

FIRST THOUGHTS

The vote is not in just yet, but I am confident it will be good.

The time has passed so quickly. It seems like just a few months ago I began talking with Bro. James about joining the staff of FBC Rayville. I knew he would be used of God and I knew he had as has wonderful gifts. I did not realize how much he would be used across the board in all age groups of FBC. I made him promise me at least three years and he has fulfilled those three years magnificently. He came on staff and God has used him. I cannot overstate how much I have enjoyed our ministerial partnership and friendship.

Some years before that, I cannot remember exactly how many, on a Sunday morning Kirstyn came forward during the invitation and told me she was called to ministry. I will never forget that day. It is a special moment when one comes to the understanding that God has called him or her out for something special. What I did not know at the time was that she would end up marrying James. Since that day, she has served magnificently as well. Kirstyn exudes kindness and compassion and has ministered to many during her time here.

Though I have enjoyed these years, I have always known James is called to pastor a local church. So, I am thankful God led a committee to James so that he and Kirstyn could answer the call of God on their lives. I have no doubt James will be a great pastor and Kirstyn will be a wonderful pastor's wife. I am thankful the church is close by. Our relationship will not be the same; instead of pastor and student minister, it will be pastor and pastor. The conversations will be different; better even. What a joy it will be to hear all the ways God stretches and grows James and Kirstyn and to rejoice with them in all God does through them and for them.

I love Bro. James and Mrs. Kirsten. I will forever be grateful for their ministry at FBC Rayville.

Let me also say "Thank you" to Mrs. Kathy Rushing. Mrs. Kathy is stepping down from her position in the office for a better position, taking care of grand babies! Mrs. Kathy has served the Lord in a great way as she has served you and me. She has never hesitated to do anything asked of her and she always tried to keep us on task; tried. But more, she has been a great encourager

and friend. I will never forget and will always be grateful for her encouragement on one especially hard day. I was about to conduct a funeral and I was having a particularly hard time. Mrs. Kathy was very sensitive to the situation. She got up for her desk, came and hugged me like a mother and as I cried on her shoulder, she said, "Come on now, it's going to be ok." Just a small gesture, but one I desperately needed.

Mrs. Kathy I pray God blesses you in magnificent ways for your selfless service in His Kingdom. I thank Him for you and for our time together. I love you and FBC Rayville loves you.

**"The Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace."
Numbers 6:24-26**

Dr. EW

iWord

I love FBC Rayville! I will forever be grateful for the investment you have had in Kirstyn's and my life. As we approach this time of transition, it is bittersweet. Kirstyn and I have felt the Lord calling us to a different ministry and we are beyond excited about what the Lord is doing and will do! However, I am saddened by the fact that we have to leave you! I understand what Paul meant when he said to the church at Thessalonica, "So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us." I am saddened because I didn't just share the Word with you but my very life! We will always love this place. I hope our students know how much we love them! I think that's the hardest part. Every time I think about them and our time with them I get tears in my eyes because we love them. However, I know the Lord has great plans for our students and Refuge student ministry! Next week, June 1, we will have our summer kickoff! We will have canes, worship and then will have some fun games after! Be sure to spread the word and I hope to see you there!

James

IGNITE NEWS

Vacation Bible School is Here!

VBS will be June 6-10 from 8:30 - 12:00. We are expecting around 130 children from Pre-K 3 - 6th Grade to participate this year. We will be focusing on Joshua 23:14, *The Lord Your God has kept all of the good promises he gave you. Every one of them has come true. Not one has failed to come true. And you know that with all your heart and soul.* God is faithful and He has promised to provide all we need if we will place our trust in Him. I hope and pray that all the children that attend VBS this year will understand how much God loves them and how faithful God is. Please pray for the children and teachers as we prepare for this event. During VBS children will encounter Christ in large group worship, small group bible study, craftivities, games, and fun snacks that reinforce the themes for each day. Our 5th and 6th grade students will get to take a hands on approach to missions as they build and operate a Lemonade Stand to raise money for The Walter Project. The Walter Project works to bring safe, clean water to people in Sub-Saharan Africa. Please help us spread the word to any children you know that may be interested in attending. We also covet your prayers over the next couple of weeks.

