

Highlights

June 1 - July 31, 2015

Asheville
Youth
Choir



CONCERT

Sunday, June 7 at 7:00 p.m.

The Cathedral of All Souls, Biltmore Village

Concert is free and open to the public.



Lake Junaluska Singers

in concert

August 2 - 6:00 p.m.

Join us for the jubilant sound of the Lake Junaluska Singers under the direction of Melodie Galloway. Following the concert, we'll gather for an ice cream feast in the dining room. Members are asked to sign up to bring a churn of your favorite homemade ice cream. It may be a classic flavor, your creative twist, or something utterly new. Sign up online at www.fbca.net, in Bible study, or call the church office. Fun prizes will go to the best traditional, most creative, really wild, and other categories. Be a part of this growing tradition of great sounds and cool churns!



Getting to Love First Baptist Church

While John Quincy Adams was president, before your great-great-grandfather was born and before you had an email address, four people met in a home on the west bank of the French Broad River to begin preparing a congregation for you. Do you think they would recognize what they started?

For 186 years, people have been building this church like an Amish barn that is the work of many hands. This congregation has been family for those who desperately needed this church. First Baptist has offered friendship, food, and compassion. Many would have given up on faith if they had not found this church. This family has been, is, and will be home to people who are hurting, who need a bigger vision for their lives, and who are hungry for something real. Every time we walk into the building we should recognize that we are the recipients of an amazing gift.

The late Dutch theologian Henri Nouwen said that he lived with the fantasy that every time he landed at an airport he would be met by someone he knew shouting, “Hey, Henri.” Predictably, Nouwen knew a lot of disappointments. Each time that he got off a plane and no familiar figure was there to meet him, Nouwen thought to himself, “It’s all right. When I get home my friends will be there.” Out of that consolation, Nouwen came to a wonderful conclusion about the nature of eternity. He said, “Heaven is going to be like that. God will be there and will say, ‘Hey, Henri, how was it? Let’s see your slides.’” That’s how God’s people greet one another.

From the first Sunday I got to spend with you, I feel like there have been friends shouting, “Hey, Brett, how was the trip? Come on in. Welcome.”

So many things about you make me feel at home: your commitment to worship, your dedication to ministry, your appreciation of diversity, your sense of humor, your inclusiveness, and your passion for excellence. I know that I am blessed to get to serve with a church that says, “We’ve never done this, but we can”; a church in which people genuinely worship and genuinely serve; a church with members from whom I have much to learn about authentic spirituality; a church in which laughter reminds us of God’s presence; a church where children, youth and senior citizens matter; a church where the staff loves the congregation. I am excited about getting to serve as your interim. I am delighted to get to share church with saints who love First Baptist, and who will teach me to love First Baptist, too.

Gratefully,

Brett

The Interim Search and Pulpit Supply Committee is pleased that Brett will be serving as our interim. We have enjoyed our conversations. Brett and the Committee agree that he will not be a candidate for the Senior Pastor position. Brett said, “One of the good gifts of being a seminary professor is getting to serve a wonderful church like First Baptist without going to five committee meetings a week — fascinating though they might be. I will love being your interim, and I will be delighted when you find your new pastor.” We look forward to working together to be Christ’s church.

— Scott Hughes, Chair, Interim Search and Pulpit Supply Committee

Summer CenterPeace for Adults

WEDNESDAYS IN THE CHAPEL

JUNE 10 — JULY 29 • NOON

Seeing God in the Ordinary: Telling Our Stories and Thinking Theologically

Join us for a 30-minute experience of prayer, music, scripture and testimony. Wednesdays in the Chapel provides a peaceful space in the middle of the week to reconnect with friends, to refresh our spirits, and to reflect on our own story and call. Lunch will follow in the Dining Room for a cost of \$5. For more information, contact Tommy Bratton (tbratton@fbca.net) or Leah Brown (lbrown@fbca.net) at 252.4781.

