



 OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST

"To be found faithful as God's People."

The First Family

FEBRUARY 2025

FROM YOUR PASTOR

"To Love and be Loved"

It is a wonderful thing to love and be loved! The Psalmist states in Psalm 86:15, "But you, O Lord, are a God full of love, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth." The love of God has been shed abroad in the heart of every saint of God. This gives us the capacity to love others and to be loved. I hope that you come into a great awareness of this matchless love that God has for you. The reality of it is quite transforming.

Though I was saved in 1975 at the age of twelve, I do not think I knew the great reality of this transforming love till February 17, 1980, when I rededicated my life to Jesus. It was at this point that I was overwhelmed by the love, mercy, and longsuffering of God for a rebellious, backslidden, child of God. My life has not been the same since that day. Just a year and a half later I was in Bible School preparing for the ministry. Just three years later I was marrying this outgoing, genuine, preacher kid, who has now been my wife for forty-two years. Five years from that remarkable day I was serving on staff of a local church and attending seminary and nine years from that life changing day I was serving as a pastor and have had this privilege for the past thirty-six years. Wow! What a journey the love of God has permitted me to be on. I hope you will take time to contemplate the great love that God has demonstrated toward you in this "Valentine" month.

Be in prayer for our team in Durango, Colorado, January 30-February 2. Chuck, Matt, and Andy will be examining ways our church can partner with a new church in an area that has little evangelical influence. We also have a team consisting of Matt, Andy, Brandon, and Danny, heading to Panama on February 26 to assist in a construction project to provide housing for the local missionary.

Bro. Brad

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello Church Family,

The youth group has not gotten to meet much this month due to the weather, but we are hopeful most of that is behind us! For our first meeting of the year, we talked about spiritual growth and I encouraged the students to make that a goal of theirs this year.

We are looking forward to a few exciting things ahead for the youth group. February 16th is our annual Valentine's Banquet. This event helps to lower the cost of summer church camp and other outings for our students. We will be having a meal catered by Cracker Barrel in the family life center at noon on that Sunday. Tickets will be on sale until February 8th and they are \$15 per ticket with a maximum of \$60 for families of 5 or more.

The youth committee has also planned a church-wide outing to Perfect North Slopes in Lawrenceburg, Indiana on February 22. This is open to all ages. If we have at least 15 people attend, we can get a group rate for \$100 per person. This includes both the lift ticket and ski/snowboard rentals. We plan to leave the church at 8 am. Please bring money for food and snacks if you plan to attend. For those that are less experienced, there is an hour-long ski school option available for an extra \$10 which you would do as soon as we arrived at Perfect North. Please sign up on the list in the welcome center by February 8th so we can secure your spot. Payments will be non-refundable after this date.

We will be attending church camp at Fuge Camps in Ridgecrest, North Carolina this summer on June 19-23. This camp is for students that have just finished 6th-12th grades. The students will have the opportunity to be a part of M-Fuge which is a missions-based camp where they will complete service projects and host outreach days in the community. The cost to attend is \$200 per student. The \$75 deposit to reserve your camper's spot is due February 8th. If you would be interested in chaperoning, please let me know- we need all the help we can get! Fuge Camps played a large role in my faith walk and call to ministry growing up and I am excited to be bringing the youth back here this year. Be in prayer that the Lord will place the calling to go to camp on the hearts and minds of the students and that they would really grow to love mission work.

Thank you for blessing me with your students,

Ross

VALENTINE BANQUET
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, NOON
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

\$15 per ticket

\$60 for family of 5 or more

Catered by Cracker Barrel

Please sign up to pay on the church website and choose which meat you would like. Meatloaf or Fried Chicken

Sign ups due by February 8



MUSIC AND MEDIA

WORSHIP IS A VERB!

Brrr...are you cold enough yet, church family?! January has now passed and February has arrived, bringing with it frigid temperatures. I don't know about you but I'm ready for the warm glow of the summer sun!

As we move further into this new year I want to take a moment and focus on our worship. Even though the temps have been frigid at times, I want to encourage you to not let your worship become frigid and cold. Worship, at its very core, is a *verb*. It can be defined as, "*showing reverence and adoration for.*" Shouldn't that be the goal of our corporate and private worship? I submit that it is!

Our worship must be intentional, passionate, and constant. We, as sons and daughters of The Most High King, have every reason to show our Lord and Savior the worship He deserves, so why not do it every day? David said in Psalm 119:164, "*Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous rules.*" He praised God 7 times a day! There are times we can't even do 20 minutes on a Sunday morning, right? Church, the worship we bring on a Sunday morning should be the *overflow* of the worship we have been doing throughout the week; it should be spilling out when we gather on the Lord's Day. We shouldn't be filling an empty cup when we show up on Sunday.

I have mentioned that one of my favorite quotes is, "*Trying to genuinely worship publicly without having had significant times of private worship is like having the dry heavens. You're trying to bring up something that isn't there.*" Let's try not to "heave" up worship that isn't there. Instead, let's worship in spirit and in truth so that we have an overflow that spills out over us in our day to day lives. Take the time this month to really work on your private worship. If we all worship individually, our time together on Sunday will be even more glorifying to God!

Our FBC Sanctuary Choir has started working on our Easter Cantata, *By His Stripes We Are Healed*. It's full of wonderful songs and narration that will help us understand the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. I can't wait to share this beautiful musical with you, church family! As always, the invitation to join the Choir is extended to everyone 7th grade and up!! No experience necessary — just a passion to sing praises to our Heavenly Father. We meet Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Carla G. Pennington Choral Suite right near the church offices. We hope you can join us!!

