



From the Pastor's Pen

Dear FBC:

I want to take this space to share a few thoughts and updates with you as we turn the corner in the winter season from January to February. Let me speak to three different sub-topics:

Covid-19/Omicron and all things Virus related: Like you, I am weary of the ongoing pandemic and recent surge seen locally due to the Omicron variant. My own experience with the virus has given me new empathy. As the local rate of infection spiked, the hospital and medical community experienced more overwhelming need, and the workforce was decimated by this surge; we've been able to maintain ongoing ministry in-person and online. I'm grateful for the caution and understanding you continue to exhibit as we move forward. I would strongly encourage anyone who is not vaccinated to become fully vaccinated, as this appears the best deterrent available to the threat to life and health. I am certain my own vaccinated/boosted status is preventing my symptoms (while not insignificant) from being worse.

Your Church Council will continue to monitor the activity and threat level of the virus as we move ahead, but for now that means we will continue to request the use of face masks and caution in our gatherings.

Perhaps the most difficult part of the past couple of years for me has been the limited contact it has caused us to have with a segment of the congregation. This is why we encourage those of you who are primarily online participants to note your participation with us on Sundays in various ways. Even though you can see us leading worship, we have no idea if you are joining us beyond some data points the analytics offer, unless you report your presence. Believe me, data is no substitute for seeing your name or face. Thanks for helping our communication and engagement efforts become ever more two-way.

In spite of the challenges presented by the pandemic, FBC has continued to engage in high-level mission and ministry. I hope you will take some time to **review our annual report for 2021** to gain some perspective on this. You will find it on our website and available in hard copy.

Faith Partners in Compassion/Afghan Family Resettlement: Many of you have been involved with our current mission project centered around co-partnership participation in helping resettle an Afghani family to Columbus. We are working alongside St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, First Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church and the Islamic Society of Columbus – as well as Church World Service – in this effort. In my time in Columbus, few collaborative ecumenical or inter-faith efforts have proven this rewarding.

Like you, I'm anxious for the family to arrive and the more personal work to begin. But I've believed from the beginning that the Lord's hand is on this mission effort both in its scope and its timing.

A Teaching Church: You've heard me use the language of our being a "teaching church" from time to time as we work alongside Pastors Reilly and Daniel in their pursuit of Masters of Divinity degrees, and offer them a real life congregational laboratory for personal growth and advancement. The part of this experience you may not have fully understood is how our participation in it offers FBC new life, vibrancy and opportunity of growth in mission and ministry. I am in a position to see this daily and weekly. I would invite your continued prayers and involvement in this partnership from the viewpoint not only of what we are giving, but what we are gaining! Be sure to ask our pastors what they are learning and studying.

Finally, let me encourage you to continue on in reading the Gospel of John as we make that our Sunday worship focus from now through Easter. - Pastor Dan



SEASON OF THE CHURCH:
EPIPHANY
JANUARY 6TH - MARCH 2ND

Fuller

As January and February quietly pass by, it seems like a good time to update you all on my graduate work. If you don't know, I am currently enrolled at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, and, yes, my hope is that during the summer quarters I'll be able to attend sunny in-person classes we call "Intensives." These are week-long classes which meet every day for 8 hours. They're rigorous, but incredible. An example of this would be an urban ministry tour of Los Angeles, which would give me some time to see my brother, too!

However, there is no guarantee that I'll get to do one these intensives while we remain under pandemic conditions. That said, Fuller has provided ample space to discuss how this kind of work might find a foot hole within our local contexts.

For example, I am currently in a "Living Missiologically" course wherein we discuss how to live missiologically within our immediate communities. Uncannily, the language we're using is quite familiar to us as we ask ourselves, "How might we join Jesus in what He's already doing?" Remember that question? I want to call you back to it as a way of joining me in my education. I believe God is continuing to do this work among us as we take on this new season of missional living with and for our resettled families. So let me ask you again: How might you join Jesus in what he's already doing? I'd love to hear your answers. Peace.

- Pastor Daniel



Around The Church

Second Hour Opportunities in February

- The Adult Study Fellowship (ASF) Class meets in Fellowship Hall using The Journeys quarterly curriculum.
- The Chapel Group – a discussion format group meets during 2nd Hour reviewing the morning's sermon and worship themes. All are welcome.
- The Youth Class meets in the Youth Room (lower level)

Children's Ministry Opportunities

The FBC Children's Team offers "Kids Connection" every Sunday morning during the worship hour, with the exception of months when there is a 5th Sunday (children stay upstairs on that day). A nursery for infants and toddlers is also always available.