THE SACRED GARDEN

AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ASHEVILLE

Our dream of the Sacred Garden is unfolding now! With the congregation's approval on May 17, construction on the church's walled garden is beginning in the green space just north of the sanctuary. In a little more than 8-12 months, this area will be transformed into an outdoor sanctuary, a sacred space for prayer and reflection, holy ground upon which to remember and celebrate the spiritual pilgrimage of those we love. It is

exciting to think what a gift this will be to our fellowship and the broader community in their journey with God.

The garden will include accessible walkways, water features, wind chimes, and a labyrinth. There will also be a memorial garden where ashes may be placed in the ground and a columbarium where they may be inurned, giving us a place in which to acknowledge our grief, to remember loved ones, and to recall our faith's promise of resurrection joy. On our church website, you can view illustrations of what the garden will look like as well as a few of the formal construction drawings. There is a video walk-through of it on our website. (www.fbca.net; click on The Sacred Garden at the bottom of the web page)

Many have made a contribution to the garden, apart from, or in addition to, the purchase of niches or plaques. To date, gifts have totaled more than \$185,000. Additional giving opportunities are detailed on the website. You, your family, or Bible study class may want to fund one of the listed elements. When we dedicate the garden in spring 2016, we will recognize all gifts in the dedicatory program and in a permanent Donations Book. Gifts of \$5,000 or more by individuals or groups will be recognized on a plaque near the chapel entrance to the garden.

Help us complete funding of the garden by giving a gift or purchasing a niche or memorial plaque. Niches paid for in full before January 4, 2016, are \$3,000. After that date, niches will be \$3,500. Memorial plaques are \$500. If you would like more information, please contact the church office at 252.4781 or complete the online form you will find on our website.

Collaborative Ministry at FBICA: New Council Format Sharpens Ministry Focus


A strategic change is being considered for two ministry councils at First Baptist Church of Asheville. The Christian Formation Council is charged with the spiritual development for persons from birth to senior adults. The Fellowship and Involvement Council has the same age range but with the task of connecting and reaching out through fellowship and recreational opportunities. Later in the summer, the church will consider a request to change the mission for these two councils by amending our church bylaws. The Christian Formation and Fellowship Council - Children and Students will oversee the development strategies, teams, programming, and resources to nurture the spiritual growth of children, youth, and college students in our church. The council will also work to enrich relationships and opportunities for fellowship across the age range. Staff liaisons will include Casey Callahan, Minister with Students, and new Minister with Children and Families. The Christian Formation and Fellowship Council - Adults will implement the same focus for young adults through senior adults. Tommy Bratton and Leah Brown will serve as staff liaisons for this council. With these changes, each council will sharpen its mission and ministry with these groups. Changes in the bylaws will come before the congregation after review by the deacons. If you have comments or questions, please contact David Blackmon at dblackmon@fbca.net or 252.4781. You may also contact Debbie Miller, 3rd Vice Chair of Deacons at millerdl55@gmail.com.

Summer Fun 2015



EXPLORE CREATE DISCOVER WONDER GROW

Preschool Day Camp
 June 16 - 18
 9:00 a.m.-Noon • FBCA
 Cost: \$10 per child per day



Preschoolers ages 2 through Pre-K are invited to a Barn Raising good time this June as we have some fun in the farmyard!

Passportkids!
 (Rising 4th-7th graders)
 June 24-27
 Converse College, Spartanburg, SC
 Cost: \$275 • Deposit: \$75



Vacation Bible School
 (Ages 4 - Rising 6th graders)
 July 13-16
 9 a.m.-Noon
 Free but registration required



VBS Day Camp
 (Rising 1st - Rising 7th graders)
 July 13 - 17
 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 (includes Vacation Bible School)
 Cost: \$65 • Deposit \$25



Discovery Day Camp
 (Rising 1st-Rising 7th graders)
 August 3 - 7
 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$90 • Deposit: \$25



Discover some new and wonderful things about God's world as we visit beautiful places in our own back yard.

