

# Church Profile 2021

OUR CHURCH EXISTS  
TO GLORIFY GOD  
AND MAKE  
DISCIPLES BY  
CONNECTING OUR  
COMMUNITY FOR  
REAL RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GOD AND WITH  
ONE ANOTHER.



“  
THE CHURCH  
THAT DOES SO  
MUCH FOR THE  
COMMUNITY  
”

## A CHURCH SERVING A GROWING COMMUNITY.

The church plays a key role in the life of our community. Our campus hosts important ministries such as Lydia's Loft, the Prom Closet, the Community Breakfast, World Hunger Day, and much more.

## REMOVING WALLS. BUILDING BRIDGES.

We are set on cultivating community by removing walls that divide us and building bridges that connect us as one human family, each person created in the image of God.



**First Baptist Church**  
Huntersville, NC  
*real relationship with God and one another*

14813 N. Old Statesville Rd.  
Huntersville, NC 28078  
**704.875.6581**



**FBC-H.ORG**

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## Letter from the Search Team

*"Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another" - Psalm 145: 3-4*

In the Spring of 2021, the congregation of First Baptist Church-Huntersville (FBC-H) selected a Youth Minister Search Team following the departure of its 14-year-tenured youth minister. The team was charged by the Trustees and Leadership Council to begin the process of locating a new Youth Minister who would lead our youth and connect them with our congregation.

The Youth Minister search team has aligned around a goal of connecting our youth with the broader church and wants to avoid isolating youth during the most formative years of their lives. Research shows that strong Christian, non-family role models are of crucial importance in the development and maintenance of spiritual maturity in youth and young adults. With that in mind, we are seeking to increase interactions with youth across the church body to promote inclusion and spiritual development.

The Youth Minister Search Team has been meeting and in prayer about this quest since May, and its members are excited about what God will do as they follow the leading of his Holy Spirit through the process of revealing whom God has already chosen as our next Youth Minister.

Respectfully,

Edwin Alvarado  
Robby Bales  
Beth Brammer  
Kristi Greer  
Laurie Nappier, Chairperson  
Stacy Nowell, Senior Pastor  
Aileen Ramirez

## Youth Ministry Team Vision

The Youth Ministry Search team is passionate about finding a Youth Minister who embraces FBC-H's missional mandate of "Cultivating community by removing the walls that divide us and building bridges that connect us as one human family, each person created in the image of God." At the inception of our process, the team spent considerable time researching trends impacting youth and their faith walk and the church's role in that process.

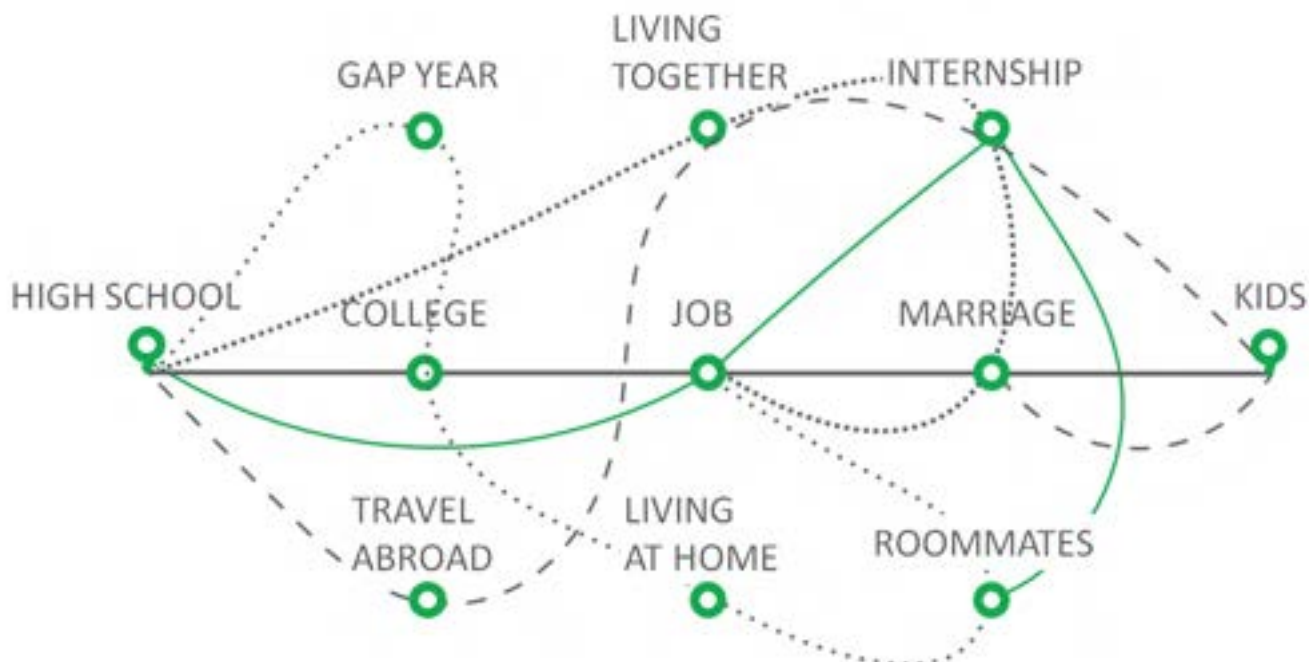
We leveraged research provided by the Fuller Youth Institute and met with Andy Jung, their Director of Church Engagement. Through these activities we learned that research supports a different approach to youth ministry. As the length of adolescence has increased the relationship between the broader church must evolve as well.

A recent survey by Lifeway Research of 2,000 young adults who had attended church in high school found that 2/3 stopped attending church for a year or more between ages 18-22. Additionally research shows that in the broader population those unaffiliated with a religion has grown from 17% in 2009 to 26% in 2019. Adolescents that are dropping out of church certainly could be influenced by this movement away from being affiliated with a religion.

Additionally the adolescent journey that our youth now face is lengthening and nonlinear. What once was a predictable path like the below:



Now looks more like the image below, which has lengthened adolescence from ending at 18 to more like 28.



