

**First Baptist Church
of Hillsville**

1401 North Main Street
Hillsville, VA 24343
(276) 728-7801

www.fbchillsville.org
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Pastor

Ryan Mills

Administrative Assistant

Norma Ring

Deacon Chairman

Bill Smyer

*Getting to know God more fully.
Making Jesus fully known.*

Return Service Requested

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First Baptist **News & Views**

April 2023



*Getting to know God more fully.
Making Jesus fully known.*

POINTS TO PONDER

From the Pastor's Pen...

- Suppose our church didn't exist. You were given the power and money to start it over. What would it be like?
- If we fulfilled the Great Commission in our community, what would it look like?
- If another hundred people joined our church, what would have to change to meet their needs?
- When we celebrate our 100th church anniversary, what are the accomplishments you dream our church will celebrate that day?

Dear FBCH family,

As I sit at my desk composing this message on March 27, 2023 – our 91st Anniversary at First Baptist Church of Hillsville – the time seems appropriate to ask some open-ended questions about our church. It was recently brought up in one of our Sunday morning prayer meetings that the church is meant to be a living, breathing organism rather than just another organization. We are meant to think, adapt, serve, and dream...with Christ as our head and our hearts inclined toward the Lord.

No doubt those faithful brothers and sisters in Christ, many of whom were the relatives of some who are still part of the body of Christ here, hoped that their new church in 1932 would reach many generations to come with the gospel of Jesus Christ. They undoubtedly took steps forward with that goal in mind, and we thank them!

In this wonderful Easter time of year—full of new birth, renewal, promise, and hope—I encourage you now to think through the questions above, and consider how we might faithfully place the kingdom of heaven, lost souls in need of a Savior, and the very glory of God Himself above even our own comforts and wants... because what we do today as a church family sets the stage for the future of FBCH. What we do now impacts how effective we will continue to be for the kingdom long after we're gone. Should the Lord tarry in His return, let's continue to prepare FBCH to serve faithfully for many more years to come – thank you all for your continuing commitment to serving God through this church!

Gripped by grace,

Pastor Ryan



A DEVOTIONAL WORD...

"The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."

(Song of Solomon 2:12)

Sweet is the season of spring: the long and dreary winter helps us to appreciate its genial warmth, and its promise of summer enhances its present delights. After periods of depression of spirit, it is delightful to behold again the light of the Sun of Righteousness; then our slumbering graces rise from their lethargy, like the crocus and the daffodil from their beds of earth; then is our heart made merry with delicious notes of gratitude, far more melodious than the warbling of birds--and the comforting assurance of peace, infinitely more delightful than the turtle's note, is heard within the soul. Now is the time for the soul to seek communion with her Beloved; now must she rise from her native sordidness, and come away from her old associations. If we do not hoist the sail when the breeze is favorable, we shall be blameworthy: times of refreshing ought not to pass over us unimproved. When Jesus himself visits us in tenderness, and entreats us to arise, can we be so base as to refuse his request? He has himself risen that he may draw us after him: he now by his Holy Spirit has revived us, that we may, in newness of life, ascend into the heavenlies, and hold communion with himself. Let our wintry state suffice us for coldness and indifference; when the Lord creates a spring within, let our sap flow with vigor, and our branch blossom with high resolve. O Lord, if it be not spring time in my chilly heart, I pray thee make it so, for I am heartily weary of living at a distance from thee. Oh! the long and dreary winter, when wilt thou bring it to an end? Come, Holy Spirit, and renew my soul! quicken thou me! restore me, and have mercy on me! This very night I would earnestly implore the Lord to take pity upon his servant, and send me a happy revival of spiritual life!

~ Charles Spurgeon, *Morning and Evening* devotional, April 24

ODDS & ENDS (or...where else do we put this...?)



**WE NEED PICTURES
of your church activities
and ministries!**

We'd like to show the congregation and community how God is working in and through our church. Please send pictures and descriptions of your church activity or ministry to office@fbchillsville.org so we can let our light shine!



GET CONNECTED!

If you want to **learn more** about FBCH ministries or programs, receive **church communications** (like our **robo-call updates**), or just **update your contact info** with us, please visit our **"Get Connected!"** page on the church's website (in the "About Us" section) and fill out the form to let us know what you need! You can also call or e-mail our church office to let us know.



A: The veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom. We call this access to God the "priesthood of the believer." This means that Christians can approach God's throne through prayer without the need of a human mediator or priest. Because the veil was torn from the top to the bottom, that is symbolic that it is God who grants us access and not that we have worked our way into God's throne room; which could be implied if the veil was torn from bottom to top.

