



FBC NEWS

A Publication of Fredericksburg Baptist Church
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Ash Wednesday and Lent

The season of Lent begins this Wednesday, February 14. This is a Holy Season in which we repent of our sins as we step back and spend time in introspection. Just as Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness fasting and praying in preparation for his earthly ministry, Christians today, observe Lent searching ourselves for the direction of God's Spirit on our lives. We seek transformation as we pray, listen, read scripture and reflect on who we are as children of God.

In the Old Testament (The Hebrew Bible), the acts of putting on sackcloth and sitting in ashes and putting ashes on one's head, symbolized self-debasement, mourning and/or repentance. As Christians today, we place ashes in the form of a cross, on the foreheads of the faithful who plan to spend time in the next 40 days (excluding Sundays, for they are always feast days) in a repentant time of prayer and reflection, seeking God's transformational direction for our lives.

This year there will be several opportunities to receive the imposition of ashes at Fredericksburg Baptist.

We will gather for Multiply at 11:30 and will have an Ash Wednesday service around the tables in Ferrell Hall.

There will be several times during the day which are usually high-traffic times when individuals can stop in the Welcome Center for a brief time of reflection and commitment and receive the imposition of ashes if desired. These times will be: 8:30-9:30am, 11:30am-12:30pm and 5:00-6:45pm.

We hope you will plan to join us for one of these special times as we begin our Lenten journey.

The following weeks we will gather with other Micah congregations to worship at noon, followed by a luncheon at the host church. The schedule will be as follows:

Date	Church	Preaching
Wednesday, February 21	St. Mary's Catholic Church	Rev. Larry Davies
Wednesday, February 28	Fredericksburg Presbyterian	Rev. Aaron Dobyne
Wednesday, March 7	St. George's Episcopal	Rev. Anthony Parrish
Wednesday, March 14	Shiloh Old Site Baptist	Rev. Kent Rahm
Wednesday, March 21	Fredericksburg United Methodist	Father Mosiman
Sunday, April 1- Easter Sunrise	Fredericksburg United Methodist	

There will be additional special services during Holy Week and we hope you will plan to join us for as many of these Lenten services as possible.

Pancakes. Why Pancakes? It's Fat Tuesday!

A Fat Tuesday Pancake meal will be served from 11:00am -2:00pm at the Community Café in Ferrell Hall of Fredericksburg Baptist Church 1016 Caroline Street

In Christian history, Fat Tuesday has been celebrated because, at one time, meats, eggs, milk, and fats (sweets) were given up for the six-week season before Easter Sunday. That season is called Lent. This year, Lent begins on February 14th and continues to Easter Sunday.

Something is given up by Christians for a season of time to remember what they take for granted. Believe it or not, the value of Jesus can be what Christians take for granted. Food, even pancakes, can be taken for granted when we get to eat all the time. Jesus, when we take for granted what he did for us on the cross, can be taken for granted, too.

So, we stuff ourselves on Fat Tuesday to call attention to feeling full. Then, we go hungry, giving up something and replacing it with feeling full in prayer and Scripture reading. We spend the season filling ourselves up with knowing God's goodness in Jesus. When Easter Sunday comes, we feast again! We celebrate!

In the return of what we've given up for Lent and the prayers and Scripture readings we've done getting to know Jesus better, we realize that we have taken a journey with Jesus through our bodies and minds. We have walked with him from his experience in the desert after his baptism, into his life with others, on to Jerusalem, then to the cross, leading to the tomb, and, finally, to resurrection.

So, that's why pancakes, on Fat Tuesday!

Having pancakes on Tuesday, then, invites you to go with us on a spiritual journey, getting to know Jesus and yourself better.

It's your choice, and we welcome you to join us.

Easter's coming!

Among Our Family

—In the Hospital—

MWH: Martin Sparks, Brittany Abel, Sara Gregory

VCU: Rachel Fielden

UVA Health South: Wiley Mundy

—Congratulations To—

Anthony Bishop and Cassandra Dyer in the birth of their son, Jackson Alexander Curtis Bishop, born February 2nd. Proud grandparents are Ray Bishop and Robin Payne. Proud great grandparents are Francis & Dot Curtis.

