

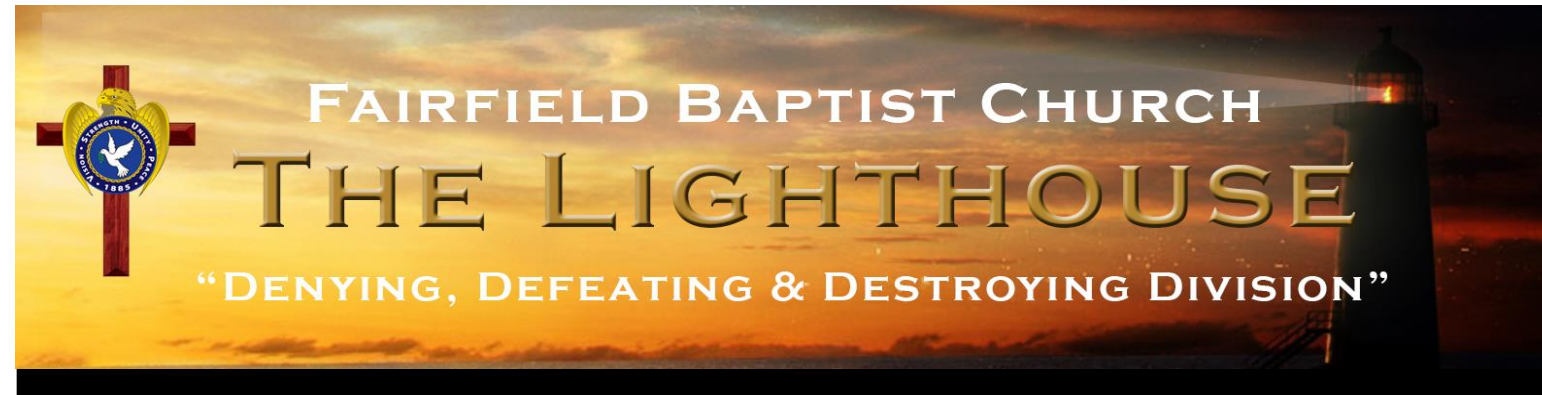
The month of March was very busy around the Fairfield campus. The following photos were taken from the different events that were held.



Pastor Benton served as host Pastor for the first public event of The Dekalb County Right Choices Program. See the insert for details.

Sean Tarrant took first place in the Toastmaster's International Speech Contest.

The Singles Ministry held its first session of "A Study of Wisdom" with Rev. Brenda Rush as the instructor. The next session is Friday, April 11th.



The Veterans Ministry sponsored a mini "Benefit and Entitlement" seminar.

The Noonday bible study group hosted their monthly luncheon.

Kingdom Kreation enjoyed a night of games and bowling at Stars and Strikes. Join them for Movie Night, Friday, April 18th 7 PM
12 and under – Room 219
13 and up – Fellowship Hall



Christopher Stinson brought his sons to walk with him during walk with someone you love month.

The quilting, sewing and crocheting class began and students started on new projects. It's not too late to join them on Saturdays at 10:30 AM.

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Newsletter Article Submission Deadline
The FBC Newsletter is published the first Sunday of each month. Articles MUST be submitted by the 15th of each month for inclusion. Please send submissions to: saking@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org.



Inside Stories

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- Resurrection Commemoration

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FAIRFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH THE LIGHTHOUSE

“DENYING, DEFEATING & DESTROYING DIVISION”

Reverend Verna Hall – “The Holy Land Experience”

On February 10, 2014, a beautiful afternoon, twelve FBC members and families boarded the bus for Hartsfield Atlanta. There we were joined with about thirty-six members from other churches for a life-changing journey to Israel.

Upon arriving in Israel on Tuesday after about 15 hours of flying, though tired, those of us who were visiting for the first time were awestruck. The morning started with our singing, “This is the day,” followed by scripture reading and prayer.

