

Outreach...

Activities designed to instill in young people the worthiness of serving others, especially those in need.

Box Tops for Education

Ongoing effort to collect Box Tops to benefit Elementary School 5 in Linden.

CROP Hunger Walk – Oct. 7th

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events that bring people together in a common mission: helping those who are hungry at home and around the world. Some youth walked, some sponsored those who walked.

Candy Give-a-way - Oct. 28th

This year we weren't able to host a Trunk or Treat since Halloween fell on a Wednesday (Prayer Service & Bible Study). Instead, we distributed candy bags and reviewed Halloween Safety tips.

Thanksgiving Baskets – Nov. 17th

Youth aided the Thanksgiving basket effort by donating food. They also came out early on Saturday morning to sort, and bag food.

Girl Scout Troop #40330 (Troop Leader Cherida Bailey and several girl scouts are members of First Baptist) took on the task of delivering food to 17 families. They made deliveries to families residing in Linden, Roselle, Rahway, and Elizabeth.

Team of Tutors

A tutoring program for grades 3 thru 12 started on Tuesday, November 27th. Children seeking assistance should join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:00 -8:00 PM

Ashbrook Nursing Home & Rehabilitation Center

Scotch Plains, NJ - Dec. 1st

We visited with the residents for a short visit before performing through song and dance. The choir sang while residents joined us in song. Praise dancers danced. For us, it was just a few hours out of our day to make others feel happy. Two residents are members of First Baptist and they were the most pleased to see us.

“My experience at the nursing home was an overwhelming one. I danced for the ones who couldn't walk. My movements were the words for those who could hardly speak. I praised God that day for the ones who couldn't hold up their hand and say thank you. I thank God for this gift of dance”. – Shayla Thomas

Card Ministry

This program is another means of keeping in touch with youth, whether a member or not. Periodically, we send postcards to youth. Cards that say – Happy Birthday, Sunday School absenteeism, and Thinking of You.

Youth Ministry

First Baptist Church

Rev. Derrick R. Dumas, Pastor

This newsletter pays tribute to the youth of First Baptist Church; the activities and events they participated in during 2012. Throughout the year, we offered a variety of events to both youth and parents. We planned lock-ins, trips, and other activities designed to draw youth and families to God and one another.

Whether you're a member of First Baptist or a youth attending on a regular basis, please consider becoming involved in the Youth Ministry of First Baptist. All youth are encouraged to become involved in the ministry of our church. All Christians are called to follow Jesus and to use their gifts and talents in His Service.

These ministries fall under the umbrella of our Youth Ministry. Youth are eligible to participate in any of the following....

Music Ministry

The Music Ministry at First Baptist is blessed with a choir for young people.

- *Youth Choir* Youth ages 4 -18 sing in the choir. Rehearsal Friday at 7:30PM.
- *Mass Choir* Youth ages 15 and older, can also sing with the Mass Choir.

Praise Dance Ministry

First Baptist Anointed Angels are the young sisters in our combined praise dance ministry. They use their gifts of dance to express God's Word. Our dancers are ages 4 -18.

- *Angelic Angels* (4 -11), rehearsal Tuesdays 6 – 7:30PM
- *Anointed Young Women of God* (12-18), rehearsal Thursdays 6-7:30PM

Junior Usher and Nurse Boards

Young people from 7 years and older serve with humble hospitality during worship services and programs.

Sunday School

All children are invited to learn God's Word. Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30.

Vacation Bible School

One week in June, all ages are invited to understand God's Word in daily, bible study (6-8PM).

Youth Council

Youth members provide valuable input into youth ministry activities.

Youth Ministry Meetings

Quarterly meetings; 5th Sunday after Sunday Worship.

Youth Sunday

The 2nd Sunday of every month is Youth Sunday. Youth are spotlighted. Youth lead in devotion, music, prayer, and all aspects of the worship service.

Coming Soon!

Teen Bible Study Wed. 7:30 – 8:30

Black History Program Feb. 4th

Black history and culture is such a part of the American fabric that it's difficult to imagine a time when that wasn't so.

Established as Negro History Week in the 1920s, February was chosen for the celebration because Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln were born in the month of February.

Extended to a month-long celebration in 1976, Black History Month is an opportunity to emphasize the history and achievements of African Americans; this is the goal of our annual Black History Program.

Through performance (art, music, dance, spoken word, and storytelling) we honor and recognize achievements of those of the African diaspora. We aim to preserve, promote and share the history of Black Americans.