Coming Up

Saturday, February 10

To Reach a Minister After Office Hours, please call 540-300-1442

Sunday, February 11

8:30am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship
12:30pm Kirundi Worship

Monday, February 12

9:30am Women's Bible Study
11:00am McRae/Person/Smith Circle
11:45am Scott Circle Lunch in Welcome Center
12:30pm Scott Circle Meeting

Tuesday, February 13

11:00am Pancake Dinner at the Community Café
10:30am ESL Classes

Wednesday, February 14

10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry
11:30am Multiply Lunch
7:15pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, February 15

11:00am Community Café
10:30am ESL Classes
5:00pm Community Meal

Friday, February 16

9:00am PRIMETIMERS to VA Museum of Fine Arts
11:00am Yoga
6:00pm Love Out Loud
6:00pm Parents Night Out

Saturday, February 17

To Reach a Minister After Office Hours, please call 540-300-1442
7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, February 18

8:30am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship
12:15pm Deacon's Meeting
12:30pm Kirundi Worship

Responsibilities for February 11

--Greeters Schedule--

Princess Anne St: Darrell Caldwell, Kathy Jones
Sanctuary Door: Jim Wiltshire
Caroline Street: Ron & Pixie Cleaver
Children's Area: John Ingram
Youth Area: Volunteer from Youth Class

--Deacons--

8:30am

Melanie Edwards (Lead),
Susan Graham, Chuck Ellis, Lori Yelverton
Johnny & Kathy Jones(W)
David & Anne Pierce(B)

11:00am

Pat DiCecca (Lead),
Allen Bennett, Thomas Jean Claude,
Joe DiCecca, Dewey & Judy Lowman,
Bill & Nancy Young
Charlie & Cassie Payne (W&B)

--Ushers--

8:30am

Brian & Amy Blanton, Chuck & Donnell Pitts
Elevator: Mike Wondree

11:00am

Bob & Martha Burke, Chuck & Kim Ellis,
Winston Ward, Gayle Webster, Buddy Updike,
Keith Snider, John Garnett

--Bus Drivers--

Mark Houghton, Dean Goff



Men's Prayer Breakfast will take place on Saturday, February 17 at 7:30am in Ferrell Hall. All men are invited.

A Church Funny

"The services will close with 'Little Drops of Water'. One of the ladies will start quietly, and the rest of the congregation will join in."

Stewardship Summary

Ministry Budget

Weekly Needs	\$25,794
Sunday, February 4	\$26,892
Y-T-D Total	\$108,939
Ahead/Behind Budget	-\$20,028

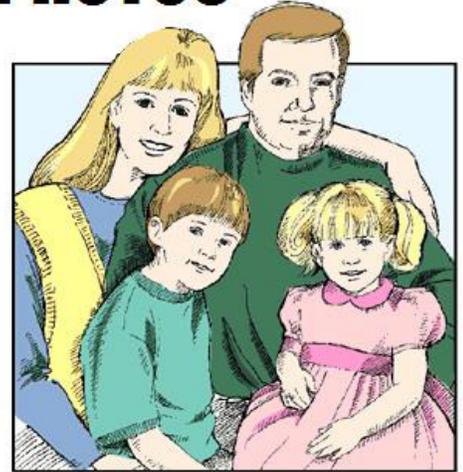
BUOH in Missions

Weekly Needs	\$2,885
Sunday, February 4	\$1,602
Y-T-D Total	\$8,991
Ahead/Behind Goal	-\$5,434

Capital Fund

Sunday, February 4	\$485
Y-T-D Total	\$2,700

PHOTOS



How being received for the Church Director

We are working to produce a church photo directory to help everyone be able to put a name to a face when gathering at church or passing one another in the community. We will produce it in-house, so all you have to do is submit via email, or bring a photo to this office, of the picture of your family you wish to have included. The picture can be as formal or as casual as you wish it to be.