We visited many interesting places, one being the Sea of Galilee, where Pastor Benton brought a very inspiring message, as only he can. We also visited the Garden of Gethsemane in the early morning, where we sang, prayed, and listened to another inspiring message from Pastor Jerry Black.

While walking along the Via Dolorosa, we visited the stations where Jesus was beaten, humiliated, and carried the cross with excruciating pain. Our emotions varied.

Wow, we also visited Golgotha’s Hill, and entered the tomb of Jesus! As we reflected on Jesus in the tomb, it brought tears for some, but joy to others for His resurrection. He did it for us!

We had communion and reflected on Jesus’ last night with the disciples at the last supper and our charge to do the same “In remembrance of Him.” Across the street stood a beautiful building, “The Church of All Nations.” In this church is a rock where, we were told, Jesus lamented and agonized over his impending death. We stood in front of the church and posed for pictures with the Mount of Olives in the backdrop. Looking across Jerusalem and seeing the Mount of Olives that has a direct line of sight with the very rock where Jesus agonized, reminded us of God’s awesome plans for humankind.

One cannot help but wonder how difficult it was for the God-man who was born to die for humanity.

Our visit to the Dead Sea, and baptisms in the Jordan River, brought about hope of healing of the mind and the spirit.

Words cannot express the experiences of our journey to the Holy Land where we walked in the path and the land of Our Lord and Savior.

It is my belief that the Holy Land is a trip that should be experienced by every Christian.

Marilyn Dukes – Tribal News

Calling all FBC members- Pastor Benton encourages each of you to become an active member of your tribe. The first initial of your last name determines the tribe of which you are a member.

The Judah Tribe, last names beginning with A or C, partnered with the Mission and assisted with Feed our Friends. They also provided book bags full of toiletries.

The Tribe of Issachar, last names beginning with B or D, is also on the go. They presented at Bible Study Wednesday night on the Book of Hosea. They watched an awesome movie presentation of an *Amazing Love* about Hosea and Israel as they began their studies in February. They also blessed the Atlanta Mission with sandwiches and treats, visited our nursing home seniors and walked as a group.

To find out what’s going on with your tribe, stop by the kiosk and pick up a list of tribe leaders.

The Nurses Guild

Watch that cough (or how you cough).

There are various forms of communication regarding colds, the flu and other types of upper respiratory infections. There is just as much communication regarding the spread of germs. This month’s health tip directs us to take a look at ourselves and think about things we do that just might be spreading some of those germs. Let’s talk about coughs. How often have you placed your hand over your mouth to cough? Although it is good to cover your mouth, it is not good to then touch things or someone and spread germs. An alternative is to extend your arm, place the hand of the extended arm on the opposite shoulder, bend your head and cough into the bend of your arm. Very rarely do people come into contact with the bend of your arm.

Mother Rachel Hull – Family Reunions

Spring has arrived and so has the Easter Season which brings about family reunion time. Family reunions are a time to get to know your extended family and history. With each birth comes another opportunity for love. As the circle grows so should joy and love. Unfortunately, sometimes crisis do occur however, they only make the circle stronger. Call it a network, a tribe or whatever you prefer, but we all need a family whether it is a biological or church family. Happiness is having a close knit circle of friends and family. It’s not too late to increase your circle.

Speaking of families and friends—

Usher Board No. 1 will meet Saturday, April 12, from 9 AM – 10 AM to walk as a group. They will assemble in the courtyard. Contact Levetta Graham for details.

Fairfield hosts DeKalb Right Choices' first "Unity in the Community" Service.



Friday, March 28, 2014, Fairfield hosted the first public event of The DeKalb County Right Choices, an afterschool mentoring program for boys. The event was attended by more than 2000 people.

Pictured on the photo on the left are: (front row l-r), a visiting pastor; Pastor Woodrow Walker, Cross Culture Church, speaker; Pastor Collette Gunby, Green Pastures Christian Church; Pastor Benjamin Gaither, Stronghold Christian Church; (middle row l-r) our pastor, Pastor Micheal Benton; Pastor Karl Moore, Clarkston First Baptist Church; Pastor Steven N. Dial, Sr., Rainbow Baptist Church; (third row) standing behind Pastor Benton, Chief Cedric Alexander; (back row l-r) Bishop Quincy Carswell, Covenant Church and Pastor William Flippin, Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church.



