First Quarter Highlights for 2018

I want to begin this month’s FTP by saying a sincere word of thanks for your faithfulness and generosity thus far in 2018. As the end of March came around (along with the first two weeks of April), your gifts to the budget were just shy of 98% of our budget requirements. That’s better than this time last year, and for that, I am grateful and thankful to God.

Summer is just around the corner. Normally our gifts go down as people travel, and our expenses go up as programming and utility costs increase. Please be prayerful over the coming weeks, and help us enter the summer months with a strong financial footing!

When things are heading in the right direction, we like to celebrate. I’m thrilled that our attendance figures indicate that in the first quarter of 2018, we averaged 43 more people in attendance on Sunday mornings in worship than we did a year ago. Some of these found a home in the Fellowship on Broadway. Others found a home in the Sanctuary Service. What matters is, people are connecting with and finding a home at Nashville First Baptist Church.

National Day of Prayer

I will be praying with a group of local pastors on the first Thursday in May, as people of faith all over our nation pause to participate in the National Day of Prayer. Just as we did last year, I want to invite you to join us in a one-day fast on Thursday, May 3. If you want to find time to sit in our Sanctuary for prayer, please feel free to do that. Otherwise, find a time and a place where you can pray, and please intercede for our nation. We need revival. We need guidance and direction as a nation on so many fronts. Scandalous and heart-breaking reminders of human sin fill our headlines and news feeds daily. If we ever needed the Lord to intervene, it seems we need Him now!

“And when you fast” are the first four words of Matthew 6:16. Jesus’ teaching on prayer assumes that there are times when we pray that we also fast. While His teachings warn us not to call attention to our fasting, I challenge you to consider the practice of fasting at some time when you can practice a longer, concentrated time of prayer. It may be this year during the National Day of Prayer, or it may be another time. Our nation and our church need to be supported with the prayers of God’s people who are willing to pay the price of disciplined, thoughtful, concerted, self-emptying prayer.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Finally, Congratulations to our Graduating Class of 2018! As we come together as a church for the Commissioning of our High School Class of 2018, let’s be sure to remember each one in our prayers. While it has been our privilege to nurture and help them grow into Christ-followers over the past 18 years, we also commit ourselves to praying for them in the transitions that lie ahead of them!

For the Gospel,

Dr. Frank R. Lewis, senior pastor
Welcome to Our New Members

May Birthdays
4: Ruben Herrera  
7: Rosa Estevez  
15: Sandra Snyder

April Anniversaries
1: Kim Hester (1987) – 31 years  
    Joe Fitzpatrick (2009) – 9 years  
5: Sandra Snyder (2016) – 2 years  
15: Connie Powell (2013) – 5 years

During the Civil War, the church building was commandeered by Union forces as a hospital and it was almost destroyed. Pastor R.B.C. Howell, along with three other ministers, was jailed for a time for refusing to pledge allegiance to the Union as ordered by military governor Andrew Johnson, who of course later became our 17th President when he succeeded Abraham Lincoln.

We Make It Easy to Give
For your ease, whether in town or out of town, you can contribute to the Lord’s Work through Nashville First Baptist Church:

- Give online with your smart phone NashvilleFirst.org.
- Schedule an electronic contribution as frequently as you like using bank draft.
- Mail a check, or place it in your Bible study or worship offering.
- Contribute cash in your own sealed envelope.
First Adults Fellowship in Ministry
by Bob Grammer

“Do I have to visit all these exhibits to get a goodie bag?”

“I tried to give blood, but I am too low on iron. They suggested that I eat spinach for two weeks, then try again. That sounds a bit unpleasant to me!”

“Now, if you’ll just sign right here, if you win a door prize, it becomes mine, see?”

“Is the food truck here yet?” “No, it’s only 10:30.” “But, I want a burger!”

