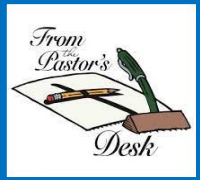




News From The Corner **The First Baptist Church of Derry**

**The Church in the Heart of Derry
With A Heart for Derry**

February-March 2026



We will soon introduce a new praise song during worship called “His Mercy Is More”. Those of us who attended the Basics Conference know it. The chorus refrain is: “Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.”

Our sins are many - or since I don't know your's I should say - my sins are many! I confessed last Sunday to wasting most of my birthday afternoon looking at worthless images for hours on the Web. I felt trapped that day. It's interesting the words “net” and “web” describe the online world. It is addictive and many are caught in it. We have to be careful. I feel for parents trying to keep teens out of this alluring, but very dangerous world.

But back to sin and God's mercy - should I assess my own spiritual life by my bad behavior on that one day? People often do that. They fall into some sin and get down about themselves and are ready to give up spiritually. If we confess our sin God forgives it because Jesus paid the price for it already. We are freely offered forgiveness on that basis, so we do not need to keep beating ourselves up over it. Amen!

But do we go right back to sinning then? No, we do not. That sounds crazy, yet more than a few people think this way. So many that Paul in the New Testament, had to address this. God's grace is amazing, he said. But should we sin more so that He can show us more of that grace? No! The Greek word he used means, “Never” or “No way!!” That would not be showing appreciation for Jesus' suffering and death, and would denigrate His love and mercy. So we don't hold onto guilt over one sin, but we also don't keep on sinning. If we do we need to talk with the Lord.

Our spiritual state is really seen best when we look at it over time, not when we look at a specific sin on one day. In assessing our walk with the Lord, our sanctification, or Christ-likeness it's better to consider - “Where am I now vs where I was a year ago? 2 years ago?” That's where its important to see improvement.

Are we trusting the Lord more? Are we more into the Bible and Christian media? Are we more involved in fellowship or service at church? Have we grown in wisdom? Rarely are strong Christ-followers made in one instantaneous, breakthrough moment. They are formed over years, and one bad day is just one day.

Most of us are trying to know the Lord better. To “see Him more clearly, love Him more dearly, follow Him more nearly - day by day”, as we sang in the '60s. To assess how that is going has to be looked at over time. If growth is there, give thanks, be encouraged and keep on keeping on. If it's not then you'll need to confess that, and talk with someone else about helping you make progress.

In a similar way we should not wake up one morning feeling “down” and think, “The Lord isn't with me”. That would be a huge mistake. Or if we ask for something in prayer and we don't get it right away we shouldn't assume we've been abandoned, or that God is absent or uncaring. That's just not true. He is always with us. He's pledged that. Pray for more faith to hold onto that, and His other promises in the Bible.

Again, look back over time and consider how He has walked with you, helped you and answered your prayers. Pray and ask the Lord to bring back memories of those times. “*Count your blessings*”. You'll see He has.



Pastor Malcolm

What's Happening at FBC...



Sunday, February 15 - Valentine's Day Luncheon.

This Sunday stay after worship for a Valentine's Day luncheon. This is a potluck style meal, so please plan to bring something to share. The FBC Outreach team is providing the drinks and desserts. This is always a great time to share in love and fellowship. All are invited so please plan to attend.

Sunday March 1 - Mission Moment,

Peter/Nora Kalkman, American Baptist missionaries from Europe will share. Pastor will preach.

Saturday, March 21 @ 6:00 p.m. -

Our annual Business Meeting will be Saturday March 21 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall. We will approve candidates for positions as Deacon, Trustee, Christian Education and Outreach. See the Church Moderator, Karen Tenhagen, if you have any questions.



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Sunday mornings at 9am. All are welcome to join.

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY - Study starts at 7pm, Join us at 6:15 for supper and fellowship. All are welcome. See Chris Miller with any questions.

LADIES' WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - All Women are invited to attend each Wed morning 10-11:30 in the fellowship hall. We'd be delighted to have you join us. Contact Gail at 603 553-0433 with any questions.

THURSDAY VIDEO BIBLE STUDY - This study meets Thursdays at 1:00 in Fellowship Hall and is open to everyone. We view DVDs that have great information and insight into the Bible. Please join us if you are able.

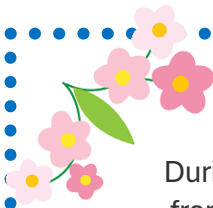
IGNITE THE FIRE - Friday nights at 6:30 - meets in Fellowship Hall. Led by Alpha Kanu. All are welcome.

Message from our Trustees...

Please remember we still need to meet our obligations for bills (snow removal, heat, electric, payroll, insurances, etc.)

We have seen a continual shortfall since September which could impact our ability to attract a new pastor. Feel free to mail your tithe/or drop off to the office whenever you are not able to come to services. Thank you for your continued support of the ministries here at First Baptist of Derry.





OLD FRIENDS

During the holiday season we received notes from friends we would like to share:

Dear Members of FBC Derry,
 I miss all of you in FBC Derry, as I and my family had a wonderful time when we were there.
 I and my family hope all is going well with all of you. We pray for you all the time and miss everyone.
 Thank you so much for the cards and kind words.
 May God bless you as the Body of Christ, and individually, all your days.
 Peace and grace,
Rev. Jim Harrington and family.

Hi Ladies,
 Thank you for your card. Sorry this is late.
 I have good news. I have no sign of diabetes. The doctor at the Veterans Hospital thinks its a real miracle because she has never seen it happen before. I still have arthritis. As you see it has really messed up my writing. I have it in every joint in my body.
 Give my love and blessing to everyone.
Beverly Ford



Thank you to those who came out to hear Dan Peront from Lukiwe Family Services in S.Africa last Thursday. On March 1 we will hear a Mission Moment presentation by Peter and Nora Kalkman who have been American Baptist missionaries in Europe for many years. I love these international mission presentations because they show us what "the Lord of all the earth" is doing across the earth.