(see Matthew 27:51)

If you are interested in providing content for our MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:

Please submit your content to office@fbchillsville.org by the 20th of the month for the following month's newsletter, including your desired content, any relevant contact information or dates, and pictures (if any). Let us help you get the word out!

FBCH reserves the right to correct or adjust submissions as needed.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	April 2	April 9	April 16	April 23	April 30
Nursery SS	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!
Nursery WS	Paula Pulliam & Victoria Sweeney	Maria Record & Angela Armstrong	Paula Pulliam & Victoria Sweeney	Maria Record & Angela Armstrong	Paula Pulliam & Victoria Sweeney
Pre-2nd SS	Diane Allen & Merrilynn Butterfield	Diane Allen & Merrilynn Butterfield	Diane Allen & Merrilynn Butterfield	Diane Allen & Merrilynn Butterfield	Diane Allen & Merrilynn Butterfield
3rd-6th SS	Elizabeth Motley & Polly Sturgill	Elizabeth Motley & Polly Sturgill	Elizabeth Motley & Polly Sturgill	Elizabeth Motley & Polly Sturgill	Elizabeth Motley & Polly Sturgill
7th-12th SS	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp
Van 1	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp
Van 2	Ed Naff	Ed Naff	Ed Naff	Ed Naff	Ed Naff

It takes all of the members of the church for the body to be whole!

We are in need of your help to fulfill our Children's and Youth's Ministry needs, which include **nursery workers, Sunday School teachers, and a variety of other volunteer needs**. To serve God and your church in these critical family ministries, *please contact our office at office@fbchillsville.org or (276) 728-7801.*

Thank you!

Deacon of the Month:

Bill Smyer

CHURCH UPDATES

The season of Lent began on Wednesday, February 22 this year, and lasts until Easter (April 9). This is a time meant for preparation and purification as we approach the most holy of Christian days, so take advantage of this time to self-reflect, seek forgiveness, and ask for more of the Lord in your life. Seeking Him now will make the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection so special when Easter finally arrives—to God be the glory!

Help support SBC North American missions efforts! We are collecting donations for the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering** until April 9. The envelopes are on the table in the foyer, and our goal this year is \$1,000.



Our next **Membership Class** will be held April 2 @ 1pm in the church Library. Whether you're interested in becoming a member or simply want to learn more about what membership means at FBCH, you're invited to be a part of this brief and informal (*yet highly educational!*) meeting hosted by Pastor Ryan and deacon Ed Naff.



HOLY WEEK SPECIAL SERVICES

Beginning Sunday, April 2nd, the Carroll County Ministerial Association will hold worship services at the VFW at 6:00 PM. Services continue through Wednesday, April 5th. The services feature prayers, songs, special music, and preaching. Here is the schedule of worship leaders:

Sunday, April 2nd: Ty Harrison, preaching
Carroll County High School Chorus, music

Monday, April 3rd: Jason Ratliff, preaching
Hillsville Ukulele Group, music

Tuesday, April 4th: Ryan Mills, preaching
River of Life Fellowship Ensemble, music

Wednesday, April 5th: Bill Heim, preaching
Monika Hunter, music

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our **Thursday morning Bible Study** with Pastor Ryan is diving into the OT book of Exodus. It's always a good time to join in, and you'll love the discussion, insights, and fellowship. *LEVEL UP your discipleship walk!*

FBCH is having a **Memorial Service** during our June 4 Worship Service in memory of the loved ones our church family has lost from October, 2019 through March 31, 2023. We'd like to honor every member or immediate family of a member (*spouse, child, parent, or grandparent*) who has passed. **To ensure that your loved one is a part of this celebration, please send your favorite picture of them along with their full name, birth date, and date of their passing to our office (office@fbchillsville.org) before the end of April.** Thank you for helping us to make this a meaningful time of celebration, remembrance, and healing for our church family.

Common Ground, a local gospel singing group, will be joining us to lead music for our April 23 Worship Service. *Make sure you don't miss it!*



We will host an **Easter Egg Hunt** on the grounds of FBCH after worship service on Easter Sunday, April 9. All children and youth through High School age are welcome to join in on the fun...and we might even accept "children at heart" to join in as well! Bring your kids, or just join in the fun and fellowship on this special day!

Our local **New River Baptist Association Semi-Annual Meeting** will be on Sunday, April 16, 6pm @Lambsburg Baptist Church, 257 Chestnut Grove Road, Lambsburg, VA 24351.

The **Carroll County Ministerial Association** will host **Holy Week Services** April 2-5, 6pm @ VFW. Pastor Ryan is scheduled to preach there on Tuesday, April 4, so come on out to support him and other area pastors and worship during Holy Week!

KEEPING IN TOUCH

April Birthdays!

