



# BECOMING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*VOLUME 1, JANUARY - MARCH 2018*

## CONTRIBUTORS

### Writers

Rachel Bell  
Scott Claybrook  
Mason Thornton  
Linda Walsh

### Photographers

Rachel Bell  
Link Hudson  
Andie Sexton

### Layout Designer

Rachel Bell

### Copy Editor

Ben Winder

### Special Thanks

Arthur Clayton  
Sarah Layne  
Pam Neal  
Gary Nunley  
Don Rairdon  
Lauren Stewart  
Pat Walsh

fbcknox.org  
865-546-9661

510 W. Main St.  
Knoxville, TN 37902



## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Have you ever taken a few moments to sit on the front steps of the church and look out at the city? In minutes you witness Knoxville's diversity - people walking toward the City-County Building or leaving Bank of American; folks heading toward Gay Street or Market Square; and still others hurrying by to drop something off at the Post Office. In many ways you can get a sense of the pulse of our city from one spot. I am thankful we are called to be the people of God, in the city, for the city.

Part of me would love to have sat in on the conversation when the church began thinking about moving from its Gay Street location to our home on Main Street. It must have been a difficult decision. The beautiful church building would have only been about 34 years old, since they had rebuilt it in the shadows of the Civil War. God had been at work in the life of the church, and they were flourishing. Now, they found themselves believing God had something new for them. Can you imagine the kind of courage and strength they must have found in God to make the step that has shaped the church's story ever since?

As we come to mark First Baptist Knoxville's 175th Anniversary, we have much to celebrate. There are wonderful stories of vibrant worship and mission endeavors that have impacted countless lives in our community. There are stories of pastors and Sunday school teachers who helped church members grow in life and faith. There are stories of young men and women who heard God's voice and responded to a call into mission, congregational ministry, or the call to love their neighbors and care for those on our city's edges. There are stories of the whole church had to coming together and meeting crucial moments of challenge. There are stories worthy of our remembrance and celebration.

These stories serve as a witness of the people's faithfulness and the movement of God's spirit among them. These stories both challenge and excite me as I wonder what our turn might look like. What are the stories yet to be written? Where will we be invited to be strong and courageous with God?

Grace and Peace,

# contents

FOUNDATIONS & HISTORY

BECOMING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

175TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

2018 CALENDAR

2  
0  
8  
1  
8  
2  
0  
2  
4

# 175 Years

*What did life look like 175 years ago? What did First Baptist look like? Read on to find out about a time when we weren't, in fact, called First Baptist Knoxville, but instead, Knoxville Baptist Church.*



# FOUNDATIONS

when we were called Knoxville Baptist Church

BY LINDA WALSH

**B**efore a Baptist church was in Knoxville, Knox County had seven Baptist churches, with the oldest beginning in 1797. Forty-six years later in January 1843, Knoxville Baptist Church (appropriately renamed First Baptist in 1869) was founded at the Court House, which was completed the previous year and where church services were held rent free in a 25'x40' upstairs room. With only five Baptists in Knoxville, members were "borrowed" from nearby towns to return to their home churches once Knoxville Baptist was established. With a charter membership of 47, the church was started under the Northern Baptist Convention's auspices and received financial and spiritual support from the Baptists of Exeter, NH, home of the two church founders (James and John Moses) before they moved to Knoxville.

The same year, Reverend Israel Robards, a visiting minister, held a revival. Court adjourned at 10 am and stores closed for the revival. According to John Moses, Robards "continued for 16 days and nights preaching sermons of wonderful power and arousing the community to a pitch of excitement which it had probably never reached before." By September 1843, the church membership had grown to 80. The church's first pastor, J.A. Bullard, predicted Knoxville Baptist's future: "[It] will eventually give character to our whole denomination in [East Tennessee]. This is the center of influence and whatever this church becomes the others will follow. The true gospel will go out from here as it did from Jerusalem."