Whereas historically the church has oftentimes isolated youth, today's church needs to embrace youth and develop cross-generational relationships that can benefit all. The church needs to take an active role in helping adolescents answer the following questions:

- Identity**  
—      ⊙ Who am I?  
          ***I am God's image***
- Belonging**  
—      ⊙ Where do I fit?  
          ***I belong no matter what***
- Purpose**  
—      ⊙ How will my life matter?  
          ***I matter because the Spirit calls and empowers me***

Research shows that youth with 5 adult, non-family, Christian relationships are far more likely to continue their walk with God through their adolescent years. Based on this our team and church are aligned on a vision to find a Youth Minister who bridges the gap between youth and the broader church and can create a cultivating Christian community for adolescents that can generate the support needed for the elongated adolescent period.



# Youth Minister Profile

Based on the Search Committee's understanding of the church's needs, characteristics and opportunities for ministry and witness, the following profile will be used to discover candidates for the Youth Minister at First Baptist Church-Huntersville:

## EXPERIENCE:

The Youth Minister shall have at least 3 years' ministry experience working with youth aged 11-18.

## EDUCATION:

The Youth Minister shall have at least an undergraduate degree from an accredited university, with preference given to a Master's in Divinity or Biblical Studies graduate work.

## QUALITIES/CHARACTERISTICS:

The Youth Minister shall have:

- A deep and personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- A clear sense of calling to develop youth into lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ
- Ability to connect with and lead all ages - adults and youth
- Good organizational and leadership skills
- Ability to inspire adults toward a vision of churchwide care and discipleship of students
- A genuine warmth that engenders camaraderie with diverse students and the church at large
- Courage of his/her convictions without being dogmatic
- Sensitive to the needs of students in the current culture (social media, mental health, multicultural) and willing to meet students where they are
- Inclusive disposition which takes note of those on the margins

The Youth Minister shall demonstrate the following skills/abilities:

- Motivates youth to participate in the larger life of the church
- Connects with the church at large in recognizing its role in shepherding students toward a relationship with Jesus Christ
- Relates well to youth in a nonjudgmental and approachable manner
- Explains Biblical concepts appropriate to youth and makes practical application of those concepts
- Leads a team toward the accomplishment of a shared vision
- Cultivates connection between youth to build a Christian-based support network
- Develops creative, engaging activities and Biblical study for youth

# Part-Time Youth Minister - Job Description

## Purpose

The Youth Minister leads the church's ministry to students in grades 6-12, with the goal of cultivating lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ.

## Areas of Ministry for which this Position provides LEADERSHIP

**Liaity:** Student Bible Study teachers  
Small Group Leaders  
Youth Ministry Support Team  
Other volunteer leaders within the Youth Ministry

## Specialized Knowledge obtained through Education and Experience needed for Position

A graduate of a recognized college or university with a Master's degree from a Theological Seminary (preferred): This person should be an experienced minister who relates well with youth, parents, and adult volunteers, and who has a strong ability to lead people of varying ethnicities, socio-economic levels, and generations.

## Job Duties

- Model and be a living example and follower of Jesus
- Lead the church's efforts to minister with and to youth from grades 6 through 12.
- Administer programs that fit the overall purpose of the church and student ministry such as Bible Study, Student Worship, Small Groups, Student Outreach, and serving Ministry teams.
- Develop a Bible teaching calendar for the youth that takes into consideration the full counsel of God's Word and the spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental needs of the youth in our community.
- Recruit, develop, and deploy volunteers for the church's youth ministry, encouraging a network of caring adults who contribute to students' discipleship.
- Provide spiritual leadership to students and volunteers.
- Develop and equip youth to support and grow one another both spiritually and emotionally
- Work with other church leaders to find ministry opportunities for youth in the broader church family.
- Provide counsel to students, especially in times of crises.
- Coordinate annual student budget requests. Administer the budget as designated for student program activities.
- Oversee all summer camping and mission activities in which the church's youth participate.
- Schedule adequate time for prayer, personal growth, spiritual development, continuing education, and for study related to current projects.
- Regularly report to the church's leadership about developments in the youth ministry.
- Participate in staff meetings and retreats as agreed-upon with Senior Pastor.
- Assist the pastor in planning, conducting, and evaluating congregational services as requested.

## Accountability

1. God
2. Pastor/Staff
3. Personnel Ministry Team
4. Church Body

# Overview of Our Church

## What We Believe

In 1963, the Southern Baptist Convention adopted a revised summary of our faith. The work was the culmination of an effort that began a year earlier when the convention voted to approve a motion commissioning the work. This motion read in part:

*Baptists are a people who profess a living faith. This faith is rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ who is "the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Therefore, the sole authority for faith and practice among Baptists is Jesus Christ whose will is revealed in the Holy Scriptures.*

Believing that "the criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ," we continue to recognize the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message as the truest expression of our core beliefs.

<http://fbc-h.org/welcome/baptist-faith-and-message.html>

## Associations

FBC- Huntersville is a contributing member to both the Southern Baptist Convention and to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. As a church, we have not fractured ourselves over issues that caused the formation of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship from the "old" Southern Baptist Convention. The fact that we are one local church making our contributions as we see fit is a demonstration of strength as well as of our spirit of willingness to exist together as people of various points of view. This is one of the hallmarks of a Baptist church--that the local church governs itself, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit leading the conscience of each believer.

It is not the case that the Southern Baptist Convention, or the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, is the 'head' of a hierarchy, with a state convention as a branch, and then with local churches as further branches. The picture is, rather, the other way around. When local, autonomous Baptist churches decided that it would be beneficial for many reasons for them to cooperate in some endeavors; they formed their various state conventions and national conventions. Indeed, for example, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, rather than being a subsidiary of the Southern Baptist Convention, is actually older than the Southern Baptist Convention. These organizations are completely independent of each other. Local churches are free to contribute to these bodies, to cooperate, or to ignore them, as they see fit. The ideal of cooperation was strong in Baptist churches, and is reflected in the names of such things as the "Cooperative Program" of the Southern Baptist Convention and in the name "Cooperative Baptist Fellowship."