"The Black History Programs we have share insight and knowledge about a lot of African Americans, not just those we hear about in school. Those who came before us had great expectations for future generations. This year, I decided to report on one of the pilots from the Tuskegee Airmen (I have a cousin who graduated from Tuskegee University) . Besides reading articles, I saw the movie Red Tails. These activities helped me realize just why I should be grateful and appreciative for the life I live. Times were way tougher back then and I didn't realize just how tough until I started preparing for this program. "
– Ahmed Dawkins

Ministry Recruitment Fair March 18th

Ministry fairs provide an opportunity to recruit workers/members and increase congregational involvement in various church programs. Enabling all members to use their gift(s) to the Glory of God, the growth of Christ's Church and the good of mankind. At the Fair, the Youth Ministry communicated its mission, ministry activities for the year, and opportunities for service.

Seven members joined the Usher and Nurse Ministries

Easter Egg Hunt April 7th

This event is for children under 12. For some, it's their first introduction to the resurrection of Christ. We spread the Word about Jesus rising from the grave. Children participate in an Easter Egg Hunt, receive candy, and have refreshments. As a parting gift, they receive an inspirational goodie bag, with religious activity pads, coloring books and other items to remember the event.

Youth over 12 help with preparation set-up, coloring eggs, hiding Easter eggs, making candy bags, with arts and crafts. They also help the younger children during the Easter Egg Hunt.

Laughter 4 Your Soul May 19th

At New Liberty Center, Elizabeth, NJ our Praise Dancers were featured performers of LAUGHTR 4 YOUR SOUL, a Christian Comedy show that made you laugh till your stomach hurt!

Our young women performed for more than 300 people to the delight of the crowd.

They made us proud!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) June 25th – June 29th

VBS, is a week-long religious education program, employing Bible stories, religious song, arts and crafts, and skits

In 2012, a new class "Real Talk for Real Teens" was introduced. There was a real need for a class like this. We went out into the community actively seeking teens who were not attending First Baptist. After attending a Prayer Service where we explained the program, the teens expressed interest and said they'd come. This class had 45 attendees, with almost 100% attendance each night for the week. They were actively involved, asking questions and making contributions. So much so, that our 2 consultants had to modify their original plan.

Connections were made to God and to First Baptist. Several teens later joined our church.

"This year in VBS, the theme was "Heaven's Kitchen". We learned to eat healthy and to respect ourselves and bodies, just as we should respect God We have our lessons, snacks, and crafts all week long. On the last day, we have presentations and review what we learned during the week.

So come and join us next time you hear us planning for VBS. You can bring your friends, even if they aren't members at First Baptist. Hope you can join us next year." – Ayanna Dawkins

Sunday School

Sunday School is offered year- round, 52 weeks of the year. It teaches about Christianity; about discovering how spirituality is relevant in your life; how it fits into everything you do. Each class is designed to meet your needs as a student – classes are divided by age.

It's a chance to talk with other kids and together learn meaningful answers to the stuff that you face in everyday life.

"As young people we are finding out different things about who we are becoming. We are facing the challenges of choosing between right and wrong, following others and wanting to fit in and be popular. I am happy to have the teachers we have. They teach us how to be good followers of Jesus Christ, to find His face, be obedient to Jesus, pray every day, read the bible every day, love one another and be faithful. I'm proud to attend Sunday School and I am proud to be a Christian. " – Ty'zhe Boyd

"My experiences in Sunday school have been fantastic ones. I think all youth should participate in Sunday School because many youth today are doing drugs, joining gangs, and participating in other bad behavior. If they come to Sunday School, they may drop their bad behavior and follow in Jesus Christ's path. " – Tavar Smith

College Fair Open House

Sat. April 21, 2012

With this event, we wanted to encourage, and promote alternatives beyond graduation from High School. We hoped to attract prospective students, and familiarize them (and parents) with invaluable information about higher education at many facilities.

- Demonstrate Interest
- Find out about summer programs/opportunities
- Practice your interview skills
- Great preparation for the campus visit

"I was happy to experience this with the rest of the young people who attended. As a high school senior anticipating college, the college fair was a help to me.

Learning about scholarships I can be given just for being athletic, having a strong academic record, being African American, and so much more was a great. Anyone graduating, would benefit. I gained a lot of information which gives me more hope for my future."

– Jamease Thomas

Students were able to meet with and question alumni and/or faculty members; while gaining information about the opportunities and differences each institution has to offer.

Through aggressive marketing throughout the community (schools, churches, organizations, media, and word of mouth) we had a number of people turnout.

Why attend a college fair?

- In-person research
- Explore new options
- Free advice

Narrow your list of options

E X C U R S I O N S

Hudson County Correctional Facility

April 14th & May 12th

The