Preschool Pajama Party
 (Infants - Pre-K)
 August 5
 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$10 per child



PAJAMA PARTY

Kids can wear their pjs and enjoy a night of fun! Sounds like a great time for a parents' night out!

Register for any of these events online at www.fbca.net or by contacting April Nance at 252-4781. Contact Tommy Bratton (grade school) or Bree Welmaker (preschool) for more information.

2015

SUMMER YOUTH

Events



Camp Dates: June 15-18, 2015

FirstShine is a traditional fun-filled overnight summer camp for children ages 6-12 years old with special needs, held on the beautiful campus at Warren Wilson College in the Swannanoa Valley. Day activities are geared to age and interests of each child and can include swimming, horseback riding, outdoor games, arts/crafts, and more! Help us get the word out to prospective campers that FirstShine is back.

Youth and college students are essential to the vision for FirstShine. Counselors are needed for each participant, and any youth (10th-12th grades) or college student willing to commit to this experience must complete an application by April. Counselors pay \$100 to cover their camper's fee, so the children can attend at no cost. Applications are available in the church office. Please consider being a part of this mission opportunity.

Special events

Lock-in

Friday, June 12 • 5:00-p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Saturday
Cost: \$10

Sliding Rock (plus hiking and packed lunch)

Tuesday, July 7 • 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Theme Park Day (Cost & Location TBA)

Saturday, August 8 • 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Weekly events

Summer SWAP (Service With A Purpose)

Wednesdays: July 8, 15, 29, and August 5
Noon • Lunch in the Chapel
1:00-4:00 p.m. • Community Service

Small Group Bible Study

Tuesdays: July 7, 14, 28, and August 4
6:00 p.m. • FBCA



**Youth Summer
CAMP**

July 18-25, 2015

**University of
Tennessee Campus**

The cost is \$340 with a \$75 deposit required at time of registration. Sign up online at www.fbca.net. Contact Casey Callahan at ccallahan@fbca.net or 252.4781 for more information.



Dates: June 22-27 Cost: \$375

YouthCUE is the premier student choir resource in North America. Over the past 25 years, YouthCUE has provided innovative programming and resources to foster and promote the development of student choirs in churches and schools across the continent.

The Nation's Capital Festival of Youth Choirs offers participants a "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunity of singing in one of the premiere venues in the United States, the Washington National Cathedral. Accompanied by members of the local professional symphony, participating in the Nation's Capital Festival of Youth Choirs is an experience every student should have at least once.

YouthCUE purposely schedules generous amounts of free time each afternoon during the Festival week to allow participating choirs to engage in their own activities.

Senior



Adults



Jubilee Picnic

June 16 • 11:00 a.m.

All senior adults are invited to join us for a special Jubilee Picnic on June 16 at the WNC Governor's Residence. The Program will feature Julia Locke, Storyteller. Please consider using our shuttle service due to limited parking at the Governor's Residence. The shuttle will leave at 10:00 a.m. from the Atrium parking lot! If you have questions, please feel free to contact Leah Brown at 252.4781.

Jubilee Lunch

July 21 • 11:00 a.m. • Dining Room

All senior adults are invited to join us for fellowship, a program featuring music by FBCA high school and college students, and a delicious meal. The cost is \$3 for the meal, and first-time guests eat free. Please contact Leah Brown at 252.4781 or lbrown@fbca.net for more information.

Memory Café • June 18 and July 16 • 1:00-3:00 p.m. • Dining Room

Memory Café is a volunteer-run social gathering and respite service for those with dementia, their caregivers, families, friends, and the community. This is not a drop-off program or a support group, but rather a time to gather, relax, enjoy one another, and to reduce the isolation and loneliness that accompany a diagnosis of dementia for both the person who gets the diagnosis and the caregiver. Each session is hosted by members of our congregation who have received specialized training. This program is open to people in our congregation and the community. Reservations are not required for these gatherings. Contact Leah Brown at 252-4781.