# Who We Are: Vision

## What is the congregation's sense of purpose and direction?

In October of 2018, the members of First Baptist Church adopted the vision statements printed below to guide our work and ministry. Even then, God challenged us to champion the dignity of each person, the value of a diverse humanity unified in Christ, and the imperative of building bridges across divides of race, income, gender, language and generations.

### **Our Kingdom Concept:**

Our church exists to glorify God and make disciples by connecting our community for real relationship with God and with one another.

### **Our Missional Mandate:**

Cultivating community by removing the walls that divide us and building bridges that connect us as one human family, each person created in the image of God.

### **Our Motivation (the values we hold which motivate the above):**

Dignity & Worth of Each Individual

Diversity

Unity in Christ

Service to the Community

Responsiveness to the Holy Spirit



# First Baptist Church - Huntersville

*Our church exists to glorify God and make disciples by connecting our community for real relationship with God and with one another.*

**Authentic Worship Vision:** We believe worship is God-centered, Christ-centered, and Word-centered. Through the adoration of our Lord, our family of faith will experience individual and corporate transformation resulting in a willingness to respond in service and lifestyle modeled after Christ. As the Holy Spirit guides the expression of our worship, we will offer our collective prayers and praises in a manner that is progressive and creative while honoring the traditions of our past, embracing the diversity and giftedness of our people. Authentic worship is an intimate, unifying, transformational praise expression of our personal and corporate relationship with God.

**Biblical Literacy and Spiritual Growth Vision:** Through the use of spiritual disciplines and biblical studies, we will equip the people of God for every good work of ministry and discipleship by promoting deepening personal relationships with Jesus Christ. A structured and purposeful setting for spiritual growth will be supported by a process of study and application to ensure that we never stop learning and growing toward a closer walk with God.

**Caring Relationships Vision:** Through the development and nurturing of caring relationships in both our church family and the community, we will follow Christ's example by living out His boundless love through our ministries and actions. We will be a congregation that carries one another's burdens and values everyone.

**Evangelism Vision:** Our passion is to share the Gospel. We are committed to equipping disciples to engage all people individually and with coordinated efforts as a church body. We will build relationships with people where they are - on our campus, in our community and throughout the world with the intent to lead them to a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. Evangelism is the central theme in all that we do.

**Outward Service Vision:** We believe God calls the church to be a constant reminder of what is good and true. Led by the Holy Spirit, we seek to respond to the needs God places before us locally and globally using resources wisely with servants who are passionate, caring and equipped. We will embrace and live out Christ's commandment to love our neighbor as well as we love ourselves.

# Who We Are: Leadership

## Church Structure

In the Fall of 2015, after extensive discussions and vetting by a Transition Team affirmed by our congregation, and after presentations and discussions with our members, our church voted to change the structure by which we are governed and decisions are made. The goals of this revision were to:

- Create a more efficient operating model.
- Make it easier for people to understand how to get things done.
- Create clear lines of responsibility and accountability.
- Reduce burnout among our members who are serving on a group or multiple groups.
- Revise the structure in a way that continues to facilitate using people's giftedness.

Within this new model, a **Leadership Council** was created whose responsibility is to set and direct the vision for our church. The Leadership Council is made up of the Senior Pastor and the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of three subgroups, with a total membership of seven. These subgroups consist of the **Deacons**, the **Trustees** and the **Ministry Council**.

The **responsibilities of the Leadership Council** are:

- Recommend revisions to visions and goals
- Review significant issues for the church
- Ensure good coordination of activities between the leadership groups
- Hold all groups accountable for maintaining their roles
- Select the 6-member nominating team and oversees their activity
- Meet at least quarterly
- Plan the church conferences (Family Forums)

The **responsibilities of the Deacons** are:

- Lead the church in providing care to members
- Connect with visitors and prospective members and connect them with their spiritual gifts
- Assist the Ministerial Staff with pastoral care where appropriate
- Assist Sunday School classes with in-reach and out-reach opportunities
- Assist the Pastor(s) with the duties of communion
- Organize and oversee all lay-ministry efforts

The **responsibilities of the Trustees** are:

- Oversee all business and legal matters of the church
- Oversee the Facilities, Stewardship and Personnel Teams
- Serve as the FBC-H Corporate Board of Directors

The **responsibilities of the Ministry Council** are:

- Lead the church in implementing goals in the areas of Evangelism, Biblical Literacy and Spiritual Growth, Authentic Worship and Outward Service.
- Lead or support teams that take action to accomplish the goals of the vision statements



## Church Staff



### **Rev. Stacy Cochran Nowell – Senior Pastor (2015)**

Stacy came to First Baptist Huntersville in May of 2015. She is a graduate of Baylor University with a B.A. in religion and a minor in family studies, and she received her Master of Divinity from McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. Now in the midst of doctoral studies at Duke Divinity School, Stacy is writing her thesis on evangelism and the 21st century American church. Stacy has previously served at churches including the First Baptist Church of Decatur, GA; the First Baptist Church of Dalton, GA; and Harrisonburg Baptist Church in Virginia. She has also served as a hospital chaplain and has received 5 units of Clinical Pastoral Education. Her service in the larger Baptist community includes tenures on the national Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Coordinating Council, the CBF Nominating Committee, the Virginia CBF Coordinating Council, the Board of Trustees for the Religious Herald, the Board of Directors for Baptist News Global, and the Board of Visitors for McAfee School of Theology. She currently serves on the Coordinating Council of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina as Moderator-Elect. Stacy is married to Luke Nowell, who is also an ordained minister and a McAfee alum. Together, they have two children: Annaliese and Collin. Stacy enjoys crafting and DIY home-improvement projects in addition to spending quality time with her family.



