



**Volume 7, Issue 5
May Newsletter of Petal First Baptist**

Dear <<First Name>>,

May is here which means school is almost out and summer is here. I'm writing this from the other side of the world as I am on a trip with our team from FBC. Though I've been in many different countries, this is the first time I have gotten to go out of the country in over a decade and my first time in Southeast Asia with the SS people. It has been a stark reminder as we drive by many places who have a call to prayer multiple times a day (even as I type this article) and the overwhelming number of people who have no idea who Jesus is and that He loves them and died for them and wants to have a relationship with them. We've discovered that more than likely in each of these cities, .5% are believers at most. The lostness is just hard to comprehend sometimes and you wonder as you look out a hotel window and wonder, "how can we impact this darkness?" Yet, we are called to pray and we are called to give and we are called to go. Why? It's our mission clear and simple. We have to engage people with the hope of the gospel to see lives transformed. It's our privilege and it's our calling that we must fulfill until the whole world hears of the good news. My heart is full and also overwhelmed at all there is still to be done here. And by the way, that has to start right here at home. We have multiple ways to do that besides just daily sharing our faith with others that we come in contact with in our workplaces, schools, neighborhoods and community.

Several ways you can do that easily would be to volunteer and help us in Kidz Extreme the first week of June. We need lots of people to pull off this massive event that allows us to touch more kids and their families than any other time of the year. So please go to our website and sign up to be a part and while you are there, if you have kids or students (Kickstart), go ahead and sign them up too! www.petalfbc.com/kidzxtreme. If you have questions, please see Denise Inmon (Kids) or Karen Fordham (preschool). If you can't help, please commit to

pray for that week! You can also help with Backyard Kids Club in the Forest Garden Trailer Park that we have done the past several years. It will be on Tuesdays this summer and more details will follow. I hope we will all make a difference in the lives of these people.

Let me also say congrats to our senior class which is one of the largest in our church's history! We are so proud of you and we pray God's greatest blessings on each of you and your family as you make this transition to college or to a career. Our deepest desire is that you would follow Christ throughout these years with the foundation that has been laid in your life, though many choose to abandon their faith.

We are making progress on Outlive Your Life Phase 2 and hope to occupy the 2nd floor student space by the end of May. We've also, as hopefully you've seen, finished sealing and re-stripping the parking lot. It looks great and we've had lots of people comment on how great it looks as it's so visible from the road! We are rejoicing in the fact that one time gifts were \$71,627 and monthly gift commitments total out to be \$318,840. Along with the money we already had on hand and what is committed, that brings our grand total to \$545,467! Praise the Lord for your faithful and sacrificial giving. If you still haven't committed to be a part, you still can by filling out a commitment card and turning that it to the church office or simply just start giving!

Finally, thanks to our church staff for handling all of the daily stuff at the church while I have been overseas these past 2 weeks, and for those who've loved on my family too with food and support! I am so blessed to be a part of Petal FBC and get to shepherd this flock. I look so forward to being back with you this coming Sunday in LifeGroups and Worship! I hope to see each of you there.

In Christ Alone,

Brad



Graduate Recognition Sunday is this Sunday, May 5, @ 10:30 am. Come help us support and congratulate our graduates! Please be in prayer for them as they start a new journey in their lives and face important decisions for their future. Contact Chris with questions.



Baby Dedication will be Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day), @ 10:30 am. You do not have to be a member of the church to participate. Contact Teresa at teresa@petalabc.com or call the church office at 601-545-3198 by May 7 to sign up.

A graphic for a baby bottle campaign. On the left is the logo for "HOPE CLINIC TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR SEXUAL HEALTH" featuring a stylized tree. Below it is the logo for "Petal FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH" featuring a stylized flower. In the center is a baby bottle with a purple cap and a label that says "God's Gift". To the right of the bottle, the text "BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN" is written in large, colorful letters (B in red, A in orange, Y in yellow, B in green, O in light green, T in teal, L in dark teal, E in blue, C in dark blue, A in teal, M in dark teal, P in blue, A in teal, I in dark teal, G in blue, N in dark blue). Below this, the dates "MAY 12 - JUNE 16" are written in red. At the bottom, there are two columns of text: "SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY BY SUPPORTING LIFE CHOICES" and "FILL YOUR BABY BOTTLE TODAY!".

The annual **Baby Bottle Campaign** will kick off **Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day)** and will end **Sunday, June 17 (Father's Day)**. Pick up one bottle per family at the designated table in the lobby on May 12 and fill it with change, dollar bills, or checks and return it by June 17. Help us support Hope Clinic!



We are less than 5 weeks away from the launch of Kidz Xtreme! It will be June 2-6 from 6-8:30 pm. Register online at petalabc.com/kidzxtreme. Volunteers can also sign up online. We need lots of help to make one of our biggest events of the year a success! Contact Denise Inmon or Karen Fordham with questions about working. The theme this year is "Power Up!".



