



# THE CONNEC TION

First Baptist Church \* 814 Buchanan Road \* New Tazewell, Tennessee  
**Connect to God, Family, and Community!**



Page 2: Praying with Fire Conference; Upcoming Page 3: FBC to UT; Sunday School Rally Insert: Calendars

## Do WE “Really” Want To Reach Unchurched?

It’s common to hear churches say their goal is to reach the unchurched. At FBC we say our mission is to “Connect To God, Connect To Family (Church), and Connect to our Community.” Implicit in that statement is our goal to reach the unchurched. Almost every church I know says they want to reach unchurched people, but few are doing it.

**We’ve finished Transformational Church. We have looked at WHO we are, WHAT we are, HOW we are and now implementing the hard part of WHERE we need to go now. To do that, our worship services, education programs, study groups, programs and ministries must match our mission of Connecting with people both inside our church (God’s Family) and outside our church, the unchurched, the unsaved, the lost.**

### How do we do that? Here are possible questions that might help us reach the unchurched.

**1. How are our worship services?** One of the simplest ways to evaluate a worship service is to simply ask teenagers and young adults “if they love our services.” As a rule, if our services engage them, we’ve designed a church service that “really” engages unchurched people.

**2. Do our members actually know unchurched people?** Our church is amazing in that we know “everybody” and “really” want to reach unchurched people but do we know them well enough to invite them to church? I’d suggest that sports, school, dinners and more are great ways to meet people but **IF** it’s **only with and for our children, family, church or friends**, and not for the unchurched, then we’re missing a great opportunity and disobeying Jesus’ command.

**3. Are we prepared to be non-judgmental?** Unchurched people do not come ‘pre-converted’. They will have lifestyle issues that might take years to change (and let’s be honest, don’t we?). Jesus didn’t say “cleaning up your behavior as a pre-condition for salvation.” Jesus’ approach was to love people into life change. If we can do that, we’re “really” ready to reach unchurched people.

**4. Are we good with difficult questions?** One of the reasons unchurched people flee churches is they feel shut down when every question they ask has a snappy or quick answer. Embracing the “real” questions of unchurched people is a “real” expression of loving them.

**5. Are you honest about your struggles?** Unchurched people get suspicious when church leaders and Christians want to appear to have it ‘all together’. Let’s face it, we don’t, and they know it! When you are honest about your struggles, it draws unchurched people closer. I can truthfully say our church isn’t perfect, that we will probably let them down and we’ll make mistakes. So get over it! A true Christian community is one that can deal with problems openly, honestly, face to face and work through it. Honesty is an amazingly attractive attribute for anyone, especially a Christian or a Church. Many unchurched folks have “really” never seen such a person before.

**6. Do we have easy, obvious, and helpful steps for new people? We start “FBC Pathway to LEADership” training this weekend and more will follow.** Classes, training, information that are designed to be an easy pathway to move someone from their first visit right through to joining our church and other Christians in small groups or other core ministries of our church.

**7. Will we dump assumptions?** It’s easy to assume the unchurched know at least the basics of the Christian faith. How much do you “really know” about Judaism, Hinduism or Muslims? That’s what the unchurched “really” know about Christianity. Dump the assumptions and expectations. Make it easy for “them” to understand what you’re talking about, and my assumption is that you’ll be one of the few that’s “really” talking about Christ and God’s love for us sinners.

**8. Are we flexible and adaptable. Our FBC mission is to “CONNECT”!** Churches that are adaptable and flexible in their strategy (not in their mission or vision) will have the best chance of “really” reaching unchurched people.

**“ As My Father has sent me, so I send you.”**

Bro. Larry

# Praying with Fire

November 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>

**Schedule:**

Fri., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>

5:30pm

Dinner

6:30pm

The Power of Prayer

Sat., Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

8:30am

Continental Breakfast

9am

The House of Prayer

10:30am

Disciplines of Prayer

Noon Lunch

1pm

Praying the Bible Way

6:30pm

Going Deeper with God

Sun., Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>

6:30pm

Praying with Fire Video

[Events for children for all sessions. Nursery provided.]



**WOM Lottie Moon Auction**

Tue., Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> 6pm at the Ferrell's

**Annual Thanksgiving Meal and Fellowship**

Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm



Sat., Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 9am to Noon  
The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

Sun., Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-5pm  
Everyone Communicates, Few Connect

FBC in the Fellowship Hall



1<sup>st</sup> Monday 6-7pm  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 6:15-7:30pm  
at the Regional Education Ctr.

**Small Groups in November**

Sunday's  
6:30pm Wild at Heart  
Respectable Sins  
The Well  
Monday's & Wednesday's  
5 to 6pm Yoga


## FBC to UT Football Game



**Church Council Meeting**  
 Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
 All TEAM Members please attend!

**Short Business Meeting**  
 Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

September 2014  
 General Fund  
 Month's Receipts.....\$25,528.85  
 YTD Receipts.....\$291,186.70

 Donations for Manna House  
 November: Toilet Paper

**UNSUNG SERVANTS**

A special thank you for everyone who worked so hard on our 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Homecoming. Programs are still available in the office.

Thank you to all who made the Sunday School Rally a success and so much fun!

**Benevolence Ministry**  
 Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

## Sunday School Rally    Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014



**from First Baptist Church, New Tazewell, Tennessee**

Larry Sharp, Pastor.....423-526-8038  
 Todd Spangler, Music Director.....423-626-5401  
 Barry Liles, Youth Director.....865-585-2554  
 Chris Bell, Pastoral Intern  
 Pam Worley, Deaf Interpreter  
 Jeff Lewis, Chairman of Deacons.....423-526-7223  
 Beverly Slayton, Administrative Assistant.....423-626-5401

Church E-Mail Address: fbcnewtazewell@centurytel.net  
 Church Website: www.ntfbc.org

First Baptist Church, PO Box 248  
 New Tazewell, TN 37824

Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 14  
 New Tazewell, TN 37824

**Address Service Requested**

**NOVEMBER 2014**

**Weekly Schedule**

**Sunday**

9:45am Sunday School for All Ages  
 11:00am Worship Service; Children's Church;  
 Nursery & Toddler  
 5:30pm Choir Practice  
 6:30pm Worship; Kidz; MS & High School Youth;  
 College Bible Study/Fellowship; Nursery

**Wednesday**

6:30pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study; MS & HS  
 Youth; College Bible Study; Nursery

**Nursery:** Sunday morning for bed babies.  
 Sunday evenings up to 3 years old.

**Toddler Room:** Sunday morning for toddlers  
 up to 3 years old.

**NOVEMBER**

1 <sup>st</sup> (Sat)	9am to noon	Pathway to LEADership
2 <sup>nd</sup> (Sun)	2-5pm	Pathway to LEADership
	5pm	Deacon's Meeting
	6:30pm	Kidz Program (4 -11 year olds)
		Small Groups
3 <sup>rd</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> (Mon/Wed)	5-6pm	Yoga
4 <sup>th</sup> (Tue)	6:30pm	Church Council Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> (Fri-Sun)		Praying with Fire Conference
10 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> (Mon/Wed)	5-6pm	Yoga
	6pm	WOM-Lottie Moon Auction
17 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> (Mon/Wed)	5-6pm	Yoga
	6:30pm	Short Business Meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup> (Sun)	5:30pm	Thanksgiving Meal & Fellowship
24 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	5-6pm	Yoga Small Group
	6:30pm	Building & Grounds Meeting
26 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		No Evening Service
27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> (Thur/Fri)		Church Office Closed
30 <sup>th</sup> (Sun)	6:30pm	Hanging of the Greens