



# THE LIGHT

VOLUME 73 | ISSUE 4 | FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Kara Lynn || 5/3  
 Phillip Sakalauckas || 5/4  
 Jolene Hensley-  
 Eastwood || 5/11  
 Maggie Lynn || 5/12  
 Renee Hensley-  
 Eastwood || 5/12  
 Brian Finerfrock || 5/13

Margia Kitts || 5/14  
 Emma Lynn || 5/17  
 Christy McMillin-Goodwin || 5/21  
 Jennifer Sealock || 5/21  
 Brenda Chapman || 5/23  
 Bob Wilson || 5/25  
 Matthew Joyner || 5/26  
 Sean Marchi || 5/27

## MAY

## ANNIVERSARIES

Mark & Milly Adams || 5/7  
 Judy & Wayne Crump || 5/14  
 Cathy & Phillip Sakalauckas || 5/21  
 Bobby & Kelly Butler || 5/22  
 Kathy P. & Ron Napier || 5/27

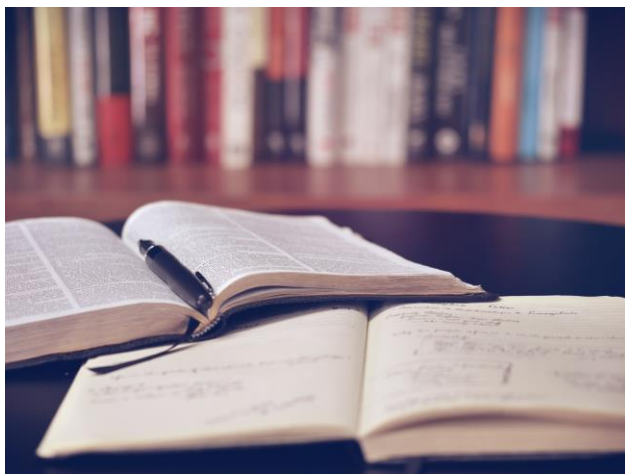
## ATTENDANCE

March 24: 65  
 March 31: 82  
 April 7: 47  
 April 14: 64  
 April 21: 56

Average Facebook Live Views: 21  
 YouTube Subscribers: 67



## PASTOR CHRISTY'S CORNER



The first year Shane and I were married, we lived in a town house in the booming metropolis of Travelers Rest, SC. I was in my last year as a student at Furman University. We hung a fern outside our front door on the little porch. We were faithful to water it several times a week, until a bird built a nest in the fern. Then, we could only water part of the fern because we didn't want to drown the little mother bird.

Each day, I would drag a kitchen chair outside to stand on. Then I would peer, being careful to not touch the fern or the little bird, over the side of the fern basket. She laid four eggs. I joyfully watched as she sat on the eggs each day and eventually as they hatched. I was thrilled to see the little, tiny birds with their mouths open squawking very quietly for food. I watched as they grew very quickly and began to grow feathers. Then one day they each took a turn flying out of the nest to begin their lives away from their watchful care of their mother.

The miracle found in baby birds hatching from eggs is a sign of new life. These little babies are reminders to us that God has not given up on us yet and has created a beautiful world for us to care for and enjoy.

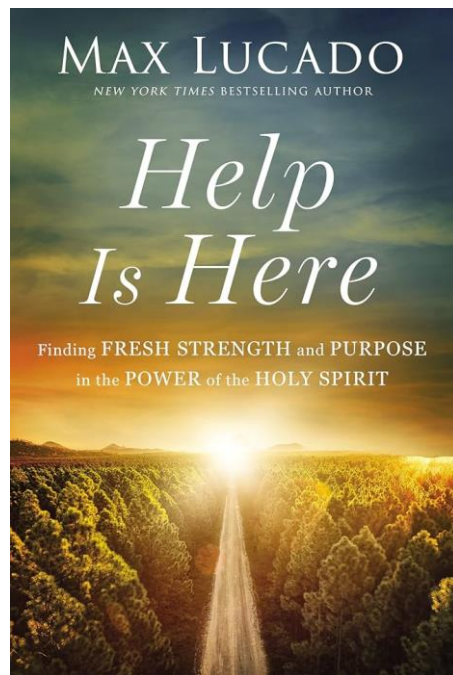
How are you enjoying new life this spring? Let me know! I can't wait to hear your stories!