I am looking forward to what this month has in store!!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Bro. Chuck

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Hello Church Family,

Rooted Kids has such an exciting year ahead! Plans are in place and preparations are being made for not only fun activities, but also giving prayerful consideration to leading kids to a meaningful relationship with Christ.

We are already looking ahead to Crossings Kids Camp! As always, spots are extremely limited so make sure you get your deposit in as soon as possible to secure a space. You can go to the owentonfbc.com website and click on the summer camps tile to pay your \$75 deposit(s) which are due February 26th. The remaining \$125 will be due two weeks prior to camp. Camp dates are July 19-22nd, 2025 for kids entering grades 3-6. More information can be found on the Crossings website at gocrossings.org/parents or feel free to ask me any time.

On Wednesday, February 12th at 6:30pm the kids will be celebrating the month of love with a "Jesus Loves Us Party." We will celebrate with all things love, learning about how much Jesus loves us, but also participating in a mission project that will remind others how much Jesus loves them! Join us every Wednesday night from 6:30-7:30. This is such a special time with special kids who have a true heart for others. I love learning about missions alongside them and hearing how they are already being taught at home how to love others well!

As always, there's never a bad time to jump in to volunteering in the Kids Ministry. Whatever your passion, talent or interest I promise there is a place for you. I firmly believe that the whole body of Christ benefits when we are walking hand in hand. You will see how awesome these kids are and the kids will feel loved by the entire family of God when they see new faces investing in them. Whether you are interested in observing for a while, jumping into a one-time event or may be interested in something a little more involved, don't hesitate to reach out! I'd love to chat!

Thank you, a million times over, to all the volunteers who have been faithfully serving for years! They are the backbone of the kids ministry and my dear friends! If you see one of these precious ones, make sure you stop and say thank you to them as well! I dearly love you church and am just overwhelmingly grateful and humbled to be able to serve alongside you! Please pray for myself and the kids team as we continue to prayfully plan and lead the kids in the coming months!

Peace and joy,

Kiley





February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>“And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart” (Deuteronomy 6:5).</p>						1
2 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Evening Service 7:30 p.m. Deacons	3 6:00 p.m. Volleyball	4	5 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 5:30 p.m. Trustees 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service/Business Meeting 6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth 6:30 Mission Friends 7:00 p.m. Choir	6	7	8
9 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School Deadline to sign up for KBC Children’s Choir	10 6:00 p.m. Volleyball	11	12 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service 6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth 6:30 p.m. Mission Kids/Jesus Loves Us Party 7:00 p.m. Choir	13	14	15
16 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School Noon Valentine Luncheon	17 6:00 p.m. Volleyball	18	19 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service 6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth 6:30 p.m. Mission Kids 7:00 p.m. Choir	20	21	22 Perfect North
23 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School 4:00 p.m. Outreach 6:30 p.m. Evening Service CAMP DEPOSITS DUE	24 6:00 p.m. Volleyball	25 Meeting the Needs 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	26 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 6:00 p.m. Family Night 6:45 p.m. Activities 7:00 p.m. Choir	28 <div style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>February 26-March 7</p> <p>Jaque Panama Mission Trip</p> </div>		

february

BIRTHDAYS

<u>2/1</u> Mallory Craigmyle Joyce Utterback	<u>2/12</u> Dennis Miller Adam Patterson	<u>2/20</u> Andrea Perkins Ammon
<u>2/2</u> Jonathan Locker	Jessica Treece Brax Ward	<u>2/21</u> Kyle Riddle
<u>2/3</u> Kaleb Epperson Adam Green Becky Shryock Jimmy Sutherland	<u>2/13</u> Bobby Cull, Jr. Chuck Gill Conner Sharp	<u>2/22</u> Tim Craigmyle Linda Osborne Ryan Perkins
<u>2/5</u> Don Allnutt, Jr.	<u>2/15</u> Bruce Kingkade Jodie Ransdell	<u>2/24</u> Kevin Welsh
<u>2/6</u> Broox Ward	<u>2/16</u> Blake Duncan Megan Hearn	<u>2/25</u> Debbie Parker
<u>2/7</u> Krissy Locker	<u>2/18</u> Crystal Lilly Beverly Marcum Carol Wooten	<u>2/26</u> Waylon Locker Ty Smith
<u>2/9</u> Dave Stowe Khloe Welsh	<u>2/19</u> Jenny Cobb Donna Gregory Megan Harris Danielle Stephens	<u>2/28</u> Haisley Cammack Bradley Rose Zayden Rose Ronnie Wooten
<u>2/10</u> Luke Hanson		<u>2/29</u> Chip Colee Kendall Lilly
<u>2/11</u> Kelly Gamble		

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

Children's Church

2/2: Older: Gail Forsee
Younger: Andi and Jared
2/9: Older: Diane Wooten
Younger: Karen and Emma
2/16: Older: Kelsey and Heidi
Younger: Kiley and Emma
2/23: Older: Kiley and Danielle
Younger: Tonya and Emma

Memorials

Benetta Burchett– Shirley Traylor, Patty Greene, Donna McDonald, Phyllis Malcomb
James Sutherland– Donna McDonald

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

BRAD BANKS — PASTOR
CHUCK HARRIS — WORSHIP & MEDIA PASTOR
YOUTH PASTOR — ROSS FORD
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY—KILEY BLAIR
SUSAN STOWE — MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Return Service Requested

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