I want to encourage and strengthen us! One of those places is the Early Learning Center – a place where 70+ children come to learn five days a week. So, along with the FBC ELC committee and the ELC Supervisor, I am supporting a ministry we have had for over 60 years do its good work even better – with upgraded facilities, better-prepared teachers, and weekly chapel so our kids have a chance to learn about faith. And the excellent committee members are creating opportunities to meet with these families and serve them with the love of Christ. I hope you'll join us for our first-annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 13th!

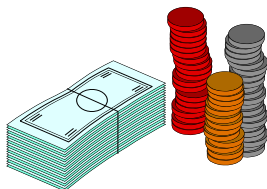
All this to say, not everything we're doing is obvious right now, but this behind-the-scenes work is good and important Kingdom work. For every moment spent formatting documents, discussing changes to wording, and contemplating our legal and moral responsibilities as a congregation, we are building our ministry together on solid ground, and I'm excited to "throw up the walls" with you soon.

In Christ,

Libby

Stewardship Report - April 2018

\$ 381,813 Total Budget
\$ 95,453 Budget Needs Year to Date
\$ 55,292 Budget Receipts Year to Date
\$ 40,161 Budget Shortfall



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WMU News & Meeting- Monday, April 1st at 11:30 a.m.

We will meet and travel to **Kings Grant** to tour the new **Memory Center**. After the tour, we will interact with the twelve residents by having lunch with them. Lunch will be at 12:30 p.m., so we will be leaving from the **church at 11:30 a.m. on the bus** so we can tour before lunch.

Next meeting May 6th at 10:00 a.m.

Raised to date: \$ 969.75

Our **Global Missions** goal this year for First Baptist is **\$2,000**. During the months of March and through April, we will be focusing on reaching our goal for Global Missions. This year, we will only collect for Global missions in one offering in the Spring (rather than one in the Spring and one in the Fall). Be sure to give to our CBF missionaries during this Lent/Easter season!

XYZ Outing, Tuesday, April 30th at 10:00 a.m.

We will leave the church at 10:00 a.m. to go to the **Bassett Historical Center** and eat lunch afterwards.

Library Drifts



Monday, April 22nd, is Earth Day, which reminds us to appreciate the gifts of our planet and to recycle and repurpose, not waste, these resources. Libraries are "green"; the act of loaning books by checking them out is recycling. Libraries participate in appreciating our resources by the long-endorsed policies of returning, renewing, and rereading our books. Review your reading list and revisit the Sue M. McCabe Library or the carts to find the book that you have wanted to read but haven't yet.

The Library committee members wish all a beautiful and warm spring. May Easter be a meaningful observation in your life.

Sunday School Training with Tony Brooks

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Starling Ave. Baptist Church
Tony Brooks is a Sunday School Specialist with the BGAV.
Please sign up in the church office if you are planning on attending by April 18th.

April Children's Nursery

- 3 Roslyn Wingett
Linda Gale
- 7 Linda Gale
Linda Read
- 10 Linda Gale
Linda Read
- 14 Crystal & Gary Darden
- 17 Linda Dorr
Martha Perdue
- 21 Marsha & Ronnie
Garren
- 24 Susan & Bill Sapp
- 28 Sylvia & Dennis
Knight

FBC Early Learning Center After-School Program Yard/ Bake Sale

Summer is approaching fast and along with summer comes "Summer Camp" for school-age children. During the summer, we take field trips and do other fun activities that cost extra money (over and above the cost of summer camp). To offset these extra costs, we are going to have a Yard Sale/Bake Sale this year. The yard sale will be held on Saturday, April 27th, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Any household items that are in usable condition, (toys, CD's, tools, ect.), would greatly be appreciated. **No Clothes**. Items can be dropped off any day before the yard sale and left in the after-school classroom. Bake sale items can be dropped off the Friday before the yard sale. **Help with donated items or volunteering to help sell items would be greatly appreciated. Any questions please give me a call at 276-340-5798.**

Thanks, Karen Compton

Our Church Staff

Rev. Libby M. Grammer, Senior Pastor

libby@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

David Lewis, Music Director

david@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Ross Gale, Worship Assistant

ross@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Baxter Jennings, Organist

baxter@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Renee Fulcher, Financial Secretary

renee@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Mary Taylor, Admin. Assistant

mary@firstbaptistmartinsville.com

Birthdays in April

4	George Lester	25	Martha Perdue
12	Marilyn Turner	26	Nita Gauldin
16	John Burgess	27	Sylvia Knight
18	Ronald Henderson	28	Pat Austin
19	Dean Johnston	29	Betty Shires
21	Marsha Frith		
22	Jacob Frith		
24	Betty Jennings		
	Bonnie Wilson		



At Home Ministry

Sybil Cochran, Annie Lee Ferrell, Jean Gray, Helen Hay, Betsy Miers, Jeanette Stone, Melva Stultz, Gayle Williams

Blue Ridge Manor: Catherine Shires

Blue Ridge Rehab: Betty Prillaman, Jesse Roark

Fork Mountain Adult Rest Home: Barbara Williams

Haven of Rest: Neville Frith

King's Grant: Frances Weaver, Charlene White, Bruce Spencer, Pat Jordan, Mary Elizabeth Wells, Betty Minter, Catherine Collins, Jim Minter, Helen Dandridge

Out-of-town: John Abbott, Iva Burnett, Frances Whitlock

Wednesday Night

Dessert & Coffee Fellowship

We will gather each week for fellowship, prayer time, and a program beginning at 6:00

First Baptist Church

Return Service Requested

23 Starling Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112
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Office: 276-632-6336
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April Calendar

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| 1 | WMU Meeting 11:30 a.m.
SR Singers Reh. 7:00 p.m. | 16 | Business & Finance 5:15 p.m. |
| 2 | Personnel Committee 2:30 p.m. | 17 | Trustee Meeting 11:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 p.m. |
| 3 | Dessert & Program 6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7 p.m. | 18 | Bible Study- Acts 10:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday
Dinner 5:30 p.m. |
| 4 | Bible Study- Acts 10:00 a.m. | | Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m. |
| 7 | Deacon's Meeting 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. | 21 | Early Service 9:30 p.m.
Breakfast 10:00 a.m.
Easter Worship 11:00 a.m. |
| 8 | Knitting Ministry 10:00 a.m.
SR Singers Reh. 7:00 p.m. | 22 | Office & Daycare closed
SR Singers Reh. 7:00 p.m. |
| 9 | ELC Comm. Meeting 1:00 p.m. | 24 | Library Committee 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 p.m. |
| 10 | Library Committee 10:00 a.m.
Dessert & Program 6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Reh. 7:00 p.m. | 25 | Bible Study- Acts 10:00 a.m. |
| 11 | Bible Study- Acts 10:00 a.m.
Personnel Committee 1:00 p.m. | 28 | Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Lunch 12:00 p.m. |
| 14 | Palm Sunday (Park) 9:45 a.m.
No Sunday School
Worship 11:00 a.m. | 29 | SR Singers Reh. 7:00 p.m. |
| 15 | SR Singers Reh. 7:00 p.m. | | |



April-June

Corn Bread Mix
(i.e. Jiffy)

Please leave food in
Room 101

Always needed:
Hygiene products

Easter Flowers & Decorations

Many of our members appreciate the opportunity to contribute to Palm Sunday and Easter decorations for the Sanctuary. This is a way to honor or memorialize people who are special to us. If you would like to help, please send in your information. Your gift will be acknowledged on Easter Sunday, April 21st.