Also participating but unable to attend due to previous obligations were Pastor Kerwin Lee, Berean Christian Church, Bishop Eddie Long, New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, and Pastor William Watley, Saint Philip AME Church.

Coordinating the event and carrying out the vision of the pastors were their assistants, pictured on the right side of the bannister.

Leaders of some of Fairfield ministries also assisted with planning and were on duty the night of the event. Representatives from Fairfield's choirs sang in the Community Mass Choir.

Below (l-r) Intercessory prayer members from each church arrived early to bless the event. Pastor Benton was interviewed by Fox Five News and was featured on both the 10 PM and morning news. Nurses from each church were on hand just in case someone needed medical attention.



Below (L) the event was attended by over 2000 people.

(L) Over 100 people were eventually seated in the basement.



(Left) The choir stand was filled to capacity with representatives from each church.

**SERVICE
TIMES**

Mondays

Intercessory Prayer
7:00PM Ext. 125
Sanctuary

Wednesdays

Bible Study
12 Noon
C.L. Nall Chapel
7:00 PM
The Son's House

Sundays

Worship Services
7:30AM & 10:45AM
The Son's House

Sunday School
9:15AM

Zack Brown
Administrative Center
Ext. 111

KK Youth Church
Last Sunday/Each Month
10:45AM
C.L. Nall Chapel
Ext 117

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Call (770) 482-7660

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Y'Vonne Benton
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Deacon David Rollins
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Office Administrator
Deaconess Alice
Cunningham
Ext. 109

Property Manager
Deaconess Bonni Ware
Ext. 100

Family Life Center CEO
Deacon Frederick
Jackson
Ext. 200

Lost and Found
Ext. 180

Mission Ministry
Ext. 112

Team of the Month
Ext. 172
Trustees
Ext. 103

Pastor Micheal Benton - Why the Cross?

As we embark upon another Good Friday and Easter celebration, our minds and ultimately our hearts reflect more profoundly on the cross of Jesus. We believe that Jesus' death was a necessary occurrence as a penalty for the sins of man. However, have you ever wondered "why the cross?"

When man sinned, he became separated from God. Jesus understood and acknowledged that he would have to die to atone for the sins of man and make salvation possible. As a matter of fact, He asserted that no man could take His life, but that He would lay it down. Jesus willingly sacrificed Himself as an act of perfect obedience and love which pleased God. Christian theology teaches that the death of Jesus Christ provided the perfect atoning sacrifice for the sins of all mankind . . .but why the cross?

Death by crucifixion was the cruelest, most shameful and disgraceful manner of execution in Roman times. Crucifixion was not merely death on the cross, first came a scourging with a whip that was usually embedded with nails or pieces of glass or bone to heighten the pain. The "criminal" was made to carry all or part of his cross. He was often naked and humiliated, mocked and spat on. As was the custom, before being nailed to the cross, a mixture of vinegar, gall, and myrrh was offered. Once attached to the cross, death came from exhaustion or asphyxiation because the crucified one would not be able to raise himself up to allow his lungs to breathe. It could take days to die, so sometimes the legs were broken to hasten the process.

The Holy Bible confirms all of these historical facts of Jesus' crucifixion. Why the cross? It is clear that crucifixion was the only death that would fulfill the Old Testament prophecies as to what would happen to the Messiah. As foretold in the scripture, Jesus was made a "curse" for us to redeem us from the curse of the law, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." (Gal. 3:13)

No man can suffer more than Christ already suffered, nor are our sufferings, however great, something Christ has not already experienced. Jesus' victory over man's greatest enemy - death- is announced in Paul's letter to the Hebrews: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he Himself partook of the same nature, that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage." (Heb. 2:14-15)

Through Jesus' death on the cross, prophesies were fulfilled (Acts 2:23); the old law was put away (col. 2:13-14); enmity was abolished (Eph. 2:14-16); the love of God was displayed (Rom. 5:8, John 15:13); and a perfect example of suffering was demonstrated (1 Peter 2:21-24).

Why the cross? Doing the unthinkable, paying the ultimate price, going beyond the call is part of God's character. The cross was the ugly humiliation of total self-denial. It has never been possible to go lower than the death of the cross in all the annals of human torture and misery. Since God needed a man to demonstrate going beyond reason to pay the ultimate price, He needed that man to die on a cross. The cross is not viewed as a scandal, for the crucifixion of Jesus "at the hands of the lawless" is viewed as the fulfillment of the plan of God. God through His son Jesus changed the cross from a symbol of shame, suffering and death to a symbol of salvation and eternal life.

Jesus was sent by God to defeat death and Satan. Because of His perfection, voluntary death, and Resurrection, Jesus defeated Satan and death, and arose victorious. Therefore, humanity is no longer bound in sin, but free to rejoin God through faith in Jesus.

The hymnologist wrote: "Must Jesus bear the cross along, and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me!" What cross must we bear? As Christians, we are not guaranteed a pleasant life always. Jesus instead guaranteed that trials would come to His followers (John 16:33). Discipleship demands sacrifice, and Jesus never hid that cost. He also promised that He would be there to us give us the joy and peace of the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-19), comfort us in our trials (James 1:12), and act as a faithful high priest who understands our struggles (Hebrews 2:17) and accomplish for us peace with God by His blood (Romans 5:1).

Deacon Trellis Dawson - Faith

Christians' faith is more than a religious conviction. It is a guiding belief in the Father who sent forth His Son to teach and witness for His Father, the love He has for us all.

Let us go back to Deuteronomy 6:4 in the Old Testament where it says "Hear O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord." Adherence to a creed is not true faith. Even the demons know and accept the truth of the creed, but they do not possess saving faith. If one does nothing to enact his knowledge of God, he is worse than the demons, for they at least tremble.

Let us go to Habakkuk 2:4, which says "Behold his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith." Two classes of people are contrasted: (1) the proud, naughty Chaldeans who were victors in conflict, and (2) the righteous ones, Judah appeared to be defeated in the forthcoming conflict, but in reality will be the victors because of their faith in the Lord.

"The just shall live by his faith" is often quoted in the New Testament in support of the doctrine of justification by faith. (See Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38.) In Mark 11:22-26 Jesus explains to the disciples the meaning of 4 "The power of faith". Jesus made numerous comments on faith, and forgiveness. Matthew 17:20; 21:21-22 and Luke 17.

In conclusion as we recognize "Easter", the Christians' celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. When we are being tried in a crucible of distress, God desires to help us continue living by faith and trusting in His compassion and mercy.

Volume 3, Issue 4

Upcoming Events

Sun	13		Palm Sunday
Tues	15		Last day for FBC free taxes
Fri	18	6AM	Pastor to preach at Berean Christian Ch.
Fri	18	7 PM	Seven Last Sayings
Sat	19	12:30	Easter Egg Hunt
Sun	20	6 AM	Easter Sunrise Service
Sat	26	8 AM	Pastor Benton's Bread of Heaven Ministry's Breakfast
Sat	26	2 PM	Veterans Dinner
Sun	27	9:30 AM	Newcomers Fellowship Hr.
Wed	30	7 PM	Pastor/preach @ Exousia Ch.

Spring has sprung and the "FBC Walking Team" encourages you to dust off those sneakers and hit the trail. Though the winter weather has put us drastically behind we still encourage you to donate your dimes.