Maria French	7
Sonny McIver	8
Elizabeth Sweeney	11
Michael Fariss	13
Dan Huff	18
Dianne Shockley	21
Paula Melton	25

April Anniversaries!

Gene & Mebus Musser	7
Steve & Sharon Spriggs	27
Mark & Loretta Stout	29



NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Leona Layher Ridgecrest Assisted Living 2302 Ridgecrest Lane Mt Airy, NC 27030	Don & Glenda Yonce Commonwealth Assisted Living 100 Kyle Drive, Room A3 Hillsville, VA 24343
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What happened in the Temple as a sign that the death of Jesus had made way for the individual believer to approach God?

Answer: Page 15

SHUT-INS

Laura Melton	Joe Mina	Dorothy Semones	Glenna Blevins
Nina Goad	Kyle Nester	Joyce Bowman	James & Jeanette Armentrout
Wanda Montgomery	JoAnn Hall	Gracie Edmonds	

FELLOWSHIP & CONNECTIONS

Our next **Men's Fellowship Breakfast** will be at Crooked Oak Restaurant at 8:30am on Tuesday, April 4. As usual it will be a "dutch treat" meal with friends and visitors welcome. No need to make a reservation or be a member of the church.

The address is 8302 Danville Pike east of Hillsville, 8.3 miles east of the US 58 and US 52 intersection in downtown Hillsville (not the bypass).

Don't miss Family Night! every Wednesday @ 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'll share a delicious meal and even better fellowship. Pour into your own family and build up the FBCH spiritual family at the same time. The church is at our best when we're ALL growing in the unity of Christ!

Everyone is invited and the meals are free (donations welcome), so *bring everyone you can gather to come be part of what God is doing in and through the FBCH family!!*

Our **2023 Deacons** are here to serve you! Take a look at the list to the right to see who your Deacon is this year (*based on your last name*). They have hearts for serving both the Lord and His people, and are available to minister to you when needed.

Our Deacons look forward to serving you throughout the coming year!

A—C	Danny Webb
D—G	Pat Sharp (<i>Treasurer</i>)
H—L	Ed Naff (<i>Vice-Chair</i>)
M—N	Bill Smyer (<i>Chair</i>)
O—R	Dan Huff (<i>Secretary</i>)
S	Dennis Felts
T—Z	Steve Pulliam

LAST MONTH @ FBCH

Our Wednesday Family Nights have changed! Have a great family meal, dive deeper into Sunday's message with your piers, and share your discoveries with your church family. *No matter what age you are, you'll be glad you came!*



First Baptist Church's 91st Anniversary was March 27, 2023. Give yourselves a hearty pat on the back for continuing the legacy of kingdom ministry begun by many of your relatives and other faithful brothers and sisters in Christ so many years ago. We pray that the Lord would continue to work through us to continue that legacy for generations of Christians in Hillsville for years to come!

Willing Hearts gospel singing group shared in our Worship Service on March 5. Everyone enjoyed their singing and joined in with them in worship, and we hope to welcome them back to FBCH some time in the future!

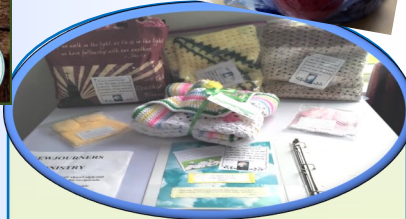
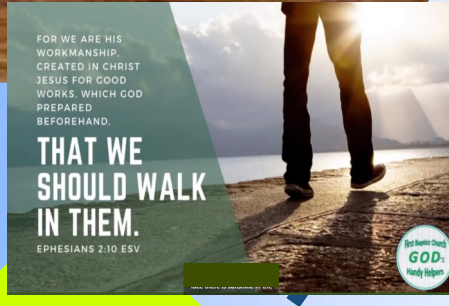


MISSIONS, OUTREACH, & EVANGELISM

God's Handy Helpers is one of the service and outreach ministries of FBCH, seeking to help those in need with small carpentry tasks, seasonal yardwork, and similar projects. Our March project was raking, blowing, and hauling leaves. Everyone is invited to participate... and everyone has a great time of fellowship in service!

If you'd like to be a part of our next project, or if you'd like to suggest a project, please contact:

Team Leader Dan Huff at
[blueridgetandem@gmail.com!](mailto:blueridgetandem@gmail.com)



Sew Journers
Our Sew Journers sewing ministry's next meeting is **May 11, 2023 at 1:00 pm.**

We need quilters, crocheters, and knitters.
Yarn colors needed:
Pinks, blues, yellows, light greens

Thanks everyone for your support!

