



# THE LIGHTHOUSE

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## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

### Pastor's Message



Every morning in Africa, a gazelle wakes up. It knows that it must run faster than the fastest lion or it will be killed. Every morning a lion wakes up. It knows that it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve to death. The moral of this African parable is that, whether you are a lion or a gazelle, when the sun come up you better be running.

As we start this New Year of 2019, let us resolve to keep moving. Our church leadership has scheduled **28 Days of Prayer** for the month of January. This includes Sunday morning sermons, as well as, a Sunday night sermon series on prayer. Also, we will have daily prayer meetings Monday through Thursday at 8:30 AM. The movie, *The War Room*, will be shown, and Rev. Harold Vaughan will be back for the Men's Summit and Sunday morning worship. This month will culminate with a Friend's Day where we invite as many friends as possible to share Sunday morning worship.

Sometimes FBC is criticized for our continued emphases on growing. If it seems to you that all we care about is helping our members to grow in faith, teaching everyone how to accomplish great things through prayer, and how to reach lost souls for Christ—then you are right.

The leadership of FBC is all about going forward this New Year and everyday in this New Year. Pastor Earley and our whole staff cares about pleasing God. And we feel God is calling us upward, pushing us forward, and drawing us near. May we never apologize for moving on to new heights in God's kingdom and reaching new goals for His glory.

Every morning we wake up, may we be running. The alternative is that we die. FBC is not just going to stay alive, but we will thrive in 2019.

**Pastor Jerry**

Dr. Jerry Neal  
Senior Pastor

Dr. Dave Earley  
Lead Pastor

Bryan Corbett  
Associate Pastor

David Berna  
Visitation Pastor

Jeff Bane  
Outreach Pastor

Mike D'Attoma  
Assistant Pastor

Joshua Wright  
Children's Pastor

Robert Stroup  
Business Administrator

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**theconnection**  
ministries

family over the past few weeks. These are dear people who “have received a faith as precious as ours” as the Apostle Peter writes (2 Pet. 1:1). One couple has been coming to our church since 1971. They remember meeting in a one room log cabin, and everyone had to take turns putting a log on the fire in the winter. Okay, not really. But they have been attending a long time. They told me about their life in a small town on the Mississippi River in Missouri, before work brought them to Ohio. I would never have known their interesting story if I hadn’t gone to visit.

Another dear senior saint I visited worked for General Motors for over 30 years. She also has been coming to our church for a long time. She lost her husband eight years ago, and she told me the amazing story of a vision God gave her when she felt she couldn’t go on without him anymore. That vision gave her the comfort and peace she needed to keep going. I would never have known if I hadn’t gone to visit.

In contrast, another couple that a fellow church member and I visited have come to our church only recently and are still “checking us out.” He served in the U.S. Air Force, and then as a nurse at OSU for 25 years. He has a love for the Old Testament, and is reading through a brand new commentary on the Book of Exodus that I also just started studying. Small world. I would never have known if I hadn’t gone to visit.

There used to be a commercial about orange juice which ended with the punchline, “Orange Juice: it’s not just for breakfast anymore.” As we start the year 2019, can I suggest another punchline: “Visiting Others: it’s not just for pastors.” Go ahead and be a blessing to others, and you’ll get blessed yourself.

**Pastor Andy Kovalchik,  
Assistant Visitation Pastor**

### **AWANA Calendar of Events**

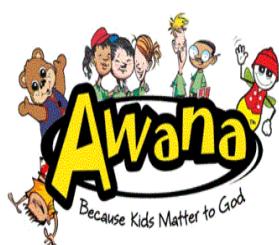
**January 2nd—No AWANA!**

**January 9th—Welcome Back!**

**January 16th—Wacky Sock Night!**

**January 23rd—K.I.S.S. Kids  
Invite Someone Special  
Night!**

**January 30th—Dues to  
“GO” Missions Night!**



Do you know how you can not only be a blessing to others, but also to yourself? Get out and visit someone.

I have visited several members of our church

### **Members’ Ministry**

When we learn to pray instead of complaining, life is more joyful.

When we learn to pray instead of arguing, relationships become stronger.