The WInGS Ministry invites "ALL WOMEN" to join us for a Mother's Day Brunch on Saturday, May, 10, at 11:00AM. Special guests include the phenomenal soloist, Leslie Pace of the Pace Sisters and our inspirational speaker is Minister Dee Dawkins Haigler. You do not want to miss this wonderful event. Tickets are available at the kiosks for \$25.00 per person. To sponsor a mother or a woman of your choice, stop by the Kiosk or contact any of the committee members.

Save the Date for the Birthday Celebration of First Lady Y'Vonne Benton
Sunday, April 27, 2014
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Service
(Notecards and envelopes will be available for you to share your "I'm just saying... Loving You with My Whole Heart" expressions with the First Lady along with your love offering.)

The Veterans and Supporters Ministry will have their 5th Annual Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, April 26, from 2PM- 5PM in the fellowship hall. You are invited to come out and fellowship and show your Appreciation to our Veterans. Sign up at the Kiosk or to get more information. Bring your favorite dish.



Kingdom Kreation Presents
"Wild Out Wednesday", a Special Teen Bible Study for ages 13+
Wed. April 23rd @ 7 pm Rm 219
Topic: My Hittas

Resurrection Commemoration Events

Join us as we commemorate the resurrection of our Risen Savior.

Fri	April 18	6:00 AM	Pastor Benton will deliver a message at Berean Christian Church on Young Road, pastored by Dr. Kerwin Lee.
Fri	April 18	5:00 PM	The FBC Walking Team will begin the evening activities along the walking trail where a re-enactment of Christ's walk to Calvary will be held. Along the trail will be stations depicting the events that occurred on the way to Golgotha Hill. The processional will conclude in the Family Life Center
Fri	April 18	7:00 PM	The Ministerial Staff, Sunday School Department, and members of the 12 Tribes will present "The 'Good' in Good Friday!" We will explore: What is Good Friday? Why do we call it Good Friday and What is so Good about it?
Sat	April 19	2:30 PM	Sunday School will host its annual Easter egg hunt. What's the significance of the Easter egg hunt you may ask? In answer to your question, eggs, in general, was a traditional symbol of fertility, and rebirth. In Christianity, for the celebration of Eastertide, Easter eggs symbolize the empty tomb of Jesus though an egg appears to be like the stone of a tomb, a bird hatches from it with life; similarly, the Easter egg, for Christians, is a reminder that Jesus rose from the grave, and that those who believe will also experience eternal life. All elementary school aged students are invited. Parents are asked to donate candy at the kiosk starting today.
Sun	April 20	6:00 AM	Our Sunrise Service will take place on the parking deck. In case of inclement weather, service will be held in the FLC.
Sun	April 20	9:15 AM	The Sunday School's Easter Program entitled "The Cross" will take place in the FLC. These events are a reminder that Jesus is the reason for the Easter season.
Sun	April 20	7:30 AM 10:45 AM	Resurrection Sunday activities conclude with Pastor Benton's messages during our Sunday worship services.



FBC Newcomers

3/2/14
Ralph Culp, Jr.
Brian Bankston
Anthony Royal
Valecia Astin
Ebony Barnes
Altrazso Marshall

3/9/14
Joshua Brown

3/16/14
Ronald Hayes
Mark Dunlap
Mark Dunlap II
Peggy Dunlap
Yvonne Williams
Mathew Mitchell
Mathew Mitchell II
Jacqueline Mitchell
Arthea R. Barnes
Deondray D. Blalock
Rita D. Waller
Wayne C. Belin
Sandy Johnson

3/23/14
Adriane Keita
Yakouba Keita
Fadima Keita
Jaylon Tripp

Women ages 21 and older interested in playing in a women's outdoor kickball league on Sunday evenings starting April 13 should contact Tiffinee McGilberry @ 770-363-6122 ASAP.

Need a fun place for your children to go this summer? The Y.E.S. Program will be held again on the FBC campus. The program offers games, field trips, swimming, education, crafts and fun activities. Call the church office@ 770-482-7660 ext. 8 for more information.



Puzzled? Can't find your article? Note that due to limited space we are not always able to print all submitted articles. We do apologize for the inconvenience.