Matthew Willette needs prayer in regard to his call to go to South Africa. The team he worked with last Fall recommended him highly and invited him to join them full time but they are now uncertain about his fit with them. This came up just a few days before he spoke here, and was upsetting. That was why he was careful not to ask for money to go there when he spoke to us.

It is your money which goes to support Missions work so you should know that we faithfully get Thank You notes from most of those we support quarterly. A few, from the larger mission groups, are just receipts, but many are hand-written with updates on how things are going.

Pastor Willis from Kenya reported his team is almost finished building a boy's dormitory at his orphanage. Pastor Renaud from the Haitian Baptist Church in Manchester thanked us and said that as an immigrant church they still face many challenges. Birthright, CAM, New Life Home, and Camp Sentinel all sent Thank You notes.

The Director of Helping Hands Outreach Ministries (Manchester), Larry Nice, announced he is retiring. They are looking for a ministry leader with a heart for homeless men trying to turn their lives around. Around 30 men live in their 2 facilities in downtown Manchester.



Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday
 March 8

Turn your clocks ahead one hour



February 22 - Sing and Practice

February 25 - 7:00 Practice

March 1 - Practice

March 8 - Sing and Practice

March 15 - Practice

March 22 - Sing and Practice

March 25 - 7:00 Practice

March 29 - Practice



New members are always welcome to join!!!!



What's New to Watch?

"**The First Hymn**" will be in theaters in March. It's about a previously unknown ancient hymn that was discovered on a papyrus in Egypt and turned into a modern praise chorus. Chris Tomlin is in it.

There's a new film available on YouTube called "**Daniel - The Movie**", about the courage of the Biblical character Daniel. "When kingdoms fall, the Word remains" is the sub-title.

There's another free show available on YouTube called "**The Promised Land**". It's a comedy but doesn't treat the Scriptures lightly, and contains good faith lessons.

There is a channel on YouTube called Monastery which lists and reviews upcoming Christian media. I found it helpful and informative.

We need someone who is more in touch with contemporary music and media to write this column in the future. Volunteers?



We've been blessed with several visitors in 2025. We want them all to feel welcome. Here are some tips on how to do that. These were created by our own church 20 yrs ago.

Six Steps Towards a Friendly First Baptist Church

1. Please park towards the back and sit towards the front.

We naturally tend to park towards the front and sit towards the back. Yet for the convenience of newcomers, we want to encourage you to leave the parking spaces nearest the church building open, but please sit towards the front.

2. Make a regular habit of meeting someone you do not know.

The only way that we can insure newcomers feel welcome is if each of us takes the initiative to meet people. Often we are hesitant to greet people because we are unsure if they are new to the church. Please do not let that stop you. Introduce yourself and then ask questions to get to know them.

3. If you forget someone's name, don't be hesitant to ask them.

One of the stumbling blocks that keep us from building relationships is that we think that people will be offended because we have forgotten their names. Yet we all know how easily it is to forget people's names—even two minutes after they have introduced themselves! If you see some people you have met before, but have forgotten their name, don't be afraid to say, "I'm sorry, but I forgot your name." It is far better to have people think that you are friendly and have a poor memory than for people to think you have a great memory but are simply unfriendly!

4. Offer to help newcomers find their way.

Though we are familiar with our building, newcomers are not. If you see someone who looks lost, take the initiative to offer assistance.

5. After the service, invite newcomers to coffee time in fellowship hall.

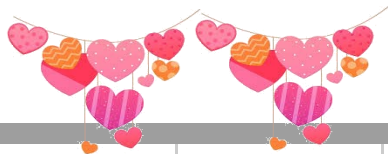
After the service, we have a time of fellowship downstairs. Invite them to come for coffee, and then take some time to talk with them.

6. Would you be willing to invite a newcomer to some event in our church's life?

When people attend a church, what are they looking for more than anything are friends. It means so much to people when someone takes the time to get to know them. Our church offers many events to give you the opportunity to reach out to others.




We need your help! Incorporating new people into the life of the church is a big task—far bigger than our pastor or boards can do alone. If each of us takes the time to do little things such as meeting people, the corporate effect will be far reaching. We hope that these 6 suggestions will help us make First Baptist Church a friendly Church.





February 2026





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	2 	3 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	4 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	5 pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	6 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	7
8 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	9	10 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	11 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, 6pm Trustees Mtg 7:15 Music Mtg.	12 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	13 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	14 
15 9am Adult Bible 10am Worship Service Valentines Dinners	16	17 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	18 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	19 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	20 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	21
22 9am Adult Bible 10am Worship Service Farewll to Loraine Butler	23 	24 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	25 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	26 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	27 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	28



MARCH 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am Adult Bible 10am Worship Missionary Kalkman will share today	2	3 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	4 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	5 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	6 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	7
8 Daylight Savings Time 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	9	10 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	11 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study 6pm Trustees Mtg 7:15 Music Mtg.	12 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	13 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	14
15 9am Adult Bible 10am Worship Service	16	17  6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	18 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	19 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	20 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	21  6pm BUSINESS MTG.
22 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	23	24 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	25 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	26 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	27 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	28
29 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	30	31 6:15pm Supper 7pm Bible Study	26 10:00 Ladies' Bible Study, Fell. Hall	27 1pm Video Bible Study, Fell. Hall	28 6:30p Ignite the Fire in Fellowship Hall	29
30 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service	31				