**Rev. Tina Burleson - Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Pastoral Care (1987)**

Tina grew up in Charlotte, NC. She committed her life to Christ at age seven and was nurtured in her faith by parents and many teachers/pastors at church. She answered the call to vocational ministry at 20 years of age and was ordained to the Gospel ministry in 2008. She has completed a BA in Religion from Gardner-Webb University, a Master of Arts in Christian Education from Southeastern Seminary, and a

Master of Divinity from Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity. Tina believes that Spiritual Formation is a life-long process which is enhanced by studying the stories of faith in the Bible, by listening to others share about their stories, and by being involved in mission and ministry. She believes that faith is best formed in the context of intergenerational activities and enjoys partnering with other staff ministers to create discipleship opportunities that bring all age groups together. Tina came to First Baptist in May 1987. At First Baptist, Tina focuses on the spiritual formation of adults, pastoral care and ministry with Senior Adults. Her passion is to help others discover where their story intersects with God's story and to help them find ways to develop and utilize their spiritual gifts to impact their world for Christ. In her leisure time Tina enjoys being out in God's beautiful world by biking, walking, and hiking in National Parks. Her goal is to visit every National Park!



**Rev. Kyle Murphy – Associate Pastor of Worship (2017)**

Kyle is a graduate of Gardner-Webb University with a Bachelor of Music and Master of Divinity in Christian Formation. Kyle believes worship services are not classified by musical style but are focused on loving God with all our hearts, souls, and minds as well as loving our neighbors as we love ourselves. As Kyle has said, "the important thing for us to remember is that while I may not love the organ or I may not love the

guitar, I love the person sitting next to me who does." Kyle and his wife, Anna, live in the Huntersville community with their daughter Grace.



**Rev. Rafael Hernandez – Latino Minister (2017)**

For many, Rafael is both a familiar name and a familiar face. He served on FBC-H's staff team as the Latino Pastor from 2000-2008. His strengths include excellent preaching and pastoral care skills. He is a strong Bible teacher and he quickly develops relationships with those under his care. Rafael is also a recognized leader in the larger Latino community, and his knowledge of both Huntersville and First Baptist is a tremendous asset. He is well-connected in the medical as well as social-

services community, and these connections enhance his ability to minister to the needs of the Latino community surrounding FBC-H.



**Jamie Winkler – Minister to Children and Families (2018)**

Jamie has a Bachelor of Arts in Music from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC, Credentials in Early Childhood Education from Cleveland Community College, and a Master of Divinity Degree in Intercultural Studies from The School of Divinity at Gardner-Webb University. Jamie has served as Children's Ministry Director at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church of Shelby, NC, Children's Ministry

Assistant at Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC and as a Journeyman missionary with the International Mission Board in Rumbek, Southern Sudan. Jamie loves working with children and the energy and possibilities that their young lives possess. Jamie is married to Jared and they have one son, Cadence.



### **Rev. Luke Nowell – Interim Minister Student Ministries (2021)**

Rev. Luke Nowell has been a part of First Baptist Church since 2015. He began as interim Student Minister in May 2021. Luke calls Kentucky home. He graduated from Georgetown College, in Georgetown, Kentucky. He graduated with a Masters of Divinity from McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. He has served at churches in Kentucky, Georgia, and Virginia. Luke enjoys getting to know youth and helping them make sense of following Jesus in their lives today. Luke is an avid reader and lover of movies. He is a long suffering Philadelphia Phillies fan and sports lover in general. Luke also enjoys playing games of all types and spending time with family. Luke is married to Stacy Nowell with two children, Annaliese and Collin.



### **Vickie Ward – Financial Administrator (2006)**

Vickie, a native of Boone, NC is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (B.S. in accounting). She began her working relationship with First Baptist in August 2000 as a half day preschool teacher, later making the transition to office staff in November 2006. She has recently stepped up to assume full responsibilities of all financial aspects of the church. Vickie was married in 1984 to Ned Ward, a Huntersville native, and they have two grown children, a son Devin and a daughter Ashley. Vickie joined FBC- H the first time in 1985 and a second time in 2000 after living in Union County for nine years.



### **Sheila Wright, Director of Weekday Ministries (2018)**

Sheila has degrees in Marketing and Journalism and 30 years of experience in Early Childhood Education. Sheila is married to Michael Wright and they have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. She enjoys traveling and visiting Ohio, where she likes to shop, cook and visit with family.

## **Historical Sketch of First Baptist Church – Huntersville**

In 1898, S.L. Mullen, a native of Huntersville, invited Rev. W.D. Thommason of South Carolina to preach to a small group of Baptist believing people. The group then received permission to hold services in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian (A.R.P.) Church on Sunday afternoons, marking the humble beginnings of our congregation. Interestingly, the A.R.P. pastor, W.W. Orr, one of the town's early leaders and founder of Huntersville High School, asked the new congregation to sing Psalms instead of their hymns, a practice consistent with many of the Presbyterian churches of the time. This spirit of respect and cooperation towards other denominations has remained an integral part of our identity and reputation.

The formal organization of our congregation came on August 15, 1899, when these believers called a "presbytery" into session for the purpose of creating Missionary Baptist Church in Huntersville. Twenty-five charter members, along with the church's first pastor, J.L. Shinn, officially began the family of faith that came to be known as First Baptist.

The young church continued to worship in the ARP church until 1903, when C.W. Johnson, owner of Anchor Mill, erected mill house number 26 on Church Street for both Methodists and Baptists to use for worship services. The chapel became known as "The Anchor Mill Mission"; and it was in this place a Woman's Missionary Union was also organized in 1911. After 17 years of worship in the Anchor Mill Mission, the church purchased the present building site on February 6, 1920 for \$400 from the family of Miss Bonnie Henderson, a life-long member of the church. That same year, the church built its first sanctuary.

In 1935, the church's first parsonage was built, which provided housing for more than seven pastors and their families. The church received financial support for the parsonage by obtaining a \$3000 loan from the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In February 1950, ground was broken for the current Education Building. In 1953, a fund was developed to raise money for the present Sanctuary. Nine years later, the church's first Sanctuary was demolished and worship services were held in the Education Building as the construction of a new Sanctuary began. On December 19, 1962, worship services were held in the Sanctuary for the first time and continue to the present day.

Throughout our history, outreach has been a central focus of our church family both at home and abroad. In 1954, First Baptist organized the Davidson Chapel and accepted financial responsibility for the mission. Later, in 1960, the church heard God's call to sponsor East Huntersville Baptist Mission, which eventually grew into what is now called Christ Community Church. Members of First Baptist who had a heavy burden for the families of the Wildwood Green neighborhood began a mission there in 1984, which became Lakehaven Community Church in 1992.