By 1844, plans were underway to build a house of worship. In April 1845, services moved to the unfinished church house's basement. Labor and goods were donated to the building effort; nevertheless, construction slowed because of insufficient funds. The almost-completed auditorium was first used in December 1849 for the wedding of the Moses brothers' sister. The building was completed in 1850, when according to church minutes Knoxville Baptist was deemed "one of the best houses of worship in Tennessee."

Located on Gay Street, it stood where the Arcade Building is today, just south of the Tennessee Theatre. The 60'x43' brick structure cost \$8,000—plus \$500 for the property, previously the location of Blount College and later East Tennessee College (UT's forerunners) and originally owned by James White, Knoxville's founder. With a steeple and a full basement, the church sat 25 feet back from the dirt street. Evening services were held at the hour determined



James Moses (left) and John Moses (right) - brothers and founders of Knoxville Baptist Church.

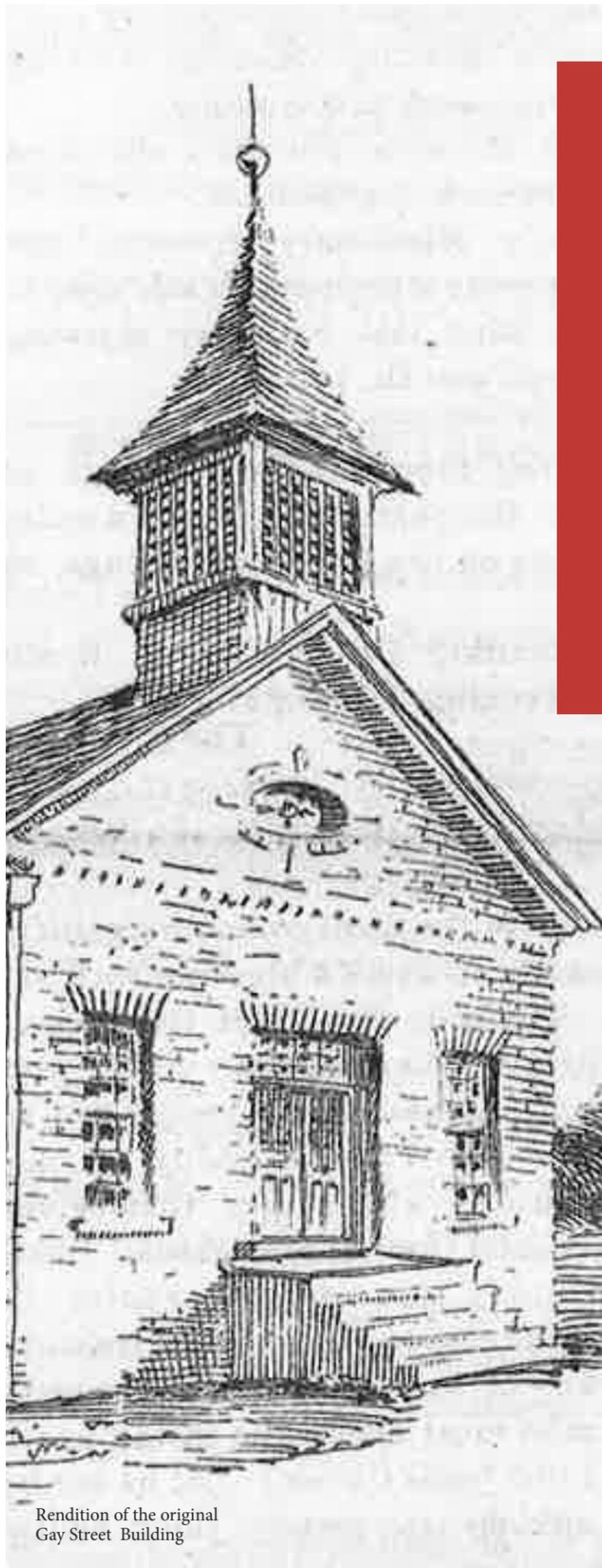
to be "early candle lighting" with congregants worshipping in the flickering light of candles in tin sockets.