INVESTING IN THE KINGDOM

Food Pantry

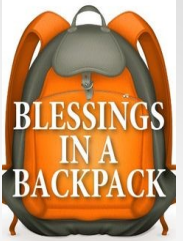
Stock the Food Pantry:

- April 2 - Pinto beans & Cornbread mixes
- April 9 - Soups & Crackers
- April 16 - Canned meats & Canned fruits
- April 23 - Cereals
- April 30 - Rice, mac n cheese

Drop off items at the church in our outside drive-by Food Pantry donation tote. It will be on the porch steps during weekly office hours (9am to 3pm) for

We are collecting for **Children's Backpacks!**

Food items needed: Apple sauce, nabs, juices, granola bars, pop tarts, pudding, small containers of spaghetti, mac & cheese, ravioli and individual cups of fruit.



April - Combs, Brushes, Hair Bows



DO NOT INCLUDE items that are: used or damaged, war-related (toy guns or military figures), glass, liquid, toothpaste, or candy.

Contact Judy Thompson with any questions.

Please pray for the workers in the field...

JoAnn Yon—missionary to Nicaragua

Bryan Macadangdang—missionary to Philippines

United Christian Missions—leads Educate-a-Child program and Pastor's School in Jinotega, Nicaragua

Eric & Wendy Harbinson—missionaries in Matagalpa, Nicaragua

REMEMBERING

In Remembrance

First Baptist Church offers our condolences, prayers, and loving support to the Pulliam family on the passing of Steve's father, Jimmy Pulliam; and Lawrence Childs and family on the passing of Lawrence's wife, Doris.

IN MEMORY OF

GIVEN BY

FUND

Jimmy Pulliam	Diane Allen	God's Hand Helpers
Jimmy Pulliam	Steve & Paula Pulliam	God's Handy Helpers
Jimmy Pulliam	Betty Williams	God's Handy Helpers
Jimmy Pulliam	Howard Sturgill	God's Handy Helpers



Scripture
of the
Month

The gift
of God
is eternal life
through
Jesus Christ
our Lord

Romans 6:23



MINISTRY NEEDS

The Lord's Supper Love Fund recipients for this quarter are **Greg & Tonyia Gibson**. Beginning on Palm Sunday, April 2, if you would like to contribute financially towards helping these wonderful members, please clearly mark your check or donation envelope with "Lord's Supper Love Fund." *Thank you for your generosity!*

Volunteers are needed to clean the sanctuary. The notebook to sign up is in the back corner of the sanctuary on the table. *Thank you for being a part of keeping God's House clean!*

We will be holding a Church Cleanup Day on Saturday, May 6. Led by Building & Grounds along with God's Handy Helpers, everyone is invited to come help spruce up the church grounds with a little "spring cleaning." Your help is appreciated...and you'll have fun doing it!



April 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 9am God's Handy Helpers
2 Palm Sunday! 9am Prayer meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service & Lord's Supper 11:30am Cemetery Committee 1pm Membership Class in the Library 6pm Holy Week Services @ VFW	3 6pm Holy Week Services @ VFW	4 8:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 6pm Holy Week Services @ VFW (<i>Pastor Ryan preaching</i>)	5 6pm FAMILY NIGHT! 6pm Holy Week Services @ VFW	6 10am Bible Study 11:15am Fellowship Committee	7 Good Friday <i>Church office closed</i>	8
9 Easter Sunday! 9am Prayer meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Easter Egg Hunt	10 6:30pm Missions Committee	11	12 6pm FAMILY NIGHT!	13 10am Bible Study	14	15
16 9am Prayer meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 6pm New River Baptist Association Semi-Annual Meeting @Lambsburg Baptist	17	18 3pm Stewardship Committee 6:30pm Building & Grounds	19 6pm FAMILY NIGHT!	20 10am Bible Study	21	22
23 9am Prayer meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service with <i>Common Ground</i> singers 11:30am Fellowship Lunch + Business Meeting	24 6pm Deacons <i>(may be moved to May 1)</i>	25	26 6pm FAMILY NIGHT!	27 10am Bible Study	28	29 9am God's Handy Helpers
30 9am Prayer meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	1	2	3	4	5	6

HIGHLIGHTS

4/1

God's Handy Helpers

4/2

Palm Sunday
 The Lord's Supper
 Cemetery Committee
 Membership Class

4/2-5

Holy Week Services at VFW

4/4

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

4/6

Fellowship Committee

4/7

Good Friday
church office closed

4/9

Easter Sunday!
 Easter Egg Hunt

4/10

Missions Committee

4/16

New River Baptist Association
 Semi-Annual Meeting

4/18

Stewardship Committee

4/29

God's Handy Helpers

4/23

Common Ground gospel group will lead our music

4/23

Fellowship Lunch
 + Business Meeting