Additional resources can be found on the Church website, including access to Right Now Media. Periodic special events are also planned by the Children's team.

"Men of Faith" Bible Study News

Men of Faith has entered a "pause" from our current study on "How the Bible Came to Be" due to the high transmission rate of Covid-19 locally. We hope to resume this study ASAP, and will let all participants know those plans soon.

On March 4 we plan to begin a Lenten study titled, "Messiah's Resume." Stay tuned for more information.

Men of Faith, which meets on Fridays at 7 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall over Donuts and Coffee, is open to all men of the church and community. Participants are encouraged to pick up a study guide for the various studies at The Welcome Desk or through the Church Office.

Women's Bible Study

We will be continuing our study of The Beatitudes. Anyone is welcome to join in at any time. We will meet in the chapel until further notice.

Around The Church

Scholarships Available

The First Baptist Church Foundation is accepting applications between now and April 1st for two scholarships.

E. Don Tull Scholarship is for a graduating high school senior planning to attend an institution of higher learning full-time next year and is in the amount of \$1,000.

Foundation Scholarship is for any full-time undergraduate student and is also in the amount of \$1,000.

Applications can be found on the website under "Connect" – FBC Foundation

You can also request an application from the church office - secretary@fbccolumbus.org

*thank
you*

Roger and I would like to thank everyone for their beautiful cards, visits, prayers, and love during Marvin's passing. It's a true blessing to have such a supportive church family.

Roger & Deanna Glick

Thank you First Baptist Church,

I want to thank all in this church for your phone calls, cards, letters, and most of all for your prayers to our God who healed me and continues to heal me today! Thanks again for all your support and caring.

Timothy Pickup

Around The Church



Life Line Screenings go beyond regular checkups to look inside your arteries for signs of plaque build-up



All 5 Screenings for \$139

Carotid Artery Disease:

An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries for buildup of fatty plaque.

Peripheral Arterial Disease:

An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs.¹

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm:

An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm.

Atrial Fibrillation:

A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for irregular heartbeat.

Osteoporosis Risk:

An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density.

We will be in your neighborhood soon on **March 7th at **First Baptist Church****

Get your special Community Circle pricing!

Three ways to register:

Call toll-free: 1-866-229-0469

Online: <https://lisa.social/HSC>

Text: the word **circle to **797979****



Getting Screened is Simple!

**Painless, non-invasive,
keep your clothes on.**



¹No single screening can detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.

Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.

MISSION

Love Chapel FISH delivery

This year, we will be doing something a little different with regard to the delivery of the FISH order to the Food Pantry. In order to minimize the disruption to normal pantry operations, and also in recognition of increased COVID awareness, the order will be delivered directly to the Love Chapel Pantry on Center Street. Please join us there as the order is unloaded at 12:30pm on Saturday, February 12 for a short dedication and blessing of the donations. Contact Cliff Putterill if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks to all who donated to the My Love Chapel FISH Offering! We have collected \$2070 as of Jan. 16.



White Cross Gifts of the Heart

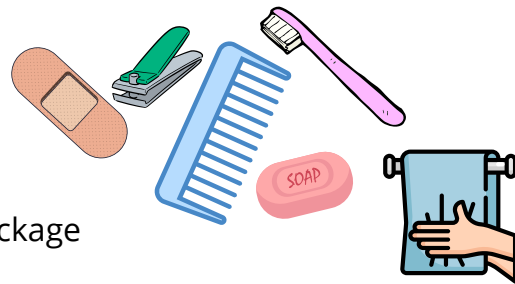
Through White Cross, these special recovery kits provide both tangible assistance to people in need and show that neighbors near and far truly care. These are sent to Church World Service, which sees that they are sent to those in need.

HEALTH KIT

Place completed kits in the CWS Kits box in the kitchen hallway by March 13.

If you would rather donate toward the purchase of kits, please use the blue offering envelopes and mark it for CWS Kits. Checks should be made out to First Baptist Church with "CWS Kits" on the memo line.

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (NO fingertip, bath, dish, or microfiber towels)
- One wide-tooth comb removed from package
- One bath-size bar of soap (in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging only)
- One washcloth
- One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from package
- Ten standard size band-aids



All items need to fit inside a one-gallon plastic zipper closure bag. Remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Kit.