From March 1850 until September 1852, the church was without a regular minister. During those years, the church struggled, with membership falling to 42 in 1851. Because of ongoing debt, a dedication service was never held for the building, which was almost auctioned off. However, with a new minister's arrival, the church began to grow again and by 1854 had 91 members. This number might have been higher if not for the cholera epidemic that besieged Knoxville in the summer of 1854, resulting in many deaths and others fleeing. Gradually, the city and the church began to recover. Although the number of members by 1860 is difficult to determine, committees were clearly part of church life. Minutes of church business meetings from the mid-1850s to 1860

reflect the Steeple Committee's concern with the church's leaking steeple. In 1860, the first church covenant was adopted, and the bylaws were revised.

Reverend Homer Sears, who served from 1844 to 1850 and wrestled with many of the church's early difficulties, wrote of Knoxville's potential: "East Tennessee ... is to become at no very distant day the New England of the South, with Knoxville as the commercial center." Regarding the years prior to the Civil War, Knoxville historian Jack Neely has noted, "Knoxville was on the brink of its rebirth. ... Knoxville in 1853 seemed like the sort of place where something was about to happen ...." In fact, much happened in Knoxville during the remainder of the decade.

Beyond the boundaries of what is now downtown, Knoxville was surrounded by farmland, making produce readily available.



Rendition of the original Gay Street Building



Farmers peddled their harvest from wagons on Gay Street and Market (then known as Prince) Street, which were described in 1850 as being “in such a condition to be a source of shame and mortification,” a condition that was addressed by mid-decade.

A trend in progressive cities was a market square with a market house.

In 1853, two savvy property developers followed this trend by purchasing an 11-acre wheat field for development in the middle of Knoxville. Donating a little over an acre to the city, they designated the space for a market house. The remaining acreage was divided into 66 plots and sold. Eventually various structures appeared on the plots including saloons, a grocery store, Knoxville’s first bowling alley, and residences. An April 1853 article entitled “Knoxville Goes Ahead,” published in one of the city’s three newspapers, *The Knoxville Whig*, discussed plans for the Market Square project and anticipated Knoxville’s future:



The courthouse in 1842, the year before First Baptist was founded.

“... prosperity, greatness, and glory await this ancient metropolis. Knoxville is the point of all points in East Tennessee for men of business and enterprise to settle.” Although what was originally named the Knoxville City Market, completed in 1854, was slow to take off, the project (including what was also called Market Space in Knoxville’s first city directory in 1859) was the forerunner of the modern strip mall and became an important gathering place. (In 1861, Market Square was one of the polling sites for voting on whether Tennessee would secede from the Union, a vigorously debated issue during the antebellum years.)

At the beginning of the 1850s, Knoxville was isolated in terms of engaging in commerce with other regions because of lack of railroad access and because steamboat access was limited to certain times of the year; thus, building a railway connection was a priority. With construction over the subsequent years,

the workforce included an influx of Irish as well as other European immigrants. The long-awaited train arrived in Knoxville in 1855 on the new East Tennessee and Georgia line; Knoxville was linked to Virginia and the Northeast by another line the following year. With the railroad’s arrival, marble quarrying (from a quarry opened two miles from downtown in 1852) became a major industry.

Other noteworthy developments occurred in the 1850s. In 1855, Immaculate Conception, the first Catholic church in East Tennessee, opened. In 1856, gas street lights illuminated Gay Street, which had been paved three years earlier with cobblestones from the river bottom and

banks. With a large machine shop, an iron foundry, and a flour mill, Knoxville was becoming a manufacturing city. Between 1850 and 1860, Knoxville’s population grew from 2,076 to 5,300.

Thus, the antebellum years were significant for the Baptist church on Gay Street and the burgeoning city. Beginning in 1861, however, the winds of war brought devastation. 🌈

*(Sources: French Broad Holston Connection, Heart of the Valley, writings of Jack Neely, and First Baptist’s archives)*



# KNOXVILLE, TENN.

COUNTY SEAT OF KNOX COUNTY.

