

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Gifts Received - 02.19.12	\$61,689
Total Gifts	\$88,372
MTD Budget Goal	\$195,448
MTD Budget Receipts	\$178,560
YTD Budget Goal	\$2,139,022
YTD Budget Receipts	\$2,131,113
Foundation for the Future YTD	\$1,218,851

Worship - We gather corporately to offer praise and thanksgiving to God and to declare our allegiance to the Lord.

Serve - We desire for every believer to exercise their spiritual gifts through a ministry or area of service.

Grow - We offer intentional discipleship classes throughout the week for believers to mature in their faith.

Impact - We desire to see the effect of the gospel in our individual lives and in the hearts of those we engage on a daily basis.

Connect - We connect in homes across the region to fellowship and to encourage the church family to walk closely with our Lord.



Life Matters (USPN 112840)
published weekly by
First Baptist Church Charlotte
P.O. Box 31046
Charlotte, NC 28231-1046

GROW REPORT

Preschool	BFM	78
Children	BFM	77
Youth	BFM	62
Adults	BFM	417
Korean	BFM	52
LCU, Women's, Men's*	Bible Study	41
RAs-GAs, Statik*	Bible Study	36
Multihousing	Bible Study	90
Wilora Lake	Bible Study	32
Fire Department	Bible Study	8
Jail Ministry	Bible Study	36
Total		929
*Nonduplicating attendance for the week		

CONNECT REPORT

Life Groups	246
-------------	-----

POWERLUNCH/SUPPER MENU

February 29 - Salmon, Roasted Potatoes, Bokchoy Salad, Roll/Dessert/Drink

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
PAID



PASTOR'S ARTICLE



When you come to the end of February, you have to know, something called March Madness is around the corner! If you are from ACC country, and basketball is your thing, then here it comes! We have been excited to have our own little taste of basketball madness during the tremendous year of Upward Basketball right here at First Baptist. It has been a wonderful season, where these young men and young ladies have developed in so many great ways, which include basketball skills, but have certainly not been limited to them. No, these young people have learned much about teamwork, about discipline, about following directions, listening to a coach, building friendships, and so much more. Best of all, because of the structure of Upward, they have heard about Jesus, and while basketball is a game of decisions, the greatest decision of life is trusting Christ as their personal Savior. Debbie Smith stepped up this year, and brought a wealth of experience, knowledge, and most of all passion for these children and families as they participated in Upward. Debbie recruited Chris Horne to be our Upward Commissioner, and a host of coaches, officials, clock keepers, and prayer warriors, along with Michael Cummings' halftime devotion, all have made for a phenomenal season. This weekend is their final week of Upward on Saturday, followed by a great time of celebration on Sunday. In fact, we will take a moment and recognize our teams, their coaches, and leaders in our morning worship this Sunday. Thanks to everyone who has made

these months of Upward an extraordinary time together!

This coming Sunday we will continue in our journey through the Gospel of Mark. We come to a very key turning point in our journey this week. Please, don't miss being here and seeing all that God has to say to us! Also, please pray for our Student Ministry this week, as many of our students will be heading to their annual Winterfest weekend. Pray for Jonathan McCarthy as he leads our students in this season of transition, and for a very special movement of God upon their times of worship and Bible Study this weekend!

Finally, as I mentioned this past Sunday morning, please mark your calendar for Sunday morning, March 4! This is the day we welcome Tony Perkins, President of the Family Research Council here in the United States. Tony has been a national leader and consistent voice speaking for the issues of Marriage and Family that are so critical to be heard in this generation. I will say much more about Tony next week, and the events around his coming, but please take the opportunity now to begin inviting friends and neighbors to join you. It is a critical time in our nation!

I look forward to seeing you this coming Lord's Day as we gather together and lift up the Name of Jesus!! It will be an exciting day at First Baptist Church, Charlotte!!

In His Love,
Pastor Mark

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY



Marriage and Family Sunday
Sunday, March 4, 2012
Speaker: Tony Perkins

Tony Perkins is President of the Washington, DC-based Family Research Council. He is a former member of the Louisiana legislature where he served for eight years, and he is recognized as a legislative pioneer for authoring measures like the nation's first Covenant Marriage law. Although he had no opposition for re-election, he kept his pledge to serve only two terms and left office at the completion of his term in 2004. He was a Republican candidate for the United States Senate in 2002. Since joining FRC in the fall of 2003 he has launched new initiatives to affirm and defend the Judeo-Christian values that this nation is founded upon.