In Christ,
Tim



VBS FAMILY NIGHT Sunday, June 12th, 6:00pm

Join us as the children present a musical drama in the Sanctuary and then gather with us in the Family Life Center for a meal.

SECOND HELPINGS
Community Outreach Meal Ministry
Saturday, June 11th, Family Life Center
8:00am Prep/Cook
9:00am Prep Food Boxes
10:00am Begin Deliveries

FIRST NOTES

The Lord reigns, He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure. Psalm 93:1

There are so many things in this life that can discourage us. Just turn on the TV, look online, or talk to your neighbor, there always seems to be major tragedies occurring all around us. At every turn we witness the affects of sin and living in a fallen world, and we know that the enemy is alive and well. We may sometimes wonder what God is waiting on. But let us not forget that God is still on His throne. He is the sovereign Lord of all and nothing has escaped His attention or is beyond His reach. Our God sees all, knows all, and sustains all. His power is limitless. He is a just God. His provision is perfect, and His unfailing love endures forever. So in the midst of this chaotic life and this crazy world we live in trust God's plan and let your light shine brightly for Him and trust the results to Him, which is not always easy to do. His call to us is simply to keep our eyes fixed on Him and live out our faith boldly to those around us.

In closing, I would like to wish well and give a word of thanks to our Associate Pastor/Youth Minister, James Doughty and his wife Kirstyn for all of their hard work and dedication to our great God and to this church. What a joy it was serving alongside of them. I believe that God will continue to use them to accomplish great things for His kingdom. Indeed, they will be missed. Even so, I believe God will provide another servant of His who will take up the torch and be impactful for the kingdom of God here in this community. I can't wait to see what God has in store.

Our Only Hope: A Musical Prayer for America **June 26th at 6:00pm**

Also don't forget to mark your calendars and set your smart phone reminders for our celebration of God and Country on **June 26th** during our evening service. Our Sanctuary Choir will be presenting a Patriotic musical titled, ***Our Only Hope: A Musical Prayer for America***. Come and join us as thank God for the blessings of America, and may we also call on God to turn this nation back to Him. And after the service we will have some great food and fellowship. You don't want to miss this!

Raymond

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

8:30am Worship Service
 9:45am Sunday School
 10:45am Worship Service
 5:00pm Youth - Growth Group
 6:00pm Evening Worship
 6:00pm Joy Explosion

MONDAY

1:30pm Helping Hands Ministry

TUESDAY

8:00am-12Noon Care & Share

WEDNESDAY

4:00pm "Through the Bible" Study
 5:00pm Supper
 5:20pm Praise Team
 5:30pm .. "Listening for God":An informal discussion
 5:30pm "The Case for Christ" Study
 5:30pm Men's Study-"Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives" by Charles Swindoll

6:00pm IGNITE-Children's Activities
 6:15pm REFUGE-Student Worship
 6:30pm Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY

6:00am Men's Prayer
 9:30am Ladies' Prayer Group
 5:30pm Richland Celebrate Recovery

FRIDAY

8:00am-12Noon Care & Share

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Care & Share Thrift Store **1st Saturday**
 8:00am-12Noon 1214 Rosa St., Rayville, LA
Second Helpings **2nd Saturday**
 8am-Set-Up/Cook 9am-Prep Food Boxes 10am-Deliver
Men's Prayer Breakfast **3rd Sunday**
 7:00am Family Life Center
Wednesday Night Supper **Every Wednesday**
 5:00pm Family Life Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, June 4th
 8:00am-12 Noon Care & Share Thrift Store
Monday-Friday, June 6th-10th
 8:30am-11:30am Vacation Bible School
Wednesday, June 8th
 5:30pm New Men's Bible Study begins:
Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives by Charles Swindoll
Thursday, June 9th
 8:30pm Celebrate Recovery Leadership Cmte Mtg
Saturday, June 11th
 8:00am-10:00am Second Helpings
Sunday, June 12th
 4:30pm Deacons' Meeting
 6:00pm VBS Family Night/Musical Presentation followed by a hamburger meal in the gym. Y'all come!
Sunday, June 19th **HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**
 7:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast
 7:00pm Business Meeting
Sunday, June 26th
 8:30am & 10:45am Lord's Supper
 6:00pm Our Only Hope: A Musical Prayer for America followed by a church-wide fellowship.