1886.

POPULATION: 30,000.

# BECOMING

## THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*In the book of Joshua, God commands the Israelites to erect 12 stones in remembrance of God's faithfulness, then asks them to enter into the promised land, leaving the stones behind. We believe God is asking something similar of us. Over the past 175 years, God has been leading us. This year we choose to acknowledge what God has done and intentionally embrace whatever he has for us in the future. Read on for a glimpse of our church from yesterday, today, and tomorrow.*





# yesterday

a place to call home

BY RACHEL BELL



Longtime member, Billy Wallace, at the 175th Anniversary Church-Wide Photo.

**F**irst Baptist has always been in the business of changing individual lives through the love of Christ. Whether we're impacting the lives of children in our community through VBS or funding regional and international mission endeavors, we strive to follow God into the world. This commitment not only changes lives in our community, but also changes the lives of our members.

In 1927, at the age of 4, Billy Wallace came to First Baptist with his family. Now, at 94 years old, he has lived his entire life within the ministry of our church.

He was in the beginner department (what is now the children's ministry) under Delia Moses Roberts, the daughter of one of the founders of the church. He can remember how the church looked before it had a library or an education building. He was even part of the college

department when it was at its peak of about 500 student who walked to church every Sunday from the University of Tennessee.

Billy says he was at the church every time the doors opened. Here, he met his wife by catching her when she accidentally fell down the stairs. Here, he found his love for ministry, when Dr. Fred Brown told him he should be a pastor rather than pursue corporate law. Here, he became the man he is today.

"First Baptist Knoxville is like no other place," says Billy. "I doubt that I would be much of the person I am today if it hadn't been for this church. In intangible ways, it has molded me. It has been my whole life. It's just home."

We are glad to have been a life-long home and foundation for Billy, and we hope to continue that legacy today. 🌈

A group of church members standing in front of First Baptist's second church building on Gay Street in 1915.



## why first baptist

"My experience has been that if a church offers love, it meets the needs of all those with whom it comes in contact. Our family has experienced the love of First Baptist in a variety of ways. God's love is expressed through his people during good times and bad times - in birth/death, marriage/divorce, sickness/health, and accomplishment/defeat.

As children we were blessed to have been raised in a Christian home and have the opportunity to participate in programs offered to young people by a loving church. As a result, all of us found Christ as our Savior at First Baptist and were baptized there. The love of the church has been there for my entire family, especially my mother when my father was killed in an automobile accident. In the months to follow, we felt the love of God through the people at First Baptist as they sent comforting notes or stopped by for a short visit to drop off some baked goods.

The awareness of our many outstanding pastors in helping me deal with life's problems continues to be a blessing both personally and professionally. I have enjoyed the support and encouragement of First Baptist from being part of the youth choir to later being a soloist and officer in the Sanctuary Choir.

The power of prayer and love of God's people was felt firsthand by me as I dealt with the trauma of major surgery and felt that special peace that was so helpful in my recovery. I can't imagine what my life and that of my family would have been like over the last fifty years without the love of God's people at First Baptist. Having a church family is important to me and my family. I am comforted to know that the church family will always be there to express God's love and make each of us feel valuable, special, loved." - Margaret Cox

An *As I Remember* excerpt from the history book by Nancy Siler. 🌈

# today

a place for community

BY RACHEL BELL

**B**ecoming the people of God - in the city, for the city. This phrase embodies who we have been yesterday, who we are today, and who we'll continue to be tomorrow.

We are not just in the city, as are hundreds of organizations. We are not just for the city, as are non-profits all over Knoxville. We are those things while becoming the people of God.

Throughout the years, First Baptist has been a place of refuge in the city. From our early beginnings of pioneering the first Baptist church to teaching slave and free alike to reach out to the children in the surrounding area, First Baptist has embraced our placement in the city. We have been known for our willingness to give: give time, give money, give of ourselves. These gifts have impacted our community. These gifts have allowed

God to mold and shape us into who he wants us to be - a congregation that recognizes the importance of location, presence, and mission. A congregation that supports, encourages, and strengthens one another and our city.