– Christy

## UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

We will continue our sermon series focused on **Responding to the Resurrection** by looking at passages in the Book of Acts about the Early Church. We will examine such questions as the following: How should we live knowing that Jesus rose from the dead? What does new life look like in our lives? How does God's defeat of death impact us today? I hope you will join us! – Christy

## WOMEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



Our next women's bible study will start Sunday, May 5 at 10:00. We meet in the parlor. Study will be on Max Lucado's book: [Help Is Here](#). It is a study on the Holy Spirit. All women are invited to join the Sunday bible study with us!

## FBC TO BE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BY CBF!

First Baptist Church has been selected to receive the Mission Excellence Award at the **General Meeting of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship at the 2024 General Assembly in Greensboro, NC**. This prestigious award will be presented during the business session on Friday, June 21 at 9:30am. FBC's commitment to exemplifying one or more of CBF's Mission Distinctives has not gone unnoticed, and CBF believes that our dedication offers the wider Fellowship cause for celebration and models for replication.

CBF appreciates the missional work that our church is undertaking within the CBF Mission Contexts, particularly in addressing global poverty. It is evident that our church has been deeply engaged in this important work, and CBF wants to acknowledge the impact that our efforts are making in the lives of those affected by poverty.

Whether it is through supporting local initiatives, partnering with organizations working in impoverished areas, or raising awareness within our congregation, our commitment to this cause is truly commendable. CBF believes that it is essential to recognize and celebrate the missional work being done within our network of churches. Our dedication to addressing global poverty aligns with CBF's shared values, and they are grateful for the positive impact that our church is making in this area. They are honored recognize our church for its outstanding contributions to CBF's mission.

Pastor Christy will be attending the General Assembly in June and will bring home the award. Others are welcome to join her. You can talk to her about arrangements. More info will be forthcoming on a live stream for the rest of the FBC family to proudly watch from home!

## D& I COMMITTEE CORNER

On behalf of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, thank you to the many who attended the event on April 14 after church with the Sarwari family. The family was overwhelmed with the kindness shown by our church family, and truly enjoyed sharing their amazing journey of escape and perseverance from Afghanistan.

### D&I Observances for May

**May 1 – Beltane:** This Pagan and Wiccan festival honors and represents the peak time of Spring and the beginning of Summer. It is one of the four "high" observances for pagans in the Wheel of the Year. It is the holiday for which the May Day Pole originates.

Education: From a Christian viewpoint, pagans are generally characterized as those who participate in any religious ceremony, act, or practice that is not distinctly Christian. Correspondingly, Jews and Muslims also use the term pagans to describe those outside their religion. Others define the term paganism as any religion outside of Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, and Christianity; Whereas some argue that a pagan is anyone with no religion at all.

Pagan comes from the Latin word *paganus*, which means "country dweller"; Paganus can refer to polytheism (the worship of more than one god), such as in ancient Rome. In some circles, a pagan is also considered to be one who, for the most part, has no religion and indulges in worldly delights and material possessions. Another, more modern term is neo-paganism, which refers to some of the contemporary forms of paganism such as Wicca, Druidry, and Heathenism, which closely follows Norse mythology and practices.

**May 9 – Ascension Day:** This is precisely 40 days after Easter when Christians believe that Jesus ascended to heaven.

## MAY MISSION OFFERING SPOTLIGHT



In the month of May, we will be collecting monetary donations for a Disaster/Crisis Emergency Fund! By establishing this emergency fund, First Baptist Church will be able to react immediately with funds then next time there is a crisis. Examples of the kind of funding nest-egg we want to build are Help for Ukraine, Red Cross, or Hurricane Disaster Relief funds.