Mission work has not been limited to church plants. First Baptist has been active in working with various organizations to provide medical and dental care, clothing, and furniture to those in need. Annually, in what has become a community wide event, we organize and hold a gigantic yard sale on what we call 'World Hunger Day,' which raises money to alleviate hunger locally, regionally and abroad. We continue to work with our neighbors and friends locally and in areas like West Virginia, Haiti and Ukraine to minister to the specific needs of their communities while expanding the horizons and perspectives of all those who call our church home.

## Church Property



FBC-H faces Highway 115, Old Statesville Road, just north of the town center. Historically, the road has been a central route through the town connecting the neighboring towns of Cornelius and Davidson to the north and Charlotte to the south.

The original property, purchased in 1920, consisted of about 5 acres with further additions made in subsequent years, including: five acres purchased for use as a cemetery in 1950, an adjacent house on 0.8 acres, and about 7.5 acres of undeveloped land partially contiguous to the property obtained in 1993. The last land purchase included another adjacent house on 0.7 Acres. This last acquisition in 1994 completed the 20 acres of property that make up the present day campus. With the exception of one house (currently operating a small business), the church property continues to Sherwood Forest Drive which is the entrance to a neighborhood dating to circa 1960.

Finished in 1962, the Sanctuary building provides about 10,000 square feet of finished space and can accommodate approximately 400 people for worship on the main floor and a balcony located just above the vestibule. The balcony also houses the booth where the audio and visual aids for our services are controlled. Directly behind the Sanctuary is a space on the main floor that can be partitioned to provide up to four classrooms as well as a second level housing the baptistery, a music preparation area and storage rooms.

The Education Building, located just behind the Sanctuary, was completed in 1952 and has 12,600 square feet of space. The building was most recently refurbished in 2002. On the main floor, we have classrooms (4), a small storage room, and the church media center along with an office/storage room earmarked for the dental clinic. The lower level is used only for temporary storage due to moisture issues. The upper level has 7 classrooms but is currently being used for an expansion of Lydia's Loft (The Prom Closet) and for storage.



The Family Life Center, which has just under 17,000 square feet of space, was completed in 1989. It houses a gymnasium and kitchen/dining areas in addition to 12 classrooms used for preschool activities for church events and Weekday Ministries. The classroom areas of this building were last renovated in 2013.

The latest addition to the property is the Discipleship Center completed in 2007. It has about 24,700 square feet of finished space and contains an auditorium area (capacity 150) used primarily for, spanish-language service, meetings, special services and concerts. In addition, the main floor contains 12 classrooms used for youth and adults and an adjacent children's wing. The upper level, accessed by stairs or elevator, includes 8 classrooms and the church administrative offices.

The property also includes the former parsonage (2,200 square feet) built in 1935. Similarly, one of the other two homes owned by the church serves as the location of "Lydia's Loft", a community clothing ministry. The other home has served as housing for church staff in the past, but is currently being rented to the Lake Norman Pregnancy Center. There are two playgrounds located on the campus as well as an open field for activities. A small parcel of land is used as a community garden. There are approximately 252 parking spaces.



## Church Community

While just a few short years ago residents had to drive to Charlotte for healthcare or shopping needs, Novant Health Medical Center and the retail areas of Birkdale, Northcross and Northlake Mall (five miles south) have made life easier.

The town's Huntersville Family Fitness and Aquatic Center boasts an Olympic sized pool and diving well, fitness center, full court gymnasium, outdoor splash park and more. In October 2010, Discovery Place Kids opened in the town center and is a big hit with young children and families. Additionally in January 2018 the Huntersville Recreation Center opened. This facility includes the construction of a 24,000 sq ft. recreation center that houses 4 volleyball courts, 4 pickleball courts, 2 main basketball courts, 4 small basketball courts, a civic room, café seating and staff offices. Additionally the town maintains 11 outdoor parks that feature various sporting fields, walking trails, biking trails, and green space.

The town and surrounding area is rich with history including the 1200 acre+ Latta Plantation, a circa 1800 cotton plantation that includes a nature preserve, raptor center, and trails for hiking, biking and riding horses. Another former plantation, the 265 acre Rural Hill farm is famous for its two mile corn maze, hiking trails, Highland games, music and other festivals.

Some of Huntersville's largest employers are SABIC Innovative Plastics, Rubbermaid, Irwin Industrial Tools, ABB, Pactiv Corporation, Max Daetwyler Corporation, American Tire Distributors, Inc., Novant Health Huntersville Medical Center, Duke Energy's McGuire Nuclear Station, Siegling America, Americredit, Metrolina Greenhouses and Joe Gibbs Racing to name a few.

Data from the census estimates 2019\*\* indicates approximately:

- 58,098 people living in Huntersville
  - Approximately 28% were under the age of 19, 62% were between 20-65, and 10% were over 65
  - 75.3% were White American; 12.5% Black or African American; 6.7% Latino; 3% Asian; .2% Native American; 2.3% other races
- 20,074 households with 85% of the houses being occupied by the same family for more than one year
- The median income for a household was \$102,016 and 4.2% of the population were below the poverty line.

\*\* <http://quickfacts.census.gov>

# Mission and Ministry

## Services and Activities

Sundays	
9:45 – 10:45 AM	Adult Bible Study (in English and Spanish) Youth Bible Study (Grades 6 – 12) Grade School Bible Study (Grades 1 – 5) Preschool Bible Study (Infants- Kindergarten)
11:00 – 12:00 AM	English Worship Service Spanish Worship Service Extended Teaching Care (ETC) for Preschool
4:30 – 6:00 PM	Intergenerational Bridge Group Bible Study (Youth and Adults)

Wednesday Evenings*	
6:00 – 7:30 PM	Intergenerational Bridge Group Bible Study (Youth and Adults)
6:00 – 7:30 PM	Childcare (for Infants – Age 2)
6:00 – 6:45 PM	Preschool Choir (Ages 3 – Kindergarten) Children's Choir (Grades 1 – 5)
6:45 – 7:30 PM	Preschool Missions (Ages 3 – Kindergarten) Children's Missions Groups (Grades 1 – 5)
7:30 – 8:30 PM	Intergenerational Choir Practice (Youth and Adults)

*\*During the school year only*

# Ministry Life

## Worship

FBC-H currently has two worship services on Sunday morning. The 11:00 English service is held in the main Sanctuary. It is a traditional and contemporary blended service utilizing a praise band and videos to complement the sermon. Music at this service includes the use of hymns, special music provided primarily by the youth and adult choir, with occasional special music provided by various children's choirs, and various hand bell choirs. A pianist accompanies the music at this service. The other service is a Spanish-language service held in the Discipleship Center Auditorium at 11:00 AM. This service also utilizes a praise band and hymns, and its community warmth is accented by the 14 nationalities represented.