When we learn to pray instead of retaliation, our perspective on life changes.

When we learn to pray instead of reacting, that is the key. We need to pray about everything and worry about nothing, period.

Yes, it can be that simple. When we learn that all we have, all we are is from God, He allows us to be caretakers of others and things we have. Our families, our finances, our friends, our homes and jobs, the things we have accomplished are all from Him.

You see it is when we start to believe the lie, that I built that, I have this, I did that—this is when we start to fall. We should thank God that He gave us the wisdom and ability to accomplish anything.

Prayer is the secret to living. Pray every day. When all is good and when all has gone awry, we need to pray.

Do you want a better marriage? Then Pray. Do you want peace in your family? Then Pray. Do you want your work to be blessed? Then Pray. Do you want your spouse or children to know the Lord? Then Pray. Do you want peace in your finances? Then Pray.

Do you need God to do a miracle in your life? Then Pray. Do you want to honor God in all you do? Then Pray.

Pray without ceasing for your life, your family, all you have depends on God. Then walk in obedience to His Word and behold the glory of God in your life.

When we pray we are submitting to the sovereignty of God over our lives. We are submitting to His will and not our own, for He alone is good, and He alone can and will provide for us all we need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

#### **God’s Word says this:**

*“I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the mighty working of his strength.” Ephesians 1:17-19 CSB*

*“Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.” Ephesians 6:18 CSB*

*“And my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.” Philippians 4:19-20 CSB*

**In Christ,**

**Pastor Brian Kinnett,  
Members’ Minister**

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

HALL, Abigail	01/01	PLUMLY, Jeffrey	01/25
BROOKS, Samantha	01/01	PLUMLY, Jerrod	01/25
STICKEL, Aubrey	01/01	KEYES, Winter	01/25
WILSON, Naomi	01/03	WORKMAN, Gene	01/25
TYLER, Andrew	01/03	DEAN, Susie	01/25
HOLINGA, George	01/04	WARNER, Melanie	01/26
KITCHEN, James	01/04	RAQUET, Fritz, Sr.	01/26
PINKERMAN, Levi	01/05	RAQUET, Toni	01/26
KEITH, Kevin	01/06	TRYON, Haley	01/27
JONES, Emily	01/07	RIZER, Andrew	01/27
JARRELLS, Brett	01/07	VANWAGNER, Kaye	01/28
SMITH, Jim	01/07	EDWARDS, Austin	01/28
BROWN, Jeff	01/09	SCOTT, Katherine	01/30
HITE, Patricia	01/09	VANDYKE, Lucrecia	01/30
ROBINETT, Anthony	01/09	KORP, Rachel	01/30
TOWNSLEY, Ned	01/09	GRIESHEIMER, Valerie	01/31
BLAKE, JR., Alvin	01/09	JONES, Patty	01/31
BARR, Troy	01/09	NICHOLS, Charles	01/31
CONTI, Linda	01/10	TERRY, Kelly	01/31
STRAWSER, Matthew	01/10		
WALTERS, Destiny	01/10		
OGUICH, George	01/10		
WELSH, Michael	01/10		
SHAFFER, Teresa	01/10		
LAMB, Emily	01/11		
WEEKLEY, Donald	01/11		
STAYTON, Len	01/11		
GOLDSMITH, Dave	01/12		
GIFFEN, Minerva	01/13		
BENNETT, Bud	01/13		
THOMPSON, Kristoffer	01/13		
JAMES, Michael	01/13		
PETTIBONE, Janet	01/13		
MORGAN, J.W.	01/13		
WILSON, Debbie	01/14		
ARN, Jeff	01/14		
UPTON, Kerry	01/15		
RAQUET, Christopher	01/15		
WELSH, Judy	01/15		
SEBERT, Elza	01/16		
ERIKSEN, Lorrie	01/16		
STRAWSER, Beth	01/17		
WEBB, Rosemarie	01/17		
REICHLE, Karen	01/19		
MATLOCK, Cindy	01/19		
McKINLEY, Susan	01/19		
HASKELL, Carol	01/20		
WHITE, Amy	01/20		
MYERS, Sharon	01/20		
BRINLEY, Don	01/21		
MCKAY, Samuel	01/21		
DRAKE, Gail	01/21		
CLEMENTS, Grace	01/22		
WELLS, Marc	01/22		
SMOOT, Cole	01/22		
SCHAFFER, Michael	01/23		
ARN, Elizabeth	01/23		
HAUGHN, Donna	01/24		
FLUHARTY, Keith	01/24		
SIMON, Doris	01/24		

