

God Centered Growth

First Baptist Church of Norton

March 6, 2018
Volume I, Issue No. 10

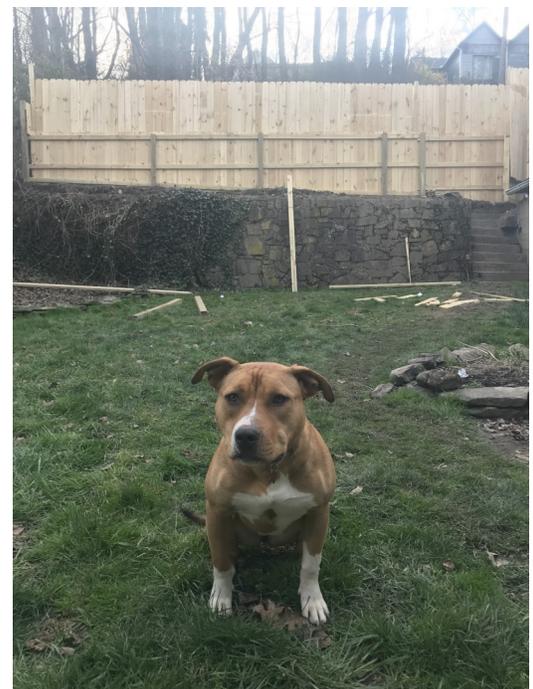
From the Pastor's Heart

This week Alex and I had a fence built in our back yard. This fence is massive, took three days to build. The fence is a wooden privacy fence that is 6 feet high on the sides and in the back. The front of this fence is about 5 feet high. We finally thought we could let the dogs out of the house for a little while. They stayed for the first hour, then Jaylo jumped and completely cleared the fence. Our hearts sunk, we had bought 288 pickets for this fence. So now Alex and I are in the process of putting more pickets up, just higher, the fence is now about 8 feet high. When you look at it from our yard it looks like a prison compound, the only thing we lack are the guards, barbed wire, and spotlight. My neighbor called it Trumps wall, I think it resembles the Green Monster at Fenway Park (which is no indication of my favorite baseball team).

Now to the point of the story, as we were looking up how to keep a Pitbull in a fenced-in yard we came across an article that discusses the dog wanting to be with you, its master, as the reason it continues to jump the fence. Whether this is true or not I don't know, but the article said the dog jumps fence not to run away but to be with you. They will jump the fence without any regard to its life, they just go. Alex and I have witnessed this and we see the excitement in our dogs when they see us after they overcome an obstacle just to be in our presence. Jaylo doesn't try to run away, she just comes to the door and waits for us to come and put her back in the fence.

Did you know God wants that from us? Romans 12: 1-2, "1 I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. 2 Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." Just like Jaylo, he wants us to try our hardest to get out of the fence we call "sin" or "secular society" and have no regard as to what is going to happen to us. The good thing is, that God is always there for us. I can't always be there for Jaylo when she jumps over the fence, but God is always there for us. Do we want to be with God that bad? Do we want to follow him so much that we are willing to just jump over that fence without knowing how far down we will fall?

Love, Mark



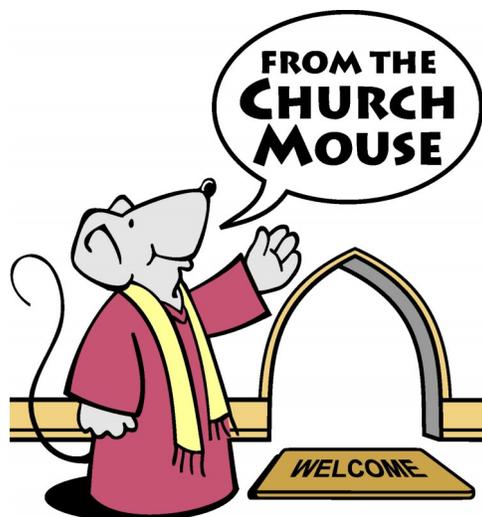
Prayer requests from Sunday:

- June Jones, her son Greg Milam, and their family.
- Sharon Hamblin will have cataract surgery on Monday (March 5).
- Mike Todd, a friend of Phyllis Still's daughter Kim, has had several tragedies in his family and requested prayer.
- David Gibson, the father of Beth Tipton, is ill. Beth is a campus minister at UVa-Wise.
- Wayne Harrison, a former pastor at FBC Norton, is receiving treatment for an inoperable brain tumor.
- Shane Burke requested prayer for the father of one of his students, who had a stroke.
- Roger Greear's cousin has been told there is no treatment for his cancers.

"And the Holy Spirit helps us in our distress. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. But the Holy Spirit prays for us in groanings that cannot be expressed in words."

ROMANS 8:26

- This week (March 4-11) is designated as a week of prayer for North American missions. One hundred percent of the Annie Armstrong offering goes to support our missionaries.



- A four-week Bible study begins tomorrow, March 7, at 6:30 p.m. and continues every Wednesday in March. Leigh Clark will facilitate the study in Jonah. If you have your study guide, please read the introduction and Session 1.
- Practice for the Easter Cantata "Redeemed" is at 6 p.m. every Sunday. It's not too late to participate!
- Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night, so you don't miss church.