The directory will be available for members to access via a password protected website on computers or mobile devices. We will also be able to provide printed copies for those who prefer a hardcopy. We hope to have an initial directory ready for you to view by Easter Sunday.

So pick out a favorite family photo, take a selfie, or have a friend take a photo for you. Then send the photo to:
Dennis@fredericksburgbaptistchurch.org
or bring your photo to the office.



For Thursday Community Meals!

Sign up each Sunday in the Welcome Center. Share potatoes, toppings, and your time as we serve our neighbors together in the name of Christ

Are You Over 70^{1/2} Years of Age?

Do You Have an IRA from which you must make a Required Minimum Distribution?

Do You Know that an RMD can be made directly to the church as a charitable contribution and that there are potential tax advantages for those who do so?

This is one of many ways you can be financially supportive of the church in addition to writing a check or making a cash gift. If you make a tax-free transfer from your IRA to charity, you can't also deduct that money as a charitable contribution. But the tax-free transfer could give you extra benefits. You don't need to itemize your deductions to get a tax benefit from the gift (and many people who no longer have a mortgage don't itemize their deductions). Making the tax-free transfer also keeps the money out of your adjusted gross income. That could help you avoid the Medicare high-income surcharge, which boosts your Part B and Part D premiums if your AGI is more than \$85,000 if single or \$170,000 if married filing jointly. Keeping the money out of your AGI could also make less of your Social Security benefits taxable.

Contact your financial advisor for more information. You may also visit these websites:

<https://www.kiplinger.com/article/retirement/T045-C001-S003-faqs-about-giving-your-rmd-to-charity.html>

<https://www.fidelity.com/building-savings/learn-about-iras/required-minimum-distributions/qcfs>

Primetimers to:

**Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Friday, February 16**

In addition to the wonderful ongoing exhibits of fine art at VMFA, there is a very special exhibit currently available. Nearly 8,000 life-size terracotta soldiers accompanied Chinese emperor Qin Shihuang in his journey to the afterlife in 210 B.C. Buried underground, the sculptures maintained a quiet vigil, undisturbed for 22 centuries, until uncovered by farmers in 1974. The Terracotta Army is considered one of the greatest archaeological finds of the 20th century.

Ten of these majestic sculptures are featured in the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts exhibit, "Terracotta Army: Legacy of the First Emperor of China." See objects that have never before been seen in the United States, and learn about ancient Chinese archaeology through an entirely new lens. "Terracotta Army" is VMFA's first exhibit exploring the art and archaeology of ancient China.

We will leave from the public parking lot behind Shiloh Old Site Baptist Church on Sophia Street at 9:00am. \$21 will cover your entry fee for the special Terracotta Exhibit with an audio guide. We will eat lunch at the museum and return to Fredericksburg by 3:00pm. **Plan to participate by submitting the entry fee as you sign up by Sunday, February 11.**

Explore the Hidden Beauty of God's Creation Grand Caverns Friday, March 16, 2018

In Grottoes, Virginia, there exists the first commercially shown caverns in the US. The Grand Caverns were discovered in 1804 by a young trapper named Bernard Wever. He named the caverns after himself and 2 years later, opened them to visitors. Grand Caverns have been rated #2 in the nation for their amazing geographical features. As we approach the end of a cold winter, let's explore a part of God's creation that we rarely even think about.

We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. and travel to Grottoes, VA to tour the caverns. Afterward, we will travel to Elkton, VA for an Italian Lunch at Ciro's Italian Eatery, and finally, before we head back over the mountain toward Fredericksburg, we will explore SoLace Studios Fine Handcrafts also in Elkton. We should return to the church by 4:00 p.m.

Sign up by March 11 by submitting \$20 which will cover the tour of the caverns. Lunch and shopping are on your own. Fun and Celebration of Creation are for ALL!

85th Historic Garden Club of Virginia Orange County, Saturday, April 21st

Three hundred years of architecture will come to life on this tour through the stunning countryside of Orange County. Visitors will appreciate the evolving tastes and styles of the tour's highlights – a 1720's farmhouse, elegant in its simplicity, a fancy Victorian painted lady, a 20th century stately brick home. History blends with friendliness and hospitality on this driving tour of private homes and gardens in Virginia's Piedmont.