### Notes of Appreciation

To my FBC family,

Bob loved being part of God's Church, right here at FBC. So it is with deep appreciation that I want to thank you all for the many ways you showed us your love. The prayers, visits, tears, and your generosity. I cannot thank you enough!

My family and I have been truly blessed. We will now remember Bob with smiles, as he is in heaven with his Lord!

**Love,  
Beth McCoy and family**

# 28 Days of Prayer Campaign Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DEC 30  <b>AM PUSH:</b> Pray until Something Happens	DEC 31 <b>NYE 9PM-12AM</b> The Lord's Prayer	JAN 1 - New Year's Day	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER		Men's Breakfast
JAN 6  <b>AM: PRAISE UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS</b>  <b>PM: UNANSWERED PRAYERS</b>	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	<b>FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT</b>	
JAN 13  <b>AM: PERSIST UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS</b>  <b>PM: PRAYER</b>	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	<b>MEN'S PRAYER ADVANCE</b> 5:30-7:30PM POTLUCK 7:00-9:00PM ADVANCE	<b>CHURCH PRAYER SUMMIT</b> 8AM BREAKFAST 9 - 10:20AM SESSION 1 10:30AM-12:00PM SESSION 2 12:00 Ladies Lunch
JAN 20  <b>AM: HAROLD VAUGHAN</b>  <b>PM: FASTING AND PRAYER</b>	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER	8:30 PRAYER		
JAN 27 <b><u>FRIEND DAY!</u></b>						

## Trustee Ministry Report

Happy New Year!

As always, the Trustees, Baptist Builders and Volunteers continue to proceed in their unrelenting endeavor to maintain First Baptist Church and KKDC in the best manner possible.

The Baptist Builders are working on a plan to buy and install LED lights for the parking lots.

Discussions took place regarding future repairs on the parking lot. It was decided to stay within the budget and seal, restripe and patch the parking lots on an as-needed basis since they are still in good shape.

The Trustees cleaned the gutters at KKDC and worked on the KKDC playground fence. The fence was repositioned and extended 15 feet.

The Trustees worked on installing a plaque in memory of Barb Riley on the Upward Field bleachers. FBC lights in the hallways are now all LED lights. An Automatic External Defibrillator "AED" for emergency use was relocated at FBC.

The snow equipment has been readied for use. Batteries in the exterior garage door openers at the FBC Garage and Garage Annex were replaced. The pond fountains have been removed for service and storage for the winter. The Franklin County Road Department is working with FBC to improve roadside drainage along Orders Road adjoining the west lawn.

After the first of the year, should funds be available from the Wish List, a pick-up truck could be purchased by the Trustees. The 2002 pick-up currently being used has major mechanical issues. A new snow plow went into the Maintenance budget.

The Trustees received a Conclusion Report regarding the reason the building HVAC system had not been performing accurately. The Trustees have been working with our vendor to correct an issue with our system and an adjustment to our bill should be forthcoming.

**Phyllis McCloy,  
Trustee Ministry Secretary**

# Women of FBC

"Lord, teach us to pray..." (Luke 11:1-13).

Developing a habit of prayer is a wonderful resolution. Consider joining a Life Group or a Bible study to keep yourself accountable to be in God's Word daily. Commit to grow in your faith and ask the Lord to help you love as He does. Take advantage of the opportunities God has provided at our church. We are blessed with Spirit-filled pastors and leaders to help us in our daily walk with Christ. Stop by the Women's kiosk and pick up a sheet of current and upcoming women's studies and activities.

Happy New Year and God bless you.