The “Smart and Savvy” Health Fair sponsored by First Adults (FA) is a prime example of FA-led outreach to the community, as well as ministry to church members. On that day, 12 FA volunteers, led by First Adults program director Pam Stockett, worked multiple venues in which: 34 units of blood were donated through the services of the American Red Cross; 10 mammograms were administered by the St. Thomas Mobile Unit; guests had blood pressure checks by Metro General Hospital personnel; some availed themselves of onsite Shred-It services; and 30 vendors made one-on-one presentations to visitors. Overall, 60 guests attended; 12 were non-church members.

Other events have included serving as hosts for Alzheimer’s patients while their caregivers attended a seminar on this critical and difficult role, and coordinating a seminar on educational law and its relationship to Tennessee schools. Some events occur annually: service at Nashville’s Second Harvest Food Bank; mission trips to Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary in Calgary, Canada; and work at the Oneida Baptist Institute. Upcoming plans include a seminar on the opioid crisis, offered in connection with The Next Door. The work of First Adults represents a significant arm of First Baptist’s outreach to the community as well as its ministry to NFBC members.
First Adults went on mission at Hogar de Vida, Atenas, Costa Rica, in April

The team answered the call of God to be involved in His Great Kingdom with the staff of Hogar de Vida for one week. They interacted with children there and helped with grounds and housing maintenance. Team members include: Linda Burch, Charlie Doggett, Letty Gossett, René Holt, Sherry Hunter, Fred Linkenhoker, Pam Stockett, Lynne Wells, Lisa Bergen-Wilson, and Larry Yarborough.
Class of 2018 Commissioning | Sunday, May 20 | 10:30 a.m. | Combined service in the Sanctuary
Help congratulate and encourage our graduating seniors, as we celebrate their achievement!

Anna Berry
Daughter of Sam & Ginny Berry
Graduate of Franklin High School
Undecided

Isabel Berry Womack
Daughter of Steve Womack & Alana Berry
Graduate of Franklin High School
Undecided

Mason Carris
Son of Jeff & Pam Carris
Graduate of White House High School
Volunteer State Community College

Molly Dean
Daughter of Joey & Emily Dean
Graduate of Hillsboro High School
University of Tennessee Chattanooga

Bethany Foust
Daughter of Robert & Tina Foust
Graduate of Brentwood High School
Auburn University

Emily Haas
Daughter of David Wilcox & Deidra Hendrix
Graduate of Nashville School of the Arts
Nashville State Community College

Justin Jordan-Lake
Son of Todd Lake & Joy Jordan-Lake
Graduate of Brentwood High School
Samford University

Sadye Lewis
Daughter of Bryan & Tana Lewis
Graduate of Gateway Academy
Belmont University

Dawson O’Brien
Son of Dwayne & Delisa O’Brien
Graduate of Brentwood High School
Belmont University

Shannon Pickrell
Daughter of Mark & MaryEllen Pickrell
Graduate of Martin Luther King, Jr. Academic Magnet High School
Undecided

Sammy Schrecker
Daughter of Scott & Melody Schrecker
Graduate of The Comenius School Homeschool Umbrella for Franklin Classical School
Undecided

Kyle Wedekind
Son of Larry & Wendy Wedekind
Graduate of Hillwood High School
Undecided
First Events

Get to Know First Spring Session
Wednesday, May 2 | 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Room 340
If you are a recent new member of the Nashville First Baptist family, or if you are considering joining us, you will benefit from attending the Get to Know First spring session. In an informal atmosphere, church staff and members will share helpful information and, most importantly, answer your questions.

CentriKid Camp | June 24 – June 28
Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, KY
Completed Grades 3 – 6 | $300
CentriKid is an overnight camp for preteens in Grades 3 – 6 with awesome Bible study, kid-style worship, mega rec, and chosen tracks. Cost: $300. Check out CentriKid.com!

Parent’s Day Out (PDO)
The theme days, Bible stories, art, rest, and play make for a great day for babies, preschoolers, and kindergarteners!