This is who we are today. Now, we look toward tomorrow.

As we follow God into the future, as we embrace what he has done for us and where he's taking us, there will be challenges. God offered the Israelites a place of rest by giving them the promise land, but they had to first traipse around the walls of Jericho day and night, then take the city by force. It wasn't easy for them, yet God called it "rest."

As we follow God, will you give your time and talents to further God's kingdom? Will you join us as we become the people of God? 🌈



A group of First Baptist members waiting to get their picture taken for the Church-Wide Photo.

## why first baptist



"The University Small Group brought me to First Baptist. Jordan Humler was the one who first invited me when he first started working at the church. At first I was kind of timid, but I decided to see how it would go.

I loved it from the first time. Loved Scott's teaching style. Loved the people there. But it took a while for me to actually start coming to church.

In fall of my junior year I was going through a really rough time, and I just felt kind of lost. I didn't have a community or a strong set of people who were there to support me. Up until that point, I had just church hopped. I never really stuck anywhere because I didn't feel like there was a place for me. But I was still going to the University Small Group.

As I was going through that really rough time, honestly, in a moment of desperation, I asked Jordan if I could come to church with him. I came one Sunday and tried it. Those people who I knew already from Bible study, who cared about me, welcomed me with open arms. Someone even said, "Well, finally! About time you came."

Why First Baptist? What drew me and what kept me and what is still keeping me is the community. Knowing there are always people wanting and willing and ready to support, love, and encourage me. People just to be with." - Mason Thornton 🌈

# all about community

how community brought and kept Sarah Layne at First Baptist  
BY RACHEL BELL



Our young adults in New York last year. Right: Sarah giving out candy during Trunk-or-Treat, learning to knit, and being baptized.



“It was nice to spend time with that young adult community,” she says. “I could ask questions and never have to feel judged or ashamed. I realized [First Baptist] is the place I wanted to be and be baptized.”

The following month, Sarah joined First Baptist and was baptized on Easter Sunday with friends surrounding her. She felt the magnitude of celebrating the resurrection of Jesus and simultaneously dying to her sin and rising with Christ through baptism. She was overwhelmed to be supported by “people who loved me and truly cared about my salvation.”

Since then Sarah has submersed herself in the young adult community at First Baptist, but she’s also sought out those older than her for encouragement and growth. She’s made intentional relationships with First Baptist staff, as well as joined the Knots of Love knitting club in order to surround herself with “older, wiser women.”

She’s grown a lot since she first started visiting First Baptist, and she is a testament to how God works out everything in his perfect timing. The seeds planted in her as a child have blossomed into something beautiful and will continue to grow as she purposely seeks community.

“First Baptist is really uplifting,” says Sarah. “Because I was someone who tried to follow Christ without a community. These people are full of encouragement and love for me. They want to get to know me. They want to help me grow. That’s really special.” 🌈

**W**ith the power of the Internet, if I really wanted to find a sermon or a lesson or a bible study, I could find one online,” says Sarah Layne. “But it’s this community at First Baptist and these people that are willing to help me grow in my faith that makes me choose to be here.”

Sarah, a 19 year old sophomore at the University of Tennessee, joined First Baptist in April of 2017. Her journey to First Baptist and to Christ is one of perseverance and determination. Sarah didn’t grow up in church. She was first introduced to Christ when she was 6 or 7 years old when one of her cousins invited her to a VBS. There, she “first heard about God and how he loved me.”

Because of this encounter as a child, Sarah knew she wanted a relationship with God. Unfortunately, her family moved, and when she was no longer able to attend church, years

went by with her trying to follow Christ by herself.

“I would always try to understand [Christianity] on my own,” she says. “And I would always fail because I just didn’t know what to do. I had no guidance at all. So, it was really just a yearning I had inside me for a long time.”