## Ronda Kinnett, Women's Ministry Director

**Book Club:** We will meet Thursday, January 3rd, from 7:00-8:30 PM, at City BBQ. We will discuss the book, *The Silent Gift*, by Michael Landon, Jr. Please contact Kari Jones at 614-589-7557 for more information.

**Craft Day:** We will meet Friday, January 18th, in the FBC Fellowship Hall, from 9 AM to 9 PM. Please contact KyleAnn Williams at 614-440-5953 for more information.

**Surviving Grief with Hope:** We will begin a new class on Sunday, January 6th, at 4 PM, in Room C-154. Come be supported on your journey through grief in dealing with the loss of a loved one, one's health, a family relationship, a marriage, a job, and more. Please contact Barb Lovingshimer with any questions at 614-875-4613 or 614-551-9781.

**Women's Fellowship Lunch:** Saturday, January 19th, at 12:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite sandwich, salad, or light appetizer to share. Our guest speaker will be Debbie Vaughn. Please contact Ronda Kinnett at 614-313-7871 for more information.

**Secret Sisters Annual Party:** Friday, January 11th, at 7:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Karen Campbell at 614-208-6365 for more information.

## Bible Studies:

- **NEW Women's Bible Study:** Sundays, at 10:45 AM in Room A-194. Contact Sharon Myers at 614-562-2600 for more information.
- **NEW Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays, at 7:30 PM, in Room C-156, beginning January 8th. We will study the book, *Bible Promises to Live By*, by Pastor Dave Earley. Please contact Debbie Watts at 614-875-4201 for more information.

• **NEW Group:** My Sister's Keeper group will begin Wednesday, January 9th, at 6:45 PM. This is an 8-week class and features Lysa Terkheurst's Bible study, *It's Not Supposed to be This Way*. This group is for women who are struggling with divorce or estrangement and want to experience healing and fellowship. Contact Cindy Matlock at [matlockcyn@gmail.com](mailto:matlockcyn@gmail.com) for more information.

• **NEW Women's Bible Study:** Wednesdays, at 6:45 PM, in Room K-117, beginning January 9th. We are beginning a study on the Parables of Jesus. No book required. Bring your Bibles and a journal! Please contact Ronda Kinnett at 614-313-7871 for more information.

## • Women of FBC continued on page 6

FBC Family,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to all God is going to do in you, and through you in 2019!

I promise, if you will open your heart up to the Lord, He is willing and able to do incredible things in 2019! I encourage you to join us on this **28 Days of Prayer** as we ask God to do big things in our individual lives, and in the life of our Church.



December was a great month for us in the Student ministry, and we are looking forward to 2019! We have had the largest average attendance for Wednesday night in our student ministry over the last year, and we expect God to do even more in 2019! It is going to be a wonderful year. I do want to put a few dates on your calendar:

On Sunday Night, January 13th is our annual Campy Awards! The Campy's are a time to come together and celebrate all God did at camp last year and look forward to what God will do at camp this year! It is also the FIRST night to pay your \$75 deposit for camp, and if you pay that deposit that night, you will be entered into a drawing for one of 3 FULL SCHOLARSHIPS to summer camp this year! It's important that you be here that night. Join us in the Genesis Auditorium from 6-7 PM for a wonderful evening!

Also, coming up on February 8th is our Annual Dinner and a Movie + Cake Auction Fundraiser! If you have never attended one of these dinners – you need to, I promise! It truly is an incredible time. Everything we raise goes towards our students being able to go to camp this summer! Tickets will be on sale in the lobby beginning January 6th! It will sell out fast so please get your tickets ASAP! Last year we raised almost 10K (WOW!!! Say it backwards) and we want to do even better this year!!

Happy New Year Church!!!

**Blessings,**

**Pastor Mike D'Attoma,  
Assistant Pastor**

## Men's Corner

The next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be January 5th at 7:30 AM. Joe Brandinger will be sharing his testimony. Below is the testimony of Dan Smoot shared at the December breakfast.

Hello, my name is Dan Smoot, and my wife and son have attended First Baptist church for approximately 4 years. Growing up, my family did not attend church on a regular basis.