Issue #6

The next issue of the First Ray will be published June 29, 2016.



SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2016

First Baptist Church
 PO Box 810
 Rayville, LA 71269-0810
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 U.S. POSTAGE
 P A I D
 Permit No. 89
 Rayville, LA
 72169

FBC STAFF

Dr. Eddie Wren
Pastor

James Doughty
Associate Pastor
Minister to Youth

Raymond Perrin, Jr.
Minister of Music

Tim Allen
Minister to Children

Beth Livingston
Ministry Assistants

Michael Anderson
 Annie Rucker
Custodians

For more information about our church please call or visit our website at www.FBCRayville.org
Office 318-728-3231



We extend Christian love and sympathy to the family of Mr. David Odom on his passing,
 and
 the family of Bro. Joe Senn on his passing,
 and
 the family of Mrs. Phyllis Gibson on her passing.

DEACONS' MEETING
 Sunday, June 12th, 4:30pm

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
 Sunday, June 19th, 7:00am

BUSINESS MEETING
 Sunday, June 19th, 7:00pm
 Immediately following PM Service

First Ray

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN

Would you rather be a person of "significance" or a person of "prominence?" Too often we forget that success in God's kingdom and in his church depends upon faithful people the public rarely knows. The Word of God has some great examples of that truth! Join us as we learn together!

Name of Study: Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives (in the Bible), by Charles Swindoll

Begins: Wednesday, June 8
 Place: Conference Room in church office area
 Time: 5:30-6:30 PM each Wednesday
 Leaders: Johnny Hoychick and Jerome Vasocu

BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE IN CHURCH OFFICE NOW.
 Cost for book is \$12 (voluntary).

Online Giving is now available!

Go to FBC Rayville's website at www.fbcrayville.org and click on the GIVE button. After creating an account, you're able to give a donation or schedule a series of donations directly from your checking account or by using your debit or credit card.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Jenny Branch | | 17 Walker Bell |
| Timmie Ray Thames | | Wayne Flattmann |
| 2 Noah Wroten | | 18 Jennifer Boles |
| Dustin Morris | | Crystal Bennett |
| Forrest Tuckett | | Kellie Prine |
| Lance Prine | 8 Carla Walters | 20 Emily Abraham |
| Christie Herrington | Lacey Morris | Rhett Gable |
| 3 Tyler Heath | 10 Kathie Lambert | 21 Gloria Gallman |
| Todd Hough | Kade Gibson | Cody Clark |
| Fred Lambert | Frank Greer | Ralph Odom |
| 4 Tripp Thomason | 11 Joe Bruyninckx | 22 Brennan Cherene |
| Patrick Morris | 12 Dan Branch | 23 Janet Brakefield |
| 5 Amanda Wilhite | 13 Caroline Johnston | Shelia McDonald |
| 6 Abigail Barras | Billy Joe Temple | 24 Chris Dickens |
| Katie Collins | 14 Heather Davis | Sharon Blaylock |
| Beth Lewis | Naziyah Ramsey | Sharon Feltenberger |
| Ernest Greer | Ashley Goodwin | 25 Christian Mitchell |
| 7 Clay Corley | 15 Jacklyn Branch | 26 Holt Brakefield |
| 8 Bradford Doughty | 17 Kim Mills | Jennifer Tutt |
| Mandi Hollis | Rayelene McNaughton | Renee Crawford |