## MOVING FORWARD GROUP

The Moving Forward Group's next meeting is May 21 at 11:30 AM at Castiglia's Restaurant. If anyone who has lost a loved one would like to join, please contact Kathy P. Napier at 540-622-3758 or Ron Napier at 540-622-0159. Feel free to bring a friend if you like!

## CBF ENCOURAGER CHURCH UPDATE

Please continue to pray for Anna & LaCount and the work they do with the Eastern NC Poverty Network!

## BUDGET RECEIPTS

Month of February 2024

\$13,659

Designated: \$2,500

## VALLEY CHORALE CONCERT AT FBC



**Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 3:00pm**  
First Baptist Church  
14 W. 1st Street, Front Royal, VA

**Tickets:** Adults (21+) \$15 in advance at [thevalleychorale.org](http://thevalleychorale.org). \$17 at the door (cash, checks and major creditcards accepted). Youth (under 21) free

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE



We launched Preserving Our Future in October 2021. We are on our last year of this Campaign.

**Pledges: \$222,540**

**Money Received as of February: \$204,266**

Thank you to everyone who has given!

## Kids Corner

There will be Children's Sunday School on all Sundays in May at 10 AM in the Sanctuary.

On Sunday, May 19, all FBC Youth are invited to join us from 2-4 PM. for arcade games and fun at Fireball Arcade on Main Street!

# MAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

## OPENING/CLOSING

John Hensley / Robert Gavin

## SCRIPTURE READERS

May 5

Sue Rinker

May 19

Bill Long

May 12

John Hensley

May 26

Michael Williams

## OFFERTORY PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Brad Rinker

### OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

<http://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistFrontRoyal>

### OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSNMnR4Ewl\\_CA4MVP4q9UQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSNMnR4Ewl_CA4MVP4q9UQ)

### STAFF AND LAY LEADERS

*Rev. Dr. Christy McMillin-Goodwin, Pastor*

*Rev. Dennis Griffin, Associated Pastor*

*Rev. Michael Williams, Associated Pastor*

*Rev. Al Woods, Associated Pastor*

*John Hensley, Deacon Chairperson*

*Karen Joyner, Lay Chaplain Leader*

*Sue Rinker, Music Director/Pianist*

*Brad Rinker, Worship Leader*

*Heather Hughes, Administrative Assistant*

*Shelley Scott, Daycare Director*

*Revs. Anna & LaCount Anderson, CBF Field Personnel*

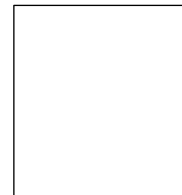
## LITTLE ANGELS DAYCARE



Fox's Pizza invited us to come by and make pizzas! This is the 3- and 4-year-old classes. They had a blast!!!



First Baptist Church  
 Fourteen West 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
 Front Royal, VA 22630-2636  
 CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# FBC CHURCH EVENTS

## MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1. FBC Dinner Together 5 P Wed. Dinner 530 P Choir Practice 6:15 P	2.	3.	4.
5. Sunday School 10A Worship 11 A Valley Chorale Concert 3P	6.	7. New Lay Chaplain Training 5 P	8. FBC Dinner Together 5 P Wed. Dinner 530 P Choir Practice 6:15 P	9.	10.	11.
12. Sunday School 10A Worship 11 A	13.	14.	15. FBC Dinner Together 5 P Wed. Dinner 530 P Choir Practice 6:15 P	16.	17.	18.
19. Sunday School 10 A Worship 11 A Board of Deacons 12 P FBC Youth @ Fireball Arcade 2-4 P	20.	21. Moving Forward 11:30 A @ Castiglia's Leadership Council 6 P Ministry Council 7 P	22. FBC Dinner Together 5 P Wed. Dinner 530 P Choir Practice 6:15 P	23. Pre-K Graduation 6:30 P	24.	25.
26. Sunday School 10 A Worship 11 A	27. <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	28.	29.	30.	31.	