Tony Perkins and FRC have led the way in defending religious freedom in the public square, protecting the unborn and their mothers, defending and strengthening one man/one woman marriage and promoting pro-family public policy. Tony hosts a regular national radio program, "Washington Watch Weekly," broadcasts a daily commentary heard on over 300 stations nationwide, and sends daily email updates to tens of thousands of grassroots activists. An effective communicator, he frequently appears on national broadcast and cable news programs. Tony's first book, *Personal Faith, Public Policy*, co-authored with Bishop Harry Jackson, Jr., was released in March 2008. In addition, he has been a keynote speaker for organizations across the country.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT



Membership Matters

Guests and new members are encouraged to attend a session of "Membership Matters," a four-week class designed both for new members and for those considering membership. The class will provide you with helpful information regarding FBC's mission, values, and strategy and will give you an opportunity to connect with other families that are new to the church. Many families have found this class to be very helpful in making their decision to unite with FBC and, in fact, have joined the church right there in the classroom. Joining the church during the class is an option that we

offer to those that attend.

Here at First Baptist Charlotte, we recognize the need for formal church membership. We believe that such membership is important because:

- Christ is committed to the church
- membership is an antidote to our society where few want to be committed to anything
- membership identifies our family
- membership produces spiritual growth

"Membership Matters" is a great place to start if you are visiting at First Baptist and considering membership or if you are a new member and haven't taken the class yet. We invite you to join us in this great class taught by Dr. Mark Harris. The next session meets on March 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 9:00 am in Room 247. You may sign up by calling Sonia Livingston at 704-369-2130 or by sending an email to sonia.livingston@charlottefbc.org.

LIFE GROUPS



Join an FBC Life Group today!

One of our major strategies to help each of us *Live a Life that Matters* is "Connect." Life Groups are the primary focus of this strategy for developing meaningful friendships and relationships among our members and guests who live in every part of the Charlotte region. We are using an exceptional video-based curriculum produced by Focus on the Family entitled *The Truth Project*. Each Life Group participant will be challenged by each of the 12 videos to explore the depths of their heart and honestly answer the question Pilate asked Jesus: "What is truth?" (John 18:38)

We all know that sharing a meal in the home of a friend deepens that friendship. In a very similar way, digging deeply into God's Word and struggling with the hard questions of life deepens connections between believers in Jesus Christ. That is exactly what will happen as we study *The Truth Project* together this winter and spring. Dr. Del Tackett, founder and creator of *The Truth Project*, explains the reason we need to have this experience together: "You and I are engaged in a cosmic battle—a battle that is raging for the hearts and minds of people the world over, pitting the true claims of God against the lies of the world, the flesh and the devil. It is a battle over what you truly believe."

With a major election upcoming this fall, it is crucial that we each know the truth of God. We will be challenged with many expressions of lies couched in political or social correctness. We must know what God says. We must know His truth! *The Truth Project* will both challenge and lead us to construct a firm foundation of knowledge of the real truth as God intends for us to both know it and to live it out. Your participation in a Life Group will be either the starting point or the continuation of connecting with other believers. To be referred to a host for more detailed information, please email Michael Cummings at michael.cummings@charlottefbc.org.

FRAME IT



Over the last several months we have looked closely at the new Vision Frame of FBC Charlotte. This Vision Frame is a collection of statements that reflect the Kingdom Concept or DNA of our Church. It includes an articulation of the church's unique mission, values, strategy, and life marks. Below is a quick snapshot of what we unpacked over the last 21 weeks.

MISSION

living
a
life
that matters

VALUES

We have five foundational values expressed through the words:

anchor - His Word is everything
pursue - His presence changes it all

expect - He desires our greatest effort

inspire - His purpose for families

impact - His love reaches with relevance

STRATEGY



LIFE MARKS

A life that matters answers these questions...

- Am I pleasing God?
- Am I closer to God today than yesterday?
- Am I a 2 am friend?
- Am I giving it away?
- Am I leaving a footprint?