Backyard Kidz Club will continue Tuesday, June 11, at Forrest Garden Mobile Home Park. We will meet each Tuesday in June and July, with the exception of July 2, starting at 6:30 pm. We will also be visiting Forrest Garden Mobile Home Park Sunday, May 26, at 5 pm to distribute fliers. Contact Whitney McDonald if you would like to help or have any questions.

LIFEGROUPS

DOING LIFE
TOGETHER

It's the perfect time (though anytime is a good time) to jump into a small group. There is a place for you and your entire family. This will be a major push for us in 2019 as we are shooting to average 250 by year end. We are also starting new groups this year, too! **LifeGroups meet each Sunday at 9 am. Remember we are better together because we were never meant to live life alone!**

Here is the link to the listing of our LifeGroups: petalfbc.com/grow/lifegroups.

LifeGroups Doing Life Together

At Petal FBC, we want everyone to be a part of our small group community of LifeGroups, as this is our central strategy for spiritual growth and developing the rich community life that God intends for His church. LifeGroups meet on Sundays @ 9 a.m. If you don't know where to go, ask one of our staff members or go to one of our resource tables and we'll help you get to the right place.

GROUP	LEADER	LOCATION
Guys (7th-8th Grade)	Charlie Morgan	203
Girls (7th-8th Grade)	Carita Vidrine	202
Students (9th-12th Grade)	Jeremy Freeman	WC 103
College	Ben Catalano	WC 102
Career	Melanie Blanton / Steven Davis	Worship Center
Couples (20s-30s)	Jonathan Dyer	201
Couples (30s-40s)	Chris Rhodes	Worship Center
Couples (30s-40s)	Shane Kelly	WC 101
Couples (30s-40s)	Brian Riels	Fellowship Hall
Couples (40s-50s)	Tony Ducker	WC 105
Couples (50s-60s)	Gary Fordham	Conference Room
Ladies	Dee McDermitt	WC 104
Men	Jimmy Walton	FH 101
Ladies	Lynn Walton	O 103
Ladies	Barbara Ellington	Office Reception
Older Men	Roy Helton	O 102



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Our message series on the book of **2 Timothy** and **Our Call to Stand continues through May**. Come join us as our pastoral staff preaches through this incredible book that will provide great words of challenge and encouragement to stand firm!



There will be a work day this **Saturday, May 4, starting at 7 am**. We will continue to work on the 2nd Floor Student Ministry Space and other areas on the 2nd floor. Come join the fun and help us stretch our giving further!



Text PFBC to 970-00 to sign up for our **NEW** texting platform! Be on the lookout for more information about how you can receive updates for more specific categories. We need everyone who would like updates via text messaging to sign up, even if you were signed up for our previous platform.

rightnow MEDIA

We are excited to share that our church now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

Some LifeGroups are using RightNow Media as their curriculum. If you are in a LifeGroup, you should have received an official invitation email to give you FREE access to RightNow Media. **If you have not received an email but you would like a link, please let the church office know.**

Once you find the email, simply click the link, sign up for an account, and you're all set to explore more than 20,000 videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!

Wednesdays @ Petal First Baptist



Family Friendly Wednesday are every Wednesday night beginning with supper at 5:30 pm followed by opportunities for the entire family at 6:15 pm: Zip for preschoolers, TeamKid for children, Intersect for 6th graders, Refuge for students, and Refuel for adults. Impact for college meets at 7:45 pm. We hope you will join us! **May 22 will be our last Family Friendly Wednesday until school starts back up in August!**



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER MENU FOR MAY

May 1:

Philly Cheesesteak Subs, Fries

Kid Option: Turkey and Cheese Sliders

Cherry Cream Cheese Danish, Cupcake Variety

May 8:

Chicken Bacon Ranch Pasta, Salad, Garlic Bread

Kid Option: Ravioli
Hershey Cake, Eclair Bars

May 15:

Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Biscuit

Kid Option: Hot Dog

Strawberry Pie, Cherry Chocolate Cheesecake

May 22:

Jambalaya, French Bread

Kid Option: Popcorn Chicken

Bread Pudding, Ice Cream

menu items are subject to change



Kids Camp dates have been changed to June 17-19. Camp is open to children who have completed 2nd to 5th grades. **A \$50 deposit is due ASAP.** To register, complete a form which can be found on the counter in the children's area. Contact Denise with questions.



RESORED

FUGE CAMPS + 2019

**Mfuge | Greenville, South Carolina
Grades 6th-12th**

Cost: \$365* \$100 Deposit / January 20th

MFuge is quickly approaching! A \$100 deposit is due ASAP. There are still spots left, so contact Chris if you would like to sign your student up or if you have any questions. Remaining balances are due by May 26th.



Arnie Hogue by Letter
Jamie Hogue by Statement
Kendall Lewis by Statement
Caden Lewis by Statement
Ali Cross by Baptism



**May
OnCall
Deacons**

Jeff Ford - 601-408-0361
Matt Dillon - 601-545-3198



ONLINE
Giving

**CLICK
HERE**

Click the link
to access
the
monthly
church
calendar!



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