I always felt there was something missing in my life. I met my wife in 1991, and I remember the first time I was invited over for dinner with her family. I was included in a prayer before dinner with her family and that was the beginning of my walk with God. From there, we began to attend church on a regular basis, and in 1993, I was saved. It was a great experience, and my wife and I also married in 1993.

After marriage, my wife and I planned to have children. At the time, I did not realize God had other plans for us. I have always been a planner, and this proved to be a valuable lesson for me. We experienced 7 surgeries in trying to have children, all to no avail. After hitting the wall in this area, we decided to look into adoption. I remember sitting in a large auditorium with 50 other couples, all wanted the same thing, a child to call their own.

Our adoption process took approximately one and-a-half years before we discovered there was a child available to us. There was much joy. We went to see the baby, and after much consideration, the birth mother changed her mind and decided instead to keep her child. It was a difficult decision for all involved. We were devastated. I will never forget that weekend. There was a lot of crying and frustration. MY plan did not seem to be working. I contacted our adoption agency and told them we were done and to please remove us from the process. I remember for the first time, I began to pray differently than my prayers prior to this time. I gave this situation all up to God and prayed for him to take care of this, and we would follow his direction. It was His plan and not mine. It gave me a sense of relief and put it all in God's hands.

Six weeks later, we received a call. There was an opportunity for us to possibly adopt a child, if we were interested. After stepping away from all of this and placing it in God's hands, instead of me trying to handle it myself, an opportunity came before us from out of thin air.

It was a valuable lesson for me. God has a plan for all of us, a bigger picture, if we trust in Him and place it in His hands.

Today, our son is now 21 years old, and holding him in my arms when he was three days old seems like yesterday. God is great and He had a plan. It wasn't my plan, it was His. We love our son dearly.

Our son today is a fireman and paramedic. His passion is simply to help and assist people who need him. Again, it is God's plan, not ours. I have learned to listen, lean into God, and hand it to Him. Sometimes, I still try to do it my way, but prayer points me in the right direction—towards God.

**God Bless,  
Pastor David Berna**

## **Women of FBC continued from page 5**

- **NEW Women's Bible Study:** Thursdays, at 9:30 AM, in Room K-117, beginning January 10th. We will begin the study, *Job, A Story of Unlikely Joy*, by Lisa Harper. Please contact Pam Peters at 614-843-9279 for more information.
- **First Place 4 Health:** New Year! What a great time to work on making healthy choices! Maybe you're struggling with losing 5 to 10 pounds or you're battling obesity, want to increase your knowledge about nutrition, get help with implementing a consistent exercise plan, or learn how to develop a healthy lifestyle for your family. *First Place 4 Health* is a biblically-based, medically trustworthy wellness program that addresses the whole person—physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. An orientation meeting will be held Sunday, January 6th, at 4:45 PM. For more information, contact Sherri Love at 614-871-3053 (please leave a message).

## My View From The Back Of The Pew

*"Train a child in the way he should go,  
and when he is old, he will not turn from it."*  
Proverbs 22:6

A few years ago, I was driving down a divided highway. It was a beautiful day and I was enjoying both the radio and the fall scenery. Suddenly, a car veered out of ongoing traffic, jumped into the median and was heading straight for me. In a moment of superior clarity, I said to myself, "Well, that ain't right!" Fortunately, the driver gained control of his vehicle moments before entering my lane. It took a few more miles before I gained control of proper English.

Life has a way of unleashing unpleasant surprises on us. Lysa Terkheurst experienced a rollercoaster of marital discord and has written a new Book/Bible Study called, *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way!* I remember praying (and ugly crying) those exact words to God while going through my own divorce. Sadly, it was only when I could no longer see anything lower than myself, I finally looked up. It was only when I was willing to trust God with my situation that He began blessing me with His amazing restorative grace.

With the encouragement and prayers of some great friends and family, I found my way out of the pit of depression and anxiety stemming from my divorce. I want to pay it forward and help others in similar situations. Starting Wednesday, January 9th, at 6:45 PM, I will be facilitating an eight-week Bible Study on Lysa's book.

If you or someone you know needs some encouragement and fellowship while going through or recovering from divorce, please join us as we work through it together.



**Blessings,  
Cindy Matlock**