Music Arts Camp (MAC)
July 16 – 20 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Grades 1 – 6
$30/week if registered by July 1 ($50 after July 1)
Music Arts Camp is a fun-filled week of hands-on music and arts activities for children who have completed grades 1 – 6. Students will have the opportunity to choose a music focus and an arts focus. All campers will learn and present a musical, explore five different instrumental groups, experience Bible Study designed especially for the musical, and fellowship in action-packed recreation and snack. Visitors are welcomed! Make plans to be involved in Music Arts Camp 2018! Mark your calendars to also attend our MAC Presentation on Sunday evening, July 22, at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Laurie.Hall@NashvilleFirst.org. Sign up for MAC and MAC Plus at NashvilleFirst.org/MAC.

For More Information, Deadlines and Registration:
NashvilleFirst.org/FirstKidsSummer

Summer 2018 at First Kids!

The PreGame! Summer Preview Party
Wednesday, May 23 | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Patio
Summer preview is going to be a SLAM DUNK with music, games, inflatables, and a free tailgate party! VBS gear will be available for $5.

VBS 2018: GAME ON!
June 11 – 15 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. | 5 – 12 years old
At VBS, coaches will help players on the sideline, defensive line, and drumline realize God has given them His ultimate playbook. Invite your friends! VBS is always free and registration never closes!

VBS PLUS
June 11 – 15 | 12:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. | 5 – 12 years old
Bring a sack lunch and stay all day with VBS Plus! Our trained summer staff will continue the adventure with chartered field trips to Grand Old Golf for mini-golf and arcade games; Donelson Lanes for bowling with bumpers; Nashville Gymnastics Training Center to jump, swing, and play; Brentwood Skate Center for skating and games, and AMC Bellevue 12 to watch The Incredibles 2.

VBS Early Care
Early care begins at 7:45 a.m. The cost is $5/day and includes a light breakfast. Registration is required by June 3.

Thrilling Thursday (TT)
Thrilling Thursdays are outrageous day trips for kids in Grades 1 – 6. Day trips include Memorial Park and The Family Fun Center in Hendersonville; Cedar Creek Sports and Cedars of Lebanon; Above All and Krispy Kreme in Cool Springs, and Game Galaxy and The Malco Theater in Smyrna.

Parents Day Out (PDO)
The theme days, Bible stories, art, rest, and play make for a great day for babies, preschoolers, and kindergarteners!

Mac Plus
July 16 – 20 | 12:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. | Grades 1 – 6
Stay and play all day with MAC PLUS! Kids will enjoy experiences designed to spark interest in the arts and creatively investigate their talents and abilities. Experiences include painting pottery at Fired Up and outdoor play at Charlie Daniels Park; a puppet theater and a mega scavenger hunt with the Nashville Public Library; Madame Tussauds and Rainforest Cafe; mega trampolines at Above All and sweet things at Krispy Kreme; movies, munchies, and a magical guest at Nashville First. Sign up for MAC and MAC Plus at NashvilleFirst.org/MAC.

Summer age groups are divided by the grade level completed during the 2017-2018 school year.

Full or partial scholarships are available.
Contact the Children’s Ministry Office with requests.

For More Information, Deadlines and Registration:
NashvilleFirst.org/FirstKidSummer
Hello, my name is Emily Pees, and I am the proud new director of Nashville First Baptist Church Child Development Center (CDC). I am originally from Natchez, Mississippi, and moved to Hattiesburg, where I earned my B.A. from the University of Southern Mississippi in Child Development. After graduation, I moved to Denver, Colorado, for about 13 years before moving to Nashville this month due to my husband's job with the Titans.

Children have been a part of my life since 1997 when I got my first job as a teacher assistant, and since then, I have worked my way up to being the director of multiple child development programs. I have had the opportunity to work with a variety of ethnicities of children and professionals in the field of education, always learning something new to better myself as a director.

I am eagerly anticipating the opportunity of being an intricate part of your children's futures. I love to see the look on their little faces when they learn something new. Watching them work together and accomplish goals set for them is the most amazing feeling in the world.

I spend my free time hanging out with my husband Matt, my son Wyatt, and our two dogs, Louie and Wilson. We enjoy listening to music and going for hikes. Our family loves sports, and we are excited for football season to start, so we can cheer on the Titans.

I feel very blessed to be part of such an amazing community and look forward to meeting everyone at Nashville First Baptist Church and the Child Development Center.