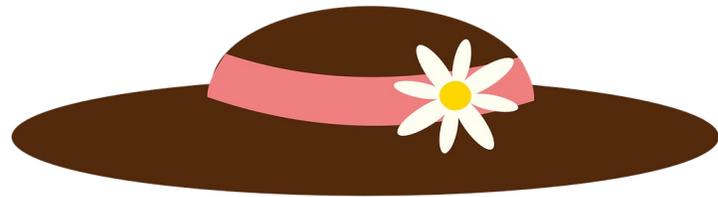
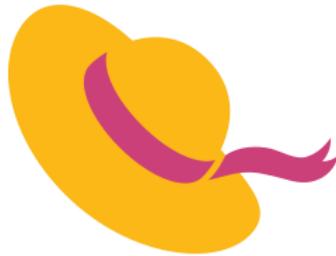


You're invited to a tea party!

The Spring Women's Brunch will be Saturday, April 7, at 10 a.m. We'll be serving tea and all the goodies that go with it. Think along the lines of finger sandwiches, fruit, scones, mini quiches, and bite-sized desserts. The committee members are June Jones, Sherri Milam, Jen Milam, and Diane Cornett. Feel free to speak with one of us if you have questions.

A tea party requires a hat! In addition to door prizes, there will be prizes for the most beautiful hat, the most creative hat, the tackiest hat and the People's Choice Award. You have plenty of time to get busy decorating your hat, or go shopping if you prefer. More details about the program will be shared at a later date.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us—it's always a good time of fellowship, food and fun!



BCM Meals and Bible Study

Mark and the students meet at 6 p.m. to prepare dinner. If you would like to help cook or contribute food, please let Mark know the Sunday before the meeting.

They usually have around 20 students.

March 6—breakfast for dinner: bacon , eggs, waffles & more!

Baptist Collegiate Ministry

The Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) is located in a building adjacent to The University of Virginia's College at Wise campus. As a part of the Virginia Baptist Collegiate Ministry, the mission of the UVA-Wise BCM is building community, making disciples for Christ, and developing Christian leaders. BCM has been a part of collegiate ministry at UVA-Wise since 1958.

Membership in UVA-Wise BCM simply requires a willingness to participate, Baptist affiliation is not necessary. Annually, less than one-third of active BCM members are Baptist.

The BCM facility is open and available to students throughout each day and evening, and includes a prayer room, conference/meeting room, library/resource room, and a fully-equipped kitchen. Weekly opportunities include a home-cooked fellowship meal and Bible study every Tuesday evening.

For more information please contact the director, Pastor Mark Dixon (mjd8f@uvawise.edu) or BCM student president Ahliyah Gavin (acg4r@uvawise.edu).



**As you pray this week,
please remember the
following.**

David & Jewell Ball
Libby Bowman
Gail Buchanan
Jim Campbell
Dottie Chittester
Virginia Collins
Linda Cooke
Tim Cox
Jill Dixon
Rhonda Elliott
Emma Harrod
Alana Hash
Sue Hobbs
Rosalind Hunt
Elee Large
Maddie Lewis
Jim Manicure
Rhonda Moody
Eugene Mullins
Tracy Ott
Donna Owens
Roberta Owens
Wilma Redman
Leah Riley
Margaret Riner
Bea Simmons
Phyllis Still
Tammy Sturgill
Glenn & Marilyn Teasley
Joseph Thomas
Mike Todd
Beverly Viers
Susan Gillenwater Wells
Brenda Whitaker
Little Ed Withrow
Our country's leaders
First responders, volunteers
Armed Services men and women
Missionaries
Nursing home patients



Please send prayer requests to
lindawellswalker@yahoo.com

March Birthdays

8 ~ Michelle Buckley, Christiana Robinette
19 ~ Shirley Roberts
22 ~ Mark Dixon
26 ~ Little Ed Withrow
28 ~ David Walker

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

March Anniversaries

8 ~ Neil & Beth Walker

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY**

“Sing to the Lord, all you godly ones!
Praise his holy name.
His anger lasts for a moment,
But his favor lasts a lifetime!
Weeping may go on all night,
but joy comes with the morning.”

Psalm 30:4-5

First Baptist Church of Norton gives anyone the chance to come together and worship with like-minded congregants as members of a strong, loving community. Whether you're looking for peace of mind, a way to give back, or simply want to be a part of a loving family — First Baptist Church of Norton welcomes you. Join our community, and start your journey to God-centered growth with us!

How to join FBC Norton

- Baptism—You desire to express faith in Christ through baptism.
- Transfer—You wish to transfer membership from another church.
- Statement of Faith—You are a baptized believer and come on statement of faith.
- Watch Care—You would like to be connected to our church family without official membership.

Deacons

Charlene Bates, 276-219-4251, charlenebates715@yahoo.com

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Visit us on the web at
www.fbcnorton.com or
connect with us on
Facebook.

Or better yet, come and visit
us in person!



This newsletter is published every Tuesday morning on the church's web page. Please send news, photos, and announcements to cornettdiane@gmail.com.