We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. and travel in a church bus to each of these locations. There will be food trucks available at Bloomsbury as well as music and dancers. If you would like to participate with us, please sign up and submit \$35 for purchase of the tour ticket plus a few dollars for gasoline, as soon as possible and no later than April 8. The Garden Tour takes place rain or shine, so when you purchase a ticket please know we will go regardless of weather. Plan to join us!

“Love Your Neighbor” (...our response as we celebrate Communion for the month of February)

During the month of February the churches of Fredericksburg will focus on "Love Your Neighbor." As a joint ministry of local churches, Micah Ecumenical Ministries serves to coordinate our community resources toward helping individuals move from basic survival to permanent housing. Since 2010, our cooperative church efforts have led to an 84% decline in chronic homelessness in our region. We have also achieved our goal of having no homeless veterans in the Fredericksburg area.

To support efforts aimed at restoring the lives of neighbors in need, FBC members have the opportunity to share gifts of \$25 or more. Such gifts make a difference. Consider what your gift could provide:

- \$14.19 keeps one person from freezing on a cold night
- \$19.73 keeps a formerly homeless person in housing for one day
- \$28.96 buys a tent or sleeping bag for someone without a home
- \$50 a week supports one person's job development
- \$77.53 gives one night care to someone released from the hospital

Your gifts will directly impact lives. Together, as faithful church members, we can physically care for our neighbors, give witness to the difference God's love makes in us, and know that we continue on mission together, being the face, hands, feet, and heart of Christ in our community.

Please consider making a check payable to: Fredericksburg Baptist Church, and write on the memo line: "Love Your Neighbor." Greeting cards, appropriate for Valentine's Day and after, will be available for you to complete and give to loved ones, for the purpose of letting them know that you have lovingly given a gift in their honor. During the month of February, a listing of those making a gift and those being honored will appear as a special insert in each week's order of service. (Note: the dollar amounts will NOT be published.)

By sharing a gift in this way, you honor God by tangibly caring for those made in God's image even though, especially though, they are some of our most vulnerable community neighbors. By naming someone to be honored through the giving of this gift, you let that someone know you especially love them, or care about them, and can't help but include them because they, too, are precious images of God.



Remember, we are on mission together, always giving glory to God, for the great things God does in us and through us for the sake of the world.

Deacon Nominations Being Accepted in February

During the month of February, members have the opportunity to nominate new deacons. When thinking about a possible deacon nominee, please keep in mind that deacons are expected to meet the following criteria:

Those individuals nominated for the position of deacon should:

- * Have been a FBC member for a minimum of 2 years
- * Be of sufficient age as to demonstrate spiritual maturity commensurate with the responsibility of deacon service
- * Hold Baptist views generally consistent with the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message
- * Give evidence of support of the church by actively participating in regular Sunday attendance, Bible study, and other areas of service of the church
- * Demonstrate stewardship of time, talent and financial resources
- * Be prepared to participate in Deacon Orientation
- * Hold spiritual standards in accordance with New Testament teaching, i.e. discovering, developing, and exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)
- * Be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit
- * Exhibit behavior that will bring honor to the name and cause of Christ and strive to be a credit to the church community in which we live.

Without discussing the potential nomination with the nominee, nominations for deacon service must be made on appropriate forms made available during the month of February (tear-off below). These forms will be made available to all church members prior to the nominations. The form will be signed by the individual submitting the nomination. You may turn in your nomination form to Ann McGlone in the church office. She will be responsible for collecting the forms on behalf of the Deacon Nominating Workgroup.

Once all nominations have been received the Deacon Nominating Workgroup will process the nominations. The Deacon Nominating Workgroup has the discretion to edit (either by addition or deletion) the list of potential nominees.

If you have any questions about the process for nominating a member for service as a deacon, please contact Ann McGlone or Patti English.

Deacon Nomination Form

Name of person being submitted for nomination:

Name of person submitting the candidate for nomination:
