

#### MARCH 2020 · VOLUME 16 · ISSUE 7

March is the month of **Spring Break** and Spring Break means Converge.

Converge is a fun filled weekend with family and friends that brings all ages of the church family together to enjoy worship, fellowship, service and learning.

Jimmy Dorrell, the co-founder and President of Mission Waco-Mission World, will be our guest speaker and will offer insights into his ministry and work among the poor.

Jimmy and his wife, Janet, offer an incarnational presence as they live and share their lives among the poor, bringing good news through relationships and empowerment opportunities. I pray that we will be encouraged and challenged in our lives and ministries.

Converge is March 13-15 and you can register online at fbcnorman.org.

Spring Break also offers the reminder that summer is near. As your family makes plans for this summer, please get a copy of the **2020 Summer Highlights for Kids** brochure. It's not too early to register and mark your calendar for FISH Camps, SMAK, Kid's Week (VBS), Summerscope, and all the other camps and opportunities for your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors this summer.

As such, it is also not too early to be thinking about ways you can be involved in serving and helping our children and youth this summer.

Gay and I have already signed up for Falls Creek to cook (Gay) and keep the kitchen clean (Wade). Contact Suzette and Clint for ways you can get involved. And, be sure to sign up when the call for volunteers and sponsors comes.

March 2020 is also the heart of the Lenten season. Lent is an unfamiliar season for many, but simply refers to the time of preparation for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. The Norman

Lenten Lunch



series is one way we prepare for Easter and reflects our recognition and participation in the Body of Christ in Norman. Yes, we have our differences in theology and practice, but at the Cross of Christ, we gather together to worship our Lord Jesus.

We will host the Lenten service on Wednesday, March 11. Rev. Terry Wilson, pastor of the Everlasting Life Baptist Church, will be our guest pastor. Let us be gracious hosts as we welcome our neighbors to our church. And, let us be faithful to attend as other churches host the Lenten services.

Our weekly preparation for Easter Sunday continues with the *Jesus 20/20* worship series. Over these next weeks we will see Jesus with a towel, on the cross, and at the tomb. Let us come expectantly to worship each Sunday as we offer our adoration to God and make ourselves available to the saving power of God.

Sunday, March 29, will be a significant day in the life of our church as we celebrate the retirement of Rev. Roy Joe Ham. Roy Joe and Lydia have served our church faithfully for the last 12 years and their impact on our lives will continue in many ways. They will be missed!

Roy Joe will preach on the March 29 and we will gather for a lunch fellowship immediately afterwards. We encourage each of you to bring your cards and notes of appreciation and blessing for the Hams as they move to be near their children and grandchildren and as Roy Joe initiates a new disaster relief ministry to serve the Lord and others through *The Carpenter's Hope*.

I look forward to this season of life and ministry with you. The Lord is doing a new work among us. Let us respond in faith. Let us rejoice!



#### WORSHIP SERIES

MARCH 1 SEEING JESUS ON THE MOUNTAINSIDE

> **MARCH 8** SEEING JESUS WITH A TOWEL

MARCH 15 JIMMY DORRELL, PULPIT GUEST

MARCH 22 SEEING JESUS ON THE CROSS

MARCH 29 Roy Joe Ham, Pulpit Guest

### Looking back on 12 years of FBC ministry

Time is running short as I close out my ministry among you at the end of March. Thank you to so very many who have indicated deep appreciation of my ministry here over the past 12 years. After giving all I had to give, and at times more, I look back to see the vast ways that God has worked among you in our time together.

For those who have opened your heart and allowed Lydia and I to minister to you directly in times of illness, death of loved ones, or just going through tough times, know that we do not take those times or situations for granted. It is rare to have so many of you share your life experiences the way you have with us and for that, we have been blessed.

For your support and encouragement for and during the many projects that God has allowed us to accomplish together, thank you! Do you realize that God allowed us to work on 18-plus major projects in these 12 years?

Hands for Harvey: Who knew 2 ½ years ago what this team would do and how much you have come to mean to us? We have worked really hard together,



(sometimes maybe more than you would have liked to), we have built a community here as well in Refugio, you have blessed so many and for many of you God has done some amazing things in your lives. We have been blessed to be a part of it.

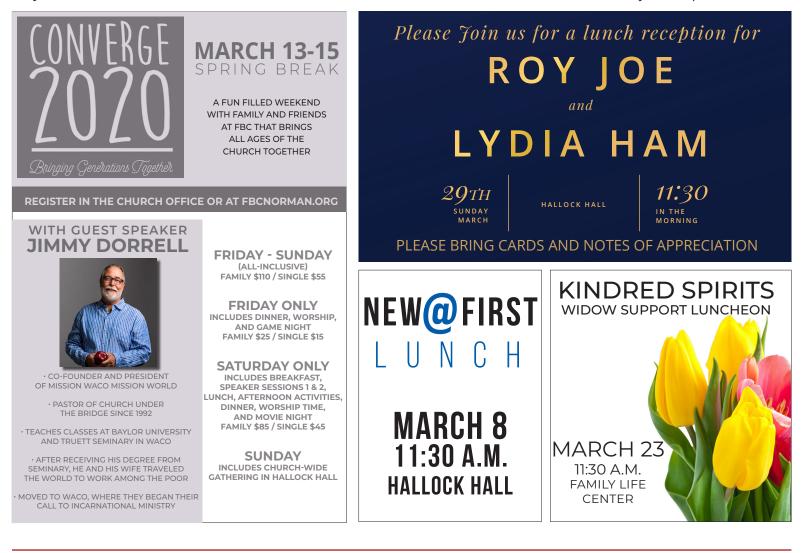
For those who worked with me on committee after committee, the long meetings and difficult decisions we had to make, thank you!

As for us, we have sold our home

and will be moving to McKinney, Texas, and continue to work on the creation of The Carpenter's Hope, dedicated to long term disaster recovery. Of course, we will be able to enjoy our daughters and their families a little more often.

Pray for us as we make this major transition in our life and that God will bless this new call to serve, with volunteers to join in the work of recovery, and finances to support the work.

Church family, please know how much we love you and appreciate you. You have created a spot in our lives to last a lifetime. As we go, please remember that God still has great and mighty things to do right here in this place as well as through you in Norman, and to the uttermost parts of the world. Continually seek the face of God, be willing to listen to His call, and be obedient in your response.



# LOVING PEOPLE

### **FBC Missions Spotlight**

Did you know that 11.5 percent of everything given to the general ministry plan of FBC Norman is used for Missions? Here's where your 11.5 percent goes:

• .5 percent to Baptist World Alliance

• 1percent to Union Baptist Association

• 5 percent to our denominational partners (Southern Baptist Convention, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Cooperating Baptist Fellowship of Oklahoma)

• .5 percent is set aside for members and others affiliated with FBC Norman to use to go on Mission Trips.

• 4.5 percent funds specific FBC Missions including: the Community Minister's salary, our Mission House (\$350/month), Logistics/Support Account – used by ministers for expenses related to mission activities (\$500/month), and the remainder is divided between our community ministry (46 percent) and other Mission Partners (54 percent).

Our other Mission Partners vary from year-to-year but in the past have included: Reaching Souls International, Elam Ministries, Uttermost Sports, Pioneer Bible Translators, Jeff Jimerson (NAMB), Talsi Christian School, Friendship International, Hands for Harvey, and more.

Learn more about your FBC Missions each month in our FBC Missions Spotlight!

### MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 3

WMU 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Family Life Center

#### MARCH 4

LENTEN SERVICE Noon-1:00 p.m. First Presbyterian Church

MARCH 6 LAUREN DAIGLE CONCERT 5:00-11:30 p.m. Chesapeake Energy Arena

MARCH 8 NEW AT FIRST LUNCH Following Worship Hallock Hall

MARCH 11 LENTEN SERVICE Noon-1:00 p.m. First Baptist Church

MARCH 13-15 CONVERGE WEEKEND

#### **MARCH 18**

LENTEN SERVICE Noon-1:00 p.m. First Christian Church

#### **MARCH 23**

KINDRED SPIRITS LUNCH 11:30 a.m. Family Life Center

#### **MARCH 25**

LENTEN SERVICE Noon-1:00 p.m. McFarlin United Methodist

#### **MARCH 29**

ROY JOE HAM RETIREMENT LUNCHEON Following Worship Hallock Hall



# **TEACHING THE WORD**

## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

March 1: Darline Burris, Alicia Danner, Mary Hedrick, Peyton Smith March 2: Peyton Beery, Jim Harp, Deborah Linn, Jerry McConnel March 3: Fred Queen, Janet Schaffner March 4: Bart Wharton March 5: Brady Newville March 6: Chesca Baily, Lydia Ham, Allison Lassetter, Brooke Redwine, Lauren Rigney March 7: Joe Provine, Dick Weaver March 8: Suzette Mason, Addison Mullinax, Emerson Mullinax, Trish Rigney, Pam Deering March 10: Sybil Foster March 11: Harold Brooks, Ray Brown, Vickie Riggs, Ellen Simpson March 12: Wallace Conerly March 13: Don Allen, Jeff Harp March 14: Dean Brown, Meg Newville, James Smiley, Janann Yeager March 15: Steve Sewell March 16: Josie Armstrong, Patricia Garner, Kay Pirtle

March 17: Jennifer Bowles, James Callison, Jordan Heatly, Janette Marks March 18: Sarah Pool, Rebecca Vanderburg, Dan Wade March 20: Marilyn Bedwell March 21: Philip Redwine March 22: Sonya Ketner, Taylor Lovell, Jim Spearman, Ellen Wood March 23: Bobby Barnard, Kathy Greb, Elizabeth Windes March 24: David James, Phillip Reed, Madeline Smith, Pat Wilson March 25: Omeda Lawson March 26: Larry Varner March 27: Palla Henderson, Pati Huffman, Fran Sexton March 28: Dana Heatly March 29: Tim Martin, Gynonne Smith, Jenny Storm, Andrea Womack March 30: Robb Royse

# **SYMPATHIES**

The First Baptist Church family wishes to extend sympathies to:

The Family & Friends of Lois Merritt at her passing

Judy Estes & Family at the passing of her uncle, Merle Crouse

Terry Taylor at the passing of his wife, Laurie Taylor

Kate, Wayne, Nicole, Philip, Colleen Parrish at the passing of their brother and uncle, Tom Foster Jenny Roby at the passing of her grandfather,

**LIVING THE** JOURNEY

Johnny Roby Al Bass at the passing of his uncle, Earl

Holtschneider Evelyn Smith at the passing of her father

Wanda and Sarah Blake at the passing of their son and father

Jeff & Sandy Dismukes at the passing of his mother, Faye Dismukes

Mendi Dawley at the passing of her cousin, Kailah Muessig



# HANDS FOR HARVEY

**LEADERSHIP TEAM** is in the very early stages of reforming a lay-led disaster recovery team. It will be renamed with a larger focus. In the process they have set a time for one more trip to Refugio to be the Hands for Harvey.

#### SAVE THE DATE October 25 – October 31

AT FIRST GLANCE (USPS 008-741) is published monthly by the First Baptist Church, 211 W. Comanche St., Norman, OK (405)321-1753. Periodical postage paid at Norman, OK. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AT FIRST GLANCE, 211 W. Comanche, Norman, OK 73069-5698