Once Sarah came to UT, she wanted to find a church, so she started going to the Baptist Collegiate Ministry on UT’s campus to get connected. There, she learned about First Baptist and started visiting. In March of last year, she went on the New York Spring Break mission trip.

On one day of the trip they got snowed in at the church where they were staying, so the group got the opportunity to get to know each other and talk.

That day, Sarah realized the kind of community she could have among believers. At the prodding of her budding faith, Sarah had tons of questions, but she was initially afraid to ask them. She didn’t want to look like a child in Sunday School learning about Jesus for the first time. But she soon found out that all the people on the trip – many of whom had attended church their entire lives – still had questions just like her.



*“While on the New York mission trip, I realized First Baptist is the place I wanted to be...and be baptized.”*

**- Sarah Layne**

# 175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

BY SCOTT CLAYBROOK

The beginning of 2018 brings with it an exciting season in the life of First Baptist Knoxville. January 21, 2018 marks the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church's founding. As we began to consider how to celebrate this milestone, we turned to the example of Scripture. This year, we will look at the story of Joshua and the Israelites as they cross the Jordan from the desert of Sinai into the promised land. After crossing the Jordan on dry ground, we see in Joshua 4, God commanded the people to stop and erect a monument of 12 stones to commemorate the moment. As the people enter into a new land, God's first commandment is to stop and remember. God then commands the people to turn their backs to this monument and march with courage and hope into the future God has for them. This year will see us, as a church family, both remember God's faithfulness and move with courage and hope into the future we believe God has for us.

Throughout 2018, there will be a myriad of events commemorating and celebrating the church's history and God's faithfulness to our faith family. In addition to these special times of reflecting on our church's past and present, we also desire to look towards the future. Therefore, we are launching the *175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign* aimed at raising funds to renovate and update our church's physical footprint. Doing so, we believe, will allow us to step into the future God has in store for us.

We are seeking to raise \$175,000. Through generous gifts, half of this amount (\$87,500) has been made available as matching dollars. A dedicated team of staff and lay leaders has proposed a list of projects spanning both buildings of our campus including updating areas of the **Blue Room**, **Trentham Hall**, the



**Mezzanine, office space, and refreshing exterior signage.** Projects will only begin once funds have been fully raised for their required amount. We hope to finish raising funds by June 21, 2018 and complete the renovation work by December 1, 2018.

The campaign, as well as our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, will kickoff on January 21, 2018. There will be a special combined worship service from 10:30 am to 12 pm at First Baptist, immediately followed by a special luncheon in Trentham Hall. At this event, you will be invited to make a gift or pledge to the campaign. You will be able to give after the 21<sup>st</sup> during regular Sunday services, coming by the church offices, or giving online. Please use the special 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary envelopes to make your gift or include "175<sup>th</sup> Campaign" on the memo line of your check.

Finally, throughout 2018, you will see regular updates on the progress of the campaign and the physical work. We humbly ask that you begin praying about how you may participate with us in this future-focused work. We are looking forward to celebrating this milestone with you and recognizing God's faithfulness in the past, present, and future of First Baptist.

# 4-FOLD IMPACT

THROUGH THE 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN, WE WILL IMPACT ALL FOUR AREAS IN FIRST BAPTIST'S 4-FOLD MISSION.

## worship

Throughout 2018, we will work to renovate portions of **Trentham Hall**, preparing it for the next generation of worshippers.



## mission

Our **Mezzanine** is often used to house mission groups serving Knoxville or our mission partners. Funds raised will improve and prepare this space to better serve our community.



## discipleship

Our discipleship ministries utilize every part of the building and will benefit greatly from the renovations mentioned. These funds will also be used to **disciple young adults through our internship program.**



## community

We will update, repair, and refresh fellowship and event areas like the **Blue Room** to allow for continued use and impact.



## WAYS TO PARTICIPATE



### pray

Your prayers are one of the most important parts of this campaign. Pray from a place of gratitude to God for abundant blessings and ask for passion for First Baptist's future. Pray for a willing heart for God's plan, and pray God will show you how to participate in furthering God's work in our community.



