From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Church Family & Friends,

We start a new year here at First Baptist Church. It will be a new year, but for the first time since I have been the pastor, we are going to have a second year of our theme "Foundations." We had so many great days and victories this past year, and I am looking forward to many more victories in 2018. As we begin this new year, I want to remind you that God's work is always going forward when God is in it.

I was recently challenged by Christ's words to his followers in John 14:12, "Verily, verily, I say unto you. He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto my Father." The context of Christ's statement is startling to me, for Jesus spoke these words literally hours before he was to give up the ghost, hours before he would die and leave this world. This was also hours before the disciples were to "all forsake him," including Peter. Yet, Christ had the bold confidence in those disciples (and I believe us) to do greater works. Some like to believe this includes performing of miracles and speaking in tongues, but if you read the context, the very next verses speak of prayer. John 14:13,14-"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." I believe that. And this year, I want to encourage us to pray more.

Let's have a great year as we serve the Lord together here at First Baptist Church!

In Christ's Service,

Dave Clear Senior Pastor









"Foundations" Theme Extended For 2018

We had a great year in 2017, following our church's theme, "Foundations." There is so much more to be done with this theme, and so we are extending it for a second year. Let's remember during 2018 to continue building bridges, enlisting workers, and improving ministries!



Youth Planning Asia Mission Trip July 16-25

Brother Erik is helping several of our teenagers right now to raise funds for our next mission trip, this time to South Korea and the Philippines. This will be a special trip for these young people. Let's pray all this year for God to do a good work with and through them.

Youth Outreach Ministry SUMMER Missions Trips

The Baptist Beacon

SUNDAY SCHOOL Make the Connection

NEW YEAR'S SUNDAY January 7th

As is our tradition, Evangelist Darrell Murphy gets us started for 2018, preaching a one-day revival meeting!

DESTINATIONS SUNDAY January 14th

On this Sunday, Pastor Clear is going to begin a New Year's Sunday morning preaching series, "Destinations."

LIFE SUNDAY **January 21st**

This week is the 44th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Let's remember, this Sunday and always, to take a stand for all human life.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY January 28th

This Sunday evening will be our annual meeting. Please pray for the meeting and for our church!

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY February 4th

This year with the Super Bowl being held here in Minneapolis, we'll have a little extra fun in Sunday School.

I LOVE MY CHURCH SUNDAY February 11th

We encourage you to wear something red in honor of Valentine's Day today. In addition, we will be handing out promotional magnets today with our 2018 theme.

PRESIDENT'S DAY SUNDAY February 18th

Our winter patriotic holiday weekend will feature a special tribute to George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

CLOSING CEREMONIES SUNDAY February 25th

Today marks the conclusion of the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Kora. This reminds us that one day every Christian will stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ!

BUS WORKERS' APPRECIATION SUNDAY March 4th

This week I want us to show our appreciation to all of our bus workers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS' SUNDAY March 11th

Join us as we recognize our dedicated Sunday school ministry staff on this day. Don't forget to also change your clocks on this Time Change weekend.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG SUNDAY March 18th

This Sunday we get ready to welcome spring on our calendar.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL APPRECIATION SUNDAY March 25th

I am so thankful for the ministry of First Baptist School. Today we want to recognize our school staff and school ministry.



April 15-17 "Sword of the Lord Conference" With Dr. Shelton Smith

We recently saw our gym floor refinished

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES UNDAY 0:00 AM Sunday School 1:00 AM Morning Service Youth Ministries 4:45 PM Choir Rehearsal Patch the Pirate Club 5:00 PM 6:00 PM Evening Service <u>/EDNESDAY</u> Midweek Service 7:00 PM RU Recovery Program Patch Club ATURDAY 10:00 AM Ministry Outreach & Soul Winning

1.5

16-19

JANUARY School resumes No school (Teacher In-Service Day) Secondary Final Exams 26-27 JH Boys & Girls Basketball 14 Tournament 19



Page 2

Also Coming In First Half of 2018

March 23-24 Marriage Retreat

April 1 "A Whale of a Tale!" (Easter Sunday)





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

Our deacons, administration and staff have been diligently working this year on our school. Later this spring, we are expecting to host an accreditation team, and we are eagerly anticipating becoming accredited by the American Association of Christian Schools. This is a process that has been ongoing now for several years. Please continue to pray for us as we complete this process and as we continue to seek improvements for First Baptist School. I want to especially thank Brother Graves for all of his hard work in leading us. We have been having a great school year, one that I have been pleased to especially see spiritual decisions, as well as academic progress. Thank you for your support for FBS! If you would like more information about First Baptist School, please contact our school office at 651-423-2272.

~ IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER FOR FBS ~

FEBRUARY

Reenrollment begins for 2018-19 MACS Speech & Bible Festival (Woodcrest) Lifetouch Spring & Casual Pictures No School (Presidents' Day) 22-24 MACS Boys & Girls Basketball Tournament (Fourth)

	MA	<u>RCH</u>
2 MACS JH Fine Arts Festival		
(FBS, Rosemount)		
6	No School Elementary	
	(Parent-Te	eacher Conferences)
9	Secondary Spirit Day	
26-30	No School (Spring Vacation)	
GRADING PERIODS		
2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter
1/19 - Semester		2/9 - 3 Weeks
		3/1 - 6 Weeks
		3/23 - 9 Weeks
MADUT		
ALI IS CIL		