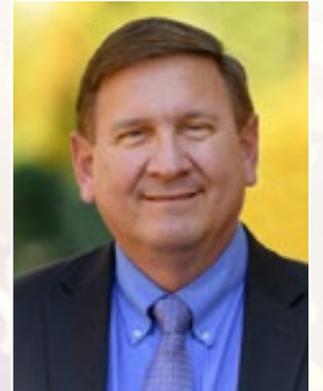


**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK DR. JIM COOLEY**

March is the month that comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. It is the time when we begin to see the days get longer, and begin to see things begin to blossom and turn green again. We see signs of life all around us. This year, March reveals a lot of life signs as well.



**YOUTH SUNDAY**

I know that you join me in thanking God for the amazing ministry that the Lord is doing among our Youth through Nathan's ministry.

We have such an amazing group of young people, and we are going to be blessed by their leadership on March 5. Be sure to speak a word of encouragement to our youth, and plan to support them on that special day.

**JOE MARCHETTI...**

...has come to mean so much to our church as our music intern. He will be presenting his Senior Recital at Bolding Studio on Samford's campus on Thursday, March 9, at 6:00pm. I have heard a little of his recital music, and it is amazing. Let me encourage you to come and encourage Joe during this special event.

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG**

Remember that we will be receiving our Annie Armstrong offering for North American Missions. Together, we can meet the challenging goal of \$20,000. Begin to pray about how the Lord would have you give sacrificially to this annual missions offering.

**MARCH SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR**

March 5	Youth-Led Worship	Sanctuary	10:15am
March 5	Facilities Committee Meeting	Conference Room	4:00pm
March 7	WMU General Meeting	Fellowship Hall	10:30am
March 12	Daylight Saving Time Begins		
March 13	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 152	6:00pm
March 16	Discover the Magic City!		9:00am
March 18-19	Youth Trip to Daphne		
March 19	Deacons Meeting	Room 175	4:00pm
March 19	Deacons Leadership Study	Room 175	5:00pm
March 28	WMU Bible Study	Room G02	10:30am

Birmingham, AL 35209  
2209 Lakeshore Drive



**MENU**

**March 1**

Poppy Seed Chicken Casserole,  
Rice, Vegetables, Rolls,  
Salad Bar, Cookies & Lemon Bars

**March 8**

Slow-Cooked Beef Pot Roast, Mashed  
Potatoes, Green Beans, Homemade  
Yeast Rolls, Salad Bar, Dessert

**March 15**

Grilled Chicken, Fried Okra, Mac  
& Cheese, Buttermilk Biscuits,  
Tossed Salad, Apple Cobbler

**March 22**

TACO BAR!

**March 29**

Classic Beef Lasagna, Veggie  
Medley, Garlic Bread, Italian  
Style Salad, Dessert

Live stream our sermons:

fbcirmingham.org/live

Archives: www.ustream.tv/  
channel/fbc-birmingham-  
worship



**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Sunday**

8:45am Library Open  
9:00am Sunday School  
10:15am Morning Worship Service  
4:00pm Handbell Choir - 164  
4:45pm Library Open  
5:00pm The Gathering - 168  
5:00pm Children's Bible Drill - G02

**Wednesday**

10:30am Library Open  
11:00am Prayer Service & Lunch - FH  
5:00pm Family Supper - FH  
5:30pm Library Open  
6:00pm Prayer Service - FH  
6:00pm Choir Rehearsal - 168  
6:00pm Children's Activities - G02  
6:00pm Youth Ministry - 271

**OUR STAFF**

**Dr. Jim Cooley**  
Pastor  
205-901-3218

**Dr. Rich Hutchens**  
Associate Pastor  
205-401-0605

**Dr. Joe Hopkins**  
Minister of Music

**Rev. Nathan Lyon**  
Youth Minister & Music  
Ministry Associate  
334-301-8607

**Cyndy James**  
Pastoral Administrative  
Assistant

**Nancy Chesser**  
Financial Assistant

**Kellie Kema**  
Ministry Assistant

**Melvin Robertson  
& Ron Farms**  
Custodians



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## YOUTH REV. NATHAN LYON



The final buzzer has sounded on the Church League Basketball season. Our church had 17 middle school boys playing on two teams throughout the season. Not only were the guys impacted, but we were able to build relationships with and minister to family members, friends, referees, bookkeepers, and clock managers. The scope of the basketball season went far beyond the minutes played on the court. Thanks for your support in this. Thanks to Brandon Williams for giving his time to coach and mentor the guys. Brandon just happens to be a new father!!! Congrats, Brandon and Kristin.

As we look ahead to this month please continue to pray for March 5. This will be the day our youth lead the Sunday morning worship service. They have been working hard rehearsing music, learning about aspects of the service, and preparing themselves spiritually.

March 18-19 we will be heading down to Daphne, AL, to spend the weekend rehearsing with Eastern Shore Baptist Church Youth Choir in preparation for Choir Tour 2017 in Cincinnati. (There is still time if you would like to financially support this trip – we are still in need of scholarship funds.)