### give

- **commitment card**  
Commitment cards will be available starting at the Kick-off Celebration on January 21, 2018. We ask that you take time to pray about how you might participate in The Anniversary Campaign. Write down your commitment, whether it is to give your time, money, prayer, or all three, and turn it in at church.
- **digital giving**  
Our 175<sup>th</sup> giving portal makes giving easier than ever: [fbcknox.churchcenter.com/giving](http://fbcknox.churchcenter.com/giving).
- **cash or check**  
Give anytime by cash or check using the 175<sup>th</sup> envelope. Make checks payable to First Baptist Knoxville with "175<sup>th</sup> Campaign" in the memo line.
- **give your time**  
We want this year to be about more than our church. We want to make a difference in our community as well. Whether you're passionate about children, mission, young adults, art, construction, or homeless ministry, we have a place for you to serve. Check out our service opportunities page at [fbcknox.org/serve](http://fbcknox.org/serve), or contact Arthur Clayton at [aclayton@fbcknox.org](mailto:aclayton@fbcknox.org).



# 2018 mission opportunities

serve around the world

## UGANDA



### CHURCH-WIDE MISSION OPPORTUNITY

June 19 - July 1 | Sign Up by February 12

Missy Ward Angalla and her husband, Francis, are longtime partners of First Baptist. Missy founded Amani Sasa, a ministry and shelter for families, women, and girls in crisis, which offers vocational training, education, social work services, counseling, discipleship, and community support. We have been invited to go and serve with Amani Sasa in a few different ways.

#### Music Camp

Music and art education in Uganda is very expensive, so Missy has started a summer music camp for students. If you love singing, playing an instrument,

or music in general, you can make an impact through your gifts and talents.

#### Business Education

Do you have experience with business administration, marketing, or economics? Consider using your skills to prepare refugees for success.

#### Renovation

There will also be opportunity to do some renovations to the Amani Sasa facilities. If you have construction experience, this is for you.

Interested? [aclayton@fbcknox.org](mailto:aclayton@fbcknox.org)



### RALEIGH MISSION TRIP

Church-Wide | Date: TBD

Serve alongside our CBF mission partners Marc & Kim Wyatt at Welcome House Raleigh. WHR is a house owned by Crabtree Valley Baptist Church that is used as temporary housing for refugees while they wait for permanent housing to come available. WHR allows refugees to safely and smoothly transition into life in the United States.

On this trip, we will help renovate the downstairs of the house.

More info? [aclayton@fbcknox.org](mailto:aclayton@fbcknox.org)



### BENEVOLENCE

Ongoing

Do you want to connect with those in your community on a personal level? We are looking for volunteers to join our Benevolence Team.

Benevolence is our church's way of meeting those in need by listening to their stories, getting to know them, and providing resources and relationship. Our goal is to help people reach a level of self-sufficiency and stability.

Interested? [aclayton@fbcknox.org](mailto:aclayton@fbcknox.org)



### FAMILY PROMISE

Volunteer Training Lunch: March 4

Are you interested in working in homeless ministry, but feel like you may not be equipped?

Family Promise is a longstanding partner with First Baptist that works with homeless families in Knoxville. Once a quarter we host these families in our facilities, offering them food, safety, and fellowship.

Whether you'd like to provide food, host meals, or stay overnight as a host, this training session will equip you to serve.

More info: [jimilyp@comcast.net](mailto:jimilyp@comcast.net)

Lunch RSVP: [vmoore@fbcknox.org](mailto:vmoore@fbcknox.org)

## Mission Collective Knoxville

Collective Wisdom for Collective Action

### CBF MISSION COLLECTIVE

February 17 | At First Baptist

Mission Collective Knoxville is a one day conference organized by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

This years topic is *Making Room: Practicing Gospel Hospitality*, and the event will be focused on engaging and supporting internationals and refugees right here in our community.