FBC-H is blessed with many talented musicians. Organized music programs are available for ages 3 and up. These are directed by the Minister of Worship, by the Minister to Children, and by volunteers. Children from 3 years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are organized into graded choirs meeting weekly throughout the school year, using the Growing in Grace Curriculum. Currently 3 year olds through 5<sup>th</sup> graders are broken up into age-appropriate choirs. These choirs are staffed by volunteers.

The praise team is made up of volunteers and practices once a week and on Sunday mornings prior to the service. Currently there are 2-3 acoustic guitarists, an electric guitarist, a bass guitarist, and a drummer. One to two female vocalists who do not play instruments and the 2-3 male vocalists (who all play an instrument) make up the vocal portion of the team.

## Discipleship

**Preschool** (Infants through Kindergarten): Classes are housed in the Family Life Center building and share classroom space with the Weekday Ministries. During worship services, rotating volunteers serve in Extended Teaching Care (ETC) under the direction of the ETC coordinator, a part-time, paid staff position. On Wednesday evenings, preschoolers older than two participate in Music and Missions classes where they begin to learn about praising God with music and about helping others through missions. Highlights of the year may include a Spring Celebration, Christmas music and a "Happy Birthday Jesus" event.

**Grade School** (1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade): Classrooms for grade school children are located in the Discipleship Center on the first floor. On Wednesdays, RA and GA groups meet for missions focus along with graded choirs. These choirs perform periodically in worship service. Other music and discipleship opportunities are offered including handbells, praise dance, Music and Arts Camp, and Vacation Bible School. Highlights for this age group include lock-ins, camp outs, summer camps, field trips, and mission projects.

**Student Ministry:** Upon completion of fifth grade, children move into the Student Ministry under the direction of the Minister for Students. Students divide by age into classes. Highlights of this group include their annual Fall Blast Retreat, D-Now in the spring, summer camp (often at Caswell), and various other mission opportunities. Students work alongside adults in efforts from World Hunger to ushering.

**Adult Bible Study:** All age groups beyond early 20s are part of Adult Bible Study. The Associate Pastor for Discipleship oversees curriculum and activities. Most of the Sunday morning classes are segmented by age group and meet in the Sanctuary, Education Building, or Discipleship Center. Other Bible studies for adults occur on campus on Wednesday evenings (both English speaking and Latino/Spanish speaking) led by their respective pastors. Ladies' and men's small group Bible studies are held on and off campus at various times throughout the week. These groups choose their own studies, under the guidance of the Associate Pastor of Discipleship, and provide their own materials. A men's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) satellite group meets weekly in the Discipleship Center.

**Bridge Groups:** Bridge Groups are designed to lean into the vision of "cultivating community by removing the walls that divide us and building bridges that connect us as one human family, each person created in the image of God." In particular, Bridge Groups aim at cultivating community *across the generations*. Whereas Sunday School tends to cluster us based on "age and stage," Bridge Groups are intentionally intergenerational, *for the benefit of all*. Research indicates that student connection with the larger church body and caring adults is critical to developing lifelong faith. Further, sharing one's life and faith with the generations which follow has proven to be both a source of meaning and faith development for those who are further on the journey.

## Missions and Community Engagement

In October 2018, FBC-H revised a vision statement to read:

*Our church exists to glorify God and make disciples by connecting our community for real relationship with God and with one another.*

Most of the time, vision statements are created to help organizations rally around a particular idea or goal. The irony, in this case, was that our vision statement was more of a reflection of who our church has been over the course of our history. It captured the essence of our community's identity and served as a reminder of our calling as we continue to write the story of God's work in the life of this church. Whether we found ourselves collecting donations for another World Hunger yard sale, building friendships in places like West Virginia, Ukraine and Haiti, or by growing a garden to support area soup kitchens; this community continues to heed the call to share God's limitless love and bring the hope and healing found in His Son to our neighbors in Huntersville and around the world.

While members of FBC-H participate in many missions and ministries within our immediate community and beyond, the following pages highlight some of those that help describe our history and who we are as a body:

### Weekday Ministry (Preschool and Childcare)

In 1970, Rev. Spurgeon Dorton, along with several ladies of the church saw a need to provide childcare as a church outreach ministry and began organizing the first day care option in the Huntersville area. Currently, the Center provides a licensed full day program, half day preschool, transitional kindergarten and an after-school educational child development program that is designed to help children in their mental, emotional, social, physical, and spiritual development. It accommodates children from age 6 weeks through 5th grade with little turnover in children or staff. Most of the children are not from church families at this time, so the program continues to be an outreach ministry to the community.

### Latino Ministry

The idea that grew into the Latino Ministry came during the planning of the World Hunger Day in 1993. Recognizing the ever-growing number of Spanish speaking people coming to World Hunger Day, FBC-H made a commitment to provide a ministry in the Spanish language. Bilingual members offered themselves in an effort to reach this emerging international group; the church supported their efforts; and the Latino Ministry was born. Spanish speaking members serve on core value groups and teams and as deacon leaders – 3 presently. A small ESL class continues as well along with open gym, women's retreats and midweek groups. Several other ministries have grown out of the Latino Ministry including the Lake Norman Community Health Clinic and the Dental Ministry.

