First Baptist Church BROADCASTER

"Our focus at First Baptist Church is to increase our commitment to Jesus Christ and introduce him to others."

February 2026

MISSION SPOTLIGHT: Our International Ministries Global Servants

This month our church will be blessed to spend time with Kit Ripley, a Global Servant providing rehabilitative care for survivors of trauma in Northern Thailand. Our church has supported her ministry for eight years. We also support the work of Mercy González-Barnes and Luis and Sarah Matos.

Mercy is a regional consultant in theological education and leadership development in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean. She is also part of a team of global servants collaborating with Palmer Theological Seminary in their online masters degree program. She teaches, mentors, and walks alongside those following God's call to be agents of transformation.

Luis and Sarah Matos partner in ministry with a network of churches serving indigenous communities in Oaxaca, Mexico. Luis uses his background in business and leadership to work with local churches to empower leaders in community development and growth. Sarah is an educator and works with a program offering discipleship and empowerment to underserved girls ages eight to twelve. She contributed extensively to the curriculum they are piloting throughout Latin America.

These four are among over 100 Global Servants serving through International Ministries around the world. IM's mission is to cross-culturally invite people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and to proclaim, through both word and deed, God's reign of justice, peace, and abundant life for all creation, summarized by Matthew 6:10: On Earth as it is in Heaven. Thank you for continuing to donate to missions each month so we are able to continue to support this important work around the world and in our own community.

This is our church's QR Code. Use your QR reader in your phone's camera to scan this. The link will take you to our website where you'll find recordings of our services, the weekly bulletin, the opportunity to give to our Church and missions, and more.

On February 18th, Ash Wednesday, we will begin a new Bible Study. Join us this Lent as we take a closer look at the Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

Happy Valentine's Day! Never forget how much God loves you! John 3:16

A reminder from the Trustees: If you would like to use the Church Facilities, including borrowing church property, please contact the church office and fill out a church use request form.

If you recently borrowed three of the white, rectangular tables, or any other church equipment, please contact the church office. Thank you for helping us be good stewards of God's church.

Church United Pantry (C.U.P.) Item for the month: Deodorant

Pastor's Article: "The Big Twist"

In February we see that in stores, it smells even more like chocolate than it did at Halloween. Valentine's Day started its 6 weeks of marketing even as "after-Christmas-sales" were still in swing. Giving gifts to those you love is a fun tradition, and what gift tastes better than chocolate. Historians often point to a Bishop Valentine who was killed on February 14, 269 as the person that is the namesake for Valentine's Day. The name means worthy strong, and powerful. Valentine was remembered for compassion to those being persecuted for their Christian faith, for conducting marriages, and he died in prison himself at the order of Roman Emperor Claudius. There are many alternate stories to the who the man who inspired St. Valentine's day, and we still have fun with the holiday to this day. Romantic love is just one kind of love, there is also brotherly love, and family love, and of course the greatest love is Jesus' love.

1 John 4:10, states: **"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."**

The big twist is that God loved us first. When I was a teen, there was a winter dance in which there was a twist. The dance was called SWIRL. Unlike Homecoming, or Prom, (where the boys asked the girls to the dance) for the occasion called SWIRL, the girls asked the boys to the dance. (Maybe it was called Sadie Hawkins in your town).

As a young adult I lived a few years in Japan and saw a Valentine's twist there as well. In Japan Valentine's Day is a day in which Mothers and daughters cooked gifts or gave gifts as a sign of love to the men in their lives, and so gifts were from women to men. Much more recently a complementary tradition called "White Day" extends the season to a second date, March 14, in which men give gifts back to the important women in their lives. This is done in family, romantic, and even in business gestures.

If we are not careful, days like Valentine's Day can be routine. So, don't let that happen, take the initiative, show love, show care, and be bold in doing so. If given the chance, tell people about the greatest love, God's love.

Sincerely, Rev. Andrew Shields – Senior Pastor

First Baptist Daycare and Preschool

As I think about last year. I think how much has changed, friends moving away for college, fellow scouts either dropping out or becoming eagle scouts, and of course graduating from high-school and becoming an adult. But even with these changes God has still been a constant in my life and I am truly grateful for all he has done and all he will do. Romans 15:4 NIV4. For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. – Micah Reeder – 3-year-old Afternoon Assistant

February birthdays…

11th – Miss Taylor – Wobbler Assistant Teacher
26th – Miss Nautia – Infant and Wobbler Afternoon Floater

February work anniversaries…

14th – Miss Allee – Lead Toddler 2 Teacher – 2 years
20th – Miss Julia – Infant Assistant Teacher – 1 year

February 2026 Teacher of the month: Miss Taylor

Miss Taylor joined the First Baptist Daycare & Preschool team on October 22, 2025. She attended high school at Lima Senior High School. She is new to teaching. She is currently our Infant and Wobbler Floater. She makes sure that our teachers receive much deserved breaks and fills in as necessary. Miss Taylor has two children. Elijah is her step-son and he is 4-years-old. Everleigh, her daughter, is one-years-old. A few fun facts about Miss Taylor are that her favorite color is red, her favorite treat is Sour Patch kids, and she also enjoys drinking Pepsi. She is also the oldest sister of three.

Year End General Fund Update

Giving was very strong in the fourth quarter which helped offset various plumbing related expenses at both the church and parsonage.

Our 2025 income less expenses left us with a ***negative*** balance of $7,270 at year end. Using the $5,123 carryover balance (***as budgeted***) brought the shortfall down to $2,147. This was covered with designated Maintenance Funds and the remainder of the Betty Patterson Memorial. We enter 2026 with $52,563 in the General Fund thanks to prepaid giving for 2026.

Thank you and *thank God* for continuing to bless!!

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