God bless you and your family.



Youth Service Day, January 28

## NOTES ON MINISTRY DR. JOE HOPKINS

A great thanks to all of you for participating in our All-Mens Choir, All-Ladies Choir, and Pack-the-Loft Choir. Your example of worship leadership was powerful, and you sounded great.

This coming week our youth will be leading in worship, and this is an extraordinary opportunity for our church to be encouragers. How blessed we are to have so many young people devoted to worship and this church! They have prepared for weeks with the goal of offering their very best when they lead on March 5. Our response could make a profound difference in these young lives and their interest in becoming church leaders one day, so let's all plan to demonstrate our profound appreciation for the hard work, courage, and talents of these youth. While we are at it, let's also be sure to demonstrate our appreciation for the wonderful folks who are preparing them to serve.

FBC is blessed beyond all measure, and March 5 will provide tremendous evidence to this truth. Come ready to worship and ready to celebrate what God is doing through the youth of our church.



## WMU

**General Meeting Meeting**  
Tuesday, March 7, 10:30am - Fellowship Hall  
Lunch to Follow

Since his retirement from 30+ years of US Government service two years ago, John Grimes will share his observations as to the challenges that Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in general, and our International Mission Board (IMB) in particular, face in their efforts to serve various humanitarian and religious needs among people groups around the world in the Age of Terror since 911.

**Bible Study**  
Tuesday, March 28, 10:30am - Room 152

What does time have to do with radios, air-conditioning, cars, and doors? Hint: The disciples spent 730 hours with Jesus. Come join us to learn more about barriers and relationships; plus the Easter message is for all Times!

## A WORD FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR DR. RICH HUTCHENS

Perhaps one of the best known and best loved parables in the Bible is the Good Samaritan. It's so well known, in fact, that in many states, residents are encouraged to stop and render aid to the injured under legal protection called "The Good Samaritan Laws." Around the Muslim world the tale of the Good Samaritan is so well known that it is used in medical training to talk about giving emergency aid to the injured. With all the focus on the injured man in the story, however, we sometimes miss the forest for the trees. This isn't a story about helping an accident victim or giving emergency medical assistance. It's a story about putting your life on the line for someone who needs help...any kind of help in any kind of situation to any kind of person! It is, of course, a warning NOT to be selective about who we help; but it also comes with a very definite positive application from the lips of our Lord: "Go and do likewise!" In other words, we are told to go and seek out those in need. Obviously we aren't being asked to troll the roads for accident victims or take a course in first aid. But we are commanded to be intentional in reaching out to those who are different from us on the outside, but who have the same hurts, needs, desires and struggles as us on the inside! People who need Jesus – just like we need Jesus – but often don't have the same opportunity to hear. As a help to 'connect' with these needy neighbors, the Missions Committee is promoting various outreach ministries such as Sojourn (reaching into the university campuses), Multi-Housing Ministry (taking the Gospel to apartment complexes) and the Peru Partnership (reaching a community where no evangelical church exists). There is also a special training planned by Alabama Baptists at Shocco on March 9-10 called "Understanding and Serving your Community." Our hope is that those who need Hope will hear a hopeful word from each of us who are "ready to give an answer to every man...for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15).

*We want to thank the church for all of the calls, cards, food, and prayers. Thanks also to all those who helped us celebrate the life of George's mom, Jean Hairston. Our church family has meant so much to us during this time.*

*In Christ's Love, George and Paula Hairston*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

It is a wonderful privilege to be a part of the Children's Ministry. We are growing from within! Chad and Lindsay Baxley had a boy, Bowen, and Kristin and Brandon Williams had a girl, Brynn. Angela and Chris Evans are also having a baby.

On Sunday, February 19, Eben Elliott Cox, son of Marlene and Jonathan Cox was dedicated. It was certainly a special time for this sweet couple as all of their immediate family gathered around them to pray. Marlene's sister sang as Jonathan, Marlene, and Eben faced her. What a blessing this little boy is. We in the choir were able to see Eben as he looked at his daddy, then his mother, and then reached out his hand to the Pastor. The Pastor took his hand and smiled. What a tender moment it was.

We are planning to have a VBS this summer. Please mark June 21- 23 from 5:30-8:30pm on your calendar. On Sunday, June 25, there will be a program put on by all the children who attend. This will be an excellent outreach opportunity for our children's ministry as parents will come and see what their children have learned.

We anticipate some new and exciting activities planned for our children in the months ahead.

## CONNECTIONS MINISTRY (60+)

**Discover the Magic City!**  
Thursday, March 16, 9:00am-2:00pm

For the past few months, the FBC seniors have been "Discovering the Magic City!" On March 16, we will leave the church at 9:00am, explore our mystery Birmingham destination, eat lunch, and return to the church by 2:00pm. The cost is \$10 plus the cost of lunch. We will be taking a 15-passenger bus with a center aisle. Sign up in the front office if you would like to attend.

**March Clue: Break a leg!**



**Welcome  
Our Newest  
Member,  
Ted Mitchell!**