### Haiti Mission

Back in the early nineties, a member of FBC-H was introduced to a young Haitian man named Actionnel Fleurisma, who was attending the local community college through the generous sponsorship of a Charlotte resident. After completion of his studies in the U.S., Actionnel returned to Haiti heeding the call to start a school and provide an education to the residents of his home region in the Bayonnais valley. Shortly thereafter, the organization known as OFCB (Organization of the Christian Force of Bayonnais) Ministries was formed. Through humble beginnings and the support of various churches, including FBC-H, the school began with 3 teachers and 105 students holding class in an old vacant building or simply under the shade of a mango tree. Over the last 10 years, FBC-H has sent mission teams to participate in building projects, assist in worship services and offer English language classes. One of our primary goals has been to help provide the funds needed to ensure the students receive a modest meal of rice and beans. In many cases, it will be the only meal a child receives during the day. Each year, a large portion of the money generated from our annual yard sale, known as World Hunger Day, is sent to the OFCB Mission to fund the food program. Over the years, our friendship and partnership with the people of the Bayonnais valley has enriched the lives of all who have been involved through what began with a simple introduction and a generous spirit.

### World Hunger Yard Sale

In 1982, a small men's prayer breakfast group from FBC-H felt God's call to feed the hungry around the world. That first year, a yard sale on the church grounds raised more than \$1,000 for the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund. Additional funds of nearly \$2500 were raised through rice bank

contributions. Since then, events at FBC-H have grown to include a huge yard sale, concessions, bake sale, barbecue, crafts, and silent auction on World Hunger Day in late September and a live auction held later in October. In some years, it has also included a golf tournament and 5K Walk/Fun Run as well as rice bowl coin banks. The event has become not only an opportunity to raise funds to help support those in need, but also a wonderful example of outreach and sharing God's love in our own neighborhood as well as across the world. It also served as inspiration for the Latino ministry. Over the years, funds now totaling nearly \$1 million have been distributed to SBC hunger efforts, Baptist Men's Disaster Relief, North Carolina hunger relief through the Cooperative Christian Ministry, and Rowan Helping Ministries, and community hunger programs including Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry and the Angels and Sparrows Soup Kitchen. Over the past ten years a substantial portion of the funds have gone internationally to provide food for children in a school in Bayonnais, Haiti. Most recently, a portion of the funds and unsold goods have gone to Mountain Marketplace Mission in West Virginia.

### Lydia's Loft

Lydia's Loft, birthed from World Hunger Day, is a clothing ministry administered by volunteers, serving Mecklenburg and southern Iredell counties as well as the surrounding communities. It is located on the campus in one of the church-owned homes. Secretarial and financial assistance is also provided by the church office staff. The balance of the financial support comes through unsolicited contributions from the Ada Jenkins Center.

### Prom Closet

The Prom Closet is a self-funded ministry housed in the old education building of First Baptist Church of Huntersville. Since 2010, hundreds of young ladies and young men have been able to let their outer beauty shine as much as their inner beauty. In 2019 the Prom Closet gave out 1,282 dresses as well as touched the lives of countless people, and showed the love of God to everyone who experienced it.

### Community Breakfast

The Community Breakfast is a Summer ministry that provides a free hot breakfast every Saturday to anyone in the community. Modeled after Angels and Sparrows Soup Kitchen which provides a cost-free lunch each weekday to anyone that enters, The Breakfast Table was birthed with the desire to bridge the weekend gap. A rotation of approximately 12 volunteers prepare and serve breakfast from 7:30-10 am each Saturday in the Summer (June, July and August).

### Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are just ordinary people who have God given gifts along with 50 hours of training who listen, care, pray, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through a difficult time.

# Community Ministries Partners

## Angels and Sparrows

Angels & Sparrows is a Community Table and Resource Center for families and individuals who need assistance with food, health, education, housing, finances, and more. We start with a nourishing meal served with dignity and foster community and a path to hope for those facing hunger in their daily lives through our programs, celebrations and experiences – transforming daily interactions into personal connections and a sense of belonging. We Believe: Only after one's body and soul is nourished, can they begin to look to the future for change and a path forward. One hungry person is too many; no one is turned away. All guests should be treated with dignity and respect. Sharing a meal is the cornerstone of community and hope. People hunger for food AND belonging. Fellowship and food are fundamental to life and community, A caring community with no judgment, creates the condition for change.

## Ada Jenkins

Ada Jenkins Center exists to improve the quality of life for the residents of our communities through the integrated delivery of health, education, and human services.

## Caterpillar Ministries

Caterpillar Ministries is a nondenominational team of people following God's lead in encouraging and walking alongside families in the Huntington Green neighborhood in Huntersville, NC. Building them up to become all they're created to be, we offer Bible studies, tutoring, youth small groups, a food pantry, financial assistance in crises, and much more. Community in Christ is growing and hope continues to transform lives.

## Loaves and Fishes

Loaves and Fishes' mission is to provide a week's worth of nutritious groceries to people within our community facing economic hardships.

## The Grange

Professional farmers, urban gardeners, or those who just seek locally grown goodness, all find something to love at the NC Grange. Our events and programs offer the best of modern know-how with long-held traditional ideals, which is why the NC Grange has brought the North Carolina agricultural community together for generations.



# Church Demographics

## Membership and Attendance Summary, 2016-2020

### FBC-H Membership and Attendance Records, 2016-2020

Year	Resident Membership	Total Membership	Average Worship Attendance	Average Bible Study Attendance
2016	404	889	226	293
2017	386	821	259	186
2018	394	826	331	255
2019	386	820	236	162
2020	388	830	n/a**	n/a**

\*\* Due to the COVID Pandemic all in person, indoor services and Bible Studies were halted from March 2020 - October 2020.

### FBC-H Total Attenders by Age Groups

Age Category	# of Individuals	Percentage of Total
0-11	48	12%
12-18	41	11%
19-35	6	1.5%
36-50	57	15%
51-64	94	24%
65+	100	26%
Unknown	40	10.5%
Total	386	100%

### FBC-H Membership Changes

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Baptisms	6	2	6	11	2	27
Other Adds	14	14	10	7	7	52
Transfers/Drops	15	6	8	12	4	45
Deceased	8	7	3	9	3	30

# Financial Status

## Giving Overview

### **FBC-H Giving Units by Age: 2016-2020**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
No Year of Birth	43	57	51	51	54
75 and older	52	61	51	41	34
65 to 74	38	34	30	30	28
55 to 64	46	44	43	43	37
45 to 54	42	24	26	20	16
35 to 44	22	13	12	14	11
25 to 34	8	7	8	8	8
18 to 24	4	3	6	4	3
Under 18	17	13	10	10	6
Total	272	256	237	221	197

### **FBC-H Actual Giving by Calendar year**

Year	Budget Offerings	Building Offerings	Other Designated	Total Giving
2016	\$839,856	\$105,680	\$40,145	\$985,681
2017	\$868,495	\$91,518	\$43,656	\$1,003,669
2018	\$790,668	\$71,975	\$19,444	\$882,087
2019	\$714,388	\$197,217	\$13,254	\$924,859
2020	\$652,818	\$117,311	\$11,582	\$781,711

## Assets: Balance Sheet

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>As of July 2021</b>
Checking Acct	\$670,297
Scholarship Fund	\$134,786
Benevolence Fund	\$18,128
Sales Tax Receivable	\$890
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$824,101</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Buildings and Land	\$7,576,000
Discipleship Building	\$3,003,700
Furnishings	\$250,000
Sipes House (rental property)	\$183,200
Styers House (houses Lydia's Loft)	\$143,100
Black Land (back parking lot and vacant adjacent acreage)	\$206,900
Weekday Van	\$28,385
2003 Bus	\$20,500
Trailer	\$2,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$11,413,785</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$12,237,886</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Building Fund Note	\$548,245
Other Designated	\$3,481
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$551,726</b>
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>\$11,686,161</b>

## Budget 2020 and 2021

Accounts	Annual Budget 2020	Annual Budget 2021
<b>Evangelism (520)</b>	\$75,000.00	\$72,500.00
<b>Worship (521)</b>		
521102 - Worship Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
521103 - Music Materials/Supplies	\$3,400.00	\$3,500.00
521104 - Guest Musicians	\$150.00	
521105 - Instrument Maintenance	\$645.00	\$644.00
521106 - Media Equipment	\$200.00	\$200.00
521108 - Music Festivals/Events	\$2,140.00	\$2,140.00
<b>Total Worship (521)</b>	\$9,035.00	\$8,984.00
<b>Fellowship (522)</b>		
522201 - Christian Activities	\$1,300.00	\$910.00
522203 - Deacon	\$25.00	\$300.00
522206 - Stephen Ministries	\$300.00	\$2,000.00
522207 - Latino	\$2,000.00	
<b>Total Fellowship (522)</b>	\$3,625.00	\$3,210.00
<b>Prayer (523)</b>		
523301 - Prayer Events	\$100.00	\$100.00
<b>Total Prayer (523)</b>	\$100.00	\$100.00
<b>Discipleship (524)</b>		
524401 - Bible Study	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
524402 - Discipleship Training	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
524403 - Youth	\$8,470.00	\$8,270.00
524405 - Women's Ministries	\$600.00	\$600.00
524409 - Vacation Bible School	\$2,450.00	\$2,000.00
524410 - Preschool/Children Min.	\$4,500.00	\$4,850.00
524411 - Extended Teaching Care	\$525.00	\$525.00
<b>Total Discipleship (524)</b>	\$23,545.00	\$23,245.00
<b>Administration</b>		
526603 - Travel	\$5,520.00	\$5,520.00
526605 - Conference	\$2,500.00	\$1,200.00
526607 - Communications	\$500.00	\$500.00
526608 - Postage	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
526609 - Office Supplies/Printing	\$7,440.00	\$8,268.00
526610 - Office Equipment	\$12,156.00	\$12,156.00
526611 - Contingency	\$10,798.00	\$1,564.00
526615 - Banks Fees	\$2,329.00	\$3,314.00
526616 - Computers/Software	\$5,088.00	\$5,595.00
526617 - Human Resource Expense	\$500.00	\$500.00
526619 - Pastoral Materials	\$800.00	\$800.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	\$48,631.00	\$40,417.00
<b>Personnel</b>		
526601 - Salaries	\$399,003.00	\$337,921.94
526602 - Social Security/Medicare	\$304.00	\$5,854.18
526604 - Insurance		\$26,177.52
526606 - Annuity		\$22,865.40
<b>Total Personnel</b>	\$399,307.00	\$392,819.04
<b>Facilities (527)</b>		
527701 - Utilities	\$56,720.00	\$56,720.00
527702 - Insurance	\$22,840.00	\$22,840.00
527703 - Van Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
527704 - General Maintenance	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
527705 - Grounds Contract	\$25,600.00	\$25,600.00
527707 - Custodial Services	\$16,800.00	\$16,800.00
527708 - Loan Interest	\$35,175.00	\$29,267.96
527710 - Janitorial Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
527711 - Capital Improvements	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
<b>Total Facilities (527)</b>	\$203,135.00	\$197,227.96
<b>Stewardship/Finance (528)</b>		
528801 - Stewardship Resources	\$875.00	\$250.00
528802 - Annual Audit	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
<b>Total Stewardship/Finance (528)</b>	\$4,375.00	\$3,750.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$766,753.00	\$742,253.00



**First Baptist Church**  
Huntersville, NC  
real relationship with God and one another

## Kingdom Concept

Our church exists to glorify God and make disciples by connecting our community for real relationship with God and with one another.



There is enough in this world that divides us. We prefer to celebrate the Savior who unites us.

14813 N. Old Statesville Rd.  
Huntersville, NC 28078  
**704.875.6581**

# BUILDING BRIDGES



## REMOVING WALLS



### OUR MOTIVES

Dignity & Worth of Each Individual  
Diversity of Age, Race, Income, & Background  
Unity in Christ  
Service to Our Community  
Led by the Holy Spirit

## Church Profile 2021

**WE ARE SET ON CULTIVATING COMMUNITY BY REMOVING WALLS THAT DIVIDE US AND BUILDING BRIDGES THAT CONNECT US AS ONE HUMAN FAMILY, EACH PERSON CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.**



“  
**THE CHURCH THAT DOES SO MUCH FOR THE COMMUNITY**  
”



**FBC-H.ORG**