Stephen Ministry Corner

Are you going through a difficult time? A Stephen Minister can help!! Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through a crisis or a difficult time. To learn how you can receive a Stephen Minister's confidential care, contact Leah Brown at 252-4781.

Seniors Doing Their Part at MANNA!

Seniors are working at MANNA on the 4th Thursday of each month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. "Social Hour" is held at J & S Cafeteria in River Ridge at 11:45 a.m.

MANNA says, "This group is on of their best and most efficient teams. Experience helps. They quickly organize themselves into what each one needs to do and they get it done."

Thank you to Jim and Bert Dellinger, Gwen and Jud Rotan, Mike and Betty Brooks, Bill and Margaret Snyder, Dick and Joann Preston, Sandy and Theron Rumsey, Marvin Ownby, Brenda and Ed Graham, Mae Score, Max Price, Shirley Lewis, Dot and Wade Hampton, and Dan Fowler.

Their next date is Thursday, August 4. Won't you join them?





RECAP



During April, more than 500 FBCA folks participated in 28 projects benefiting 18 different organizations. We babysat, painted, cleaned, landscaped, mulched, built, assembled, sorted, sewed, baked, cleaned out, tore out and put back together, planted fruit trees, prepared, served, recycled, donated, cut out and cut up.

*We not only ministered to needs in our community,
but grew together in fellowship and friendship.*

Gently Used Reading Glasses Needed



Our neighbors at the Buncombe County Jail have a need that we can meet easily. Inmates often request magnifying glasses to use for reading. You may have some around the house or within easy reach at the checkout line. Watch for the box near the Sign-Up Shack and share your gently used reading glasses. We'll get them to the right places.

Green Bag Food Collection beginning August 28



Green food bags will be placed in the Sanctuary and Atrium. Please take a bag home and fill with the donated items requested on the bag and return the following Sunday to church. Donations will go to ABCCM.

Ministries Expanding - Volunteers Needed

Lunch at the Crossroads Ministry • 12 extra volunteers needed

We are expanding our Lunch at the Crossroads Ministry to four Thursdays a week starting in the fall. Additional volunteers are needed on Thursday to help provide lunch for guests in our community who are homeless. There are several ways to serve in this ministry including cooking, serving, working in the food/clothing closet, or helping an adult to read. To get involved please contact Everette Clark at 667.8078.

Crossroads Afterschool Program Ministry • Volunteers needed

We are expanding our Crossroads Afterschool program starting in October. Additional volunteer tutors are needed Wednesday afternoons for two hours to help children in our immediate area who are in need of your help to succeed in school. To get involved please contact Everette Clark at 667.8078.

At General Assembly,

we're forming together around learning,
loving and leading as a Fellowship.

Make plans now to join us in Dallas June 15-19, 2015

Contact Tommy Bratton at tbratton@fbca.net or 252.4781 or visit www.cbf.net/general-assembly/ for more information.

Fast-Forward to These Events on Your Calendar

- >> *CenterPeace* Leadership Training • Wednesday, August 19
- >> Budget Roundtable • Wednesday, August 19
- >> Adult Choir Resumes • Wednesday, August 19
- >> Rising Seventh Grade Retreat (RSG) • Friday-Saturday, August 21-22
- >> Church Picnic • Sunday, August 23
- >> Summer Celebration • Wednesday, August 26
- >> Deacon Ordination • Sunday, August 30
- >> Youth Fall Kickoff • Sunday, August 30
- >> *CenterPeace* Resumes • Wednesday, September 2

DETAILS ON THESE AND MANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES COMING SOON!



First Baptist Church of Asheville

Freedom. Friendship. Faith.

5 Oak Street, Asheville, NC 28801 • 828.252.4781 • www.fbca.net

Child Development Center: 828.252.3234 • Fax: 828.254.2302

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary • 9:45 a.m. Bible Study for all ages

Minister on Call

A minister is on call 24/7 to support you in times of need. To contact the minister on call, dial 252-4781. The deacon of the week can be reached through the church office or by contacting the minister on call.