Please include ONLY the specific items listed—read the list carefully! Processing fee of \$2 for each kit would be appreciated. If you have any questions, contact Judy Alexander.



MISSION

Faith Partners in Compassion Update

A great deal of activity has taken place over the past several weeks as we've made final preparations for the Afghan Family's arrival in Columbus. Here's a recap of where we stand:

- Apartment has been secured, furnished and stocked with initial food supplies, including procuring needed utility services. The apartment is in proximity to the lodging being provided by the other co-partner churches for their families.
- FBC has been generous in its financial support of the project by responding to a special offering over the Christmas season. To date we've received gifts totaling over \$27,000. An additional grant of up to \$6,000 from the FBC Foundation has also been approved for use as it may be needed.
- In mid-January we made an adjustment to our primary resettlement partner organization from Exodus Refugee Resettlement to its parent organization, Church World Service (CWS). This change was due to Exodus not having capacity to give us a timely match, whereas CWS, working on a larger scale, has promised that match for FBC and the remaining partner churches. We feel good about this relocation of our primary partnership.
- The FBC Project Team and Family Support Team members have contributed countless hours to team meetings, training, preparation and prayer for this mission effort. We feel we are ready and look forward to the next steps in this endeavor.

This Month's Leadership

Pastoral Care Team

Feb. 6 - Ron & Peggy Lane
Feb. 13 - Daryl & Dot McMath
Feb. 20 - Bob & Jean Langdon
Feb. 27 - (open)

Serving in the Nursery:

First Sunday: Susan Hoffman
Second Sunday: Adams
Third Sunday: Fee
Fourth Sunday: *Open*
Fifth Sunday: *Open*

Children's Sunday School

2-4 Year Olds -

Teachers:

First Sunday: Ben Slaton
Second Sunday: Susan Carter
Third Sunday: Carol Poe/Beth Slaton
Fourth Sunday: Heidi Jones
Fifth Sunday: Carolyn Pool

Helpers:

First Sunday: Slatons
Second Sunday: *Open*
Third Sunday: Jennifer Kelley
Fourth Sunday: *Open*
Fifth Sunday: Carolyn Pool

Kids Connection:

First Sunday: Marcia Cheek
Second Sunday: Linda Reid
Third Sunday: Terri Ketterling
Fourth Sunday: Deanna Glick

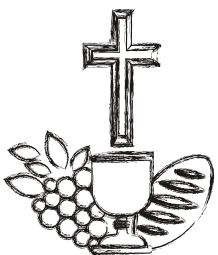
No Kids Connection on fifth Sundays.



February Coffee Fellowship (following worship) - February 27

Last names I-P are invited to bring treats to share.

Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, February 6

For those of you who join us for worship via live stream, we invite you to have something available to use for communion as we come to the Lord's Table together.

February Birthdays



1. ~ Linda Reid
2. ~ Dick Miller, Scott Chitwood, Eliza Fee
3. ~ Jeff Seeley, Oliver Adams, Jan Carlstrom
4. ~ Delma Harmon
5. ~ John McKay, A.J. Scgalski
10. ~ Cecil Workman
12. ~ Larry Alexander, Barry Ferrill
13. ~ Sharon Semer
14. ~ Esther Hash
15. ~ Bill Baker

17. ~ Chris Nelson
18. ~ Stephanie Olson
21. ~ Peggy Lane, Anita Yancey, Stephanie Adams
22. ~ Jan Reed
23. ~ Deb Lilly
24. ~ Pat Burns
25. ~ Cliff Frady, Heather Sims
27. ~ Shorty Whittington
29. ~ Sharon Downin

The Body of Christ Prays For...



- Ramona Harlow, Beth & Dick Miller, Jon Carlstrom, Ashley Fee (surgery Feb. 3) & all those who are homebound or in nursing care centers.

Looking Ahead

- Feb. 6 - Communion Worship (9:30 am)
Feb. 15 - Newsletter Deadline
Feb. 22 - Abigail Circle (7:00 pm)
Feb. 22 - Church Council (7:00 pm)
Feb. 27 - Coffee Fellowship (Last names I-P are invited to bring treats)

Service: Sunday Morning - Worship 9:30 am
(in-person worship & Live Stream)

2nd Hour Learning - following worship at 10:45 am

Live streaming available for Sunday Services

In addition to watching our streaming service on our website, the service is also streamed to Facebook, Roku and AppleTV. It is also sent internationally.



Just Press Play

Live Video Every Sunday at 9:30
firstbaptistcolumbus.org