Speakers are Carol Waldo of Knox Internationals Network, Steven Porter of CBF, and Marc & Kim Wyatt of CBF.

Registration is \$10, covering lunch.

Register: [rclark@cbf.net](mailto:rclark@cbf.net)

### REFUGEE ENGAGEMENT

Church-Wide | Ongoing

Want to reach the world from your own back yard?

Mission Council is in the beginning stages of partnering with Lighthouse Ministry, a longstanding ministry presence focused on engaging refugees in Austin Homes Community.

We are looking for volunteers to teach ESL classes, as well as provide childcare during class time.

Interested? [aclayton@fbcknox.org](mailto:aclayton@fbcknox.org)



### CANADA MISSION TRIP

For Young Adults | 5/31-6/12

If you're a young adult, pray about joining us on this mission to Canada from May 31 - June 12. It will be a follow up trip to our 2017 Youth Mission to Canada, and we'll serve with the same two ministries: Church of the Rock's Food Bank in Chateaugay and Matthew House Furniture Bank and Refugee House in Ottawa. You'll get to help in providing food for over 150 families, as well as show the love of Christ to refugees and those in need.

More info? [fbcknox.org/canada2018](http://fbcknox.org/canada2018)

Contact: [sclaybrook@fbcknox.org](mailto:sclaybrook@fbcknox.org)

# events & celebrations

MORE EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES  
[FBCKNOX.ORG/EVENTS](http://FBCKNOX.ORG/EVENTS)

notes

## CHURCH-WIDE

### Discover Weekend

*October 5-6*

We all have gifts and talents, but sometimes it's difficult to know where we fit. Come and discover what your gifts and talents are. You'll leave the weekend knowing how God might use you, and we'll help connect you.

### Love Feast

*Sunday, November 18, 12:15 pm*

This is our regular Love Feast with a twist. On this day, we'll wrap up our 175th year with a special program and a gift for everyone in attendance.

## MUSIC

### Old Fashioned Sunday Night Singin'

*Sunday, May 20, 4 pm*

Get ready to tap your feet and sing along to your favorite gospel tunes during "175 Years Down by the Riverside." The evening will feature instrumentalists, soloists, small ensembles, and choirs.

### Composer's Workshop & Worship

*September 15-16*

For all musicians and choir members, this workshop will be an opportunity to learn from a celebrated composer.

## WOMEN

### Women's Tea with Joan Cronan

*Saturday, April 14, 1 pm*

Joan is the former athletic director at UT and she'll be our speaker for the event. Whether you're 18 or 78, Joan will inspire you with her story.

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

### Family Scavenger Hunt

*Sunday, June 24, 12 pm, Lunch Provided*

This hunt will take your whole family through our church and around downtown looking for clues about our history.

### Family Heritage Day

*Sunday, August 26, 12 pm, Lunch Provided*

Come and find out what church was like 175 years ago through crafts, food, and music that were popular around 1843. We'll also hear memories and stories from our senior adults about church when they were young.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### Reflections from First Baptist Pastors

*Quarterly*

Each quarter, we hope to hear from one of the living pastors who have shepherded First Baptist.

## MEDIA SCHEDULE

### Becoming the People of God Docuseries

*Video Released Monthly*

This series will cover Deaf Ministry, Black Culture, Mission, Children/Youth, Young Adults, Generations, Innovation, and our Future. Videos will be shown on Wednesday Nights and featured on our website. At the end of the year, DVDs of the Docuseries will be made available for purchase.

### Becoming the People of God Magazine

*Released Quarterly*

### Tell Your Story or Write for Us

Do you have a story that needs to be told? A time God impacted or challenged you? Or, do you love writing? We'd love to feature your story or showcase your writing. Fill out the interest form at [fbcknox.org/yourstory](http://fbcknox.org/yourstory).



---

FIRST BAPTIST

KNOXVILLE

---

510 W Main St.  
Knoxville, TN 37902  
[fbcknox.org](http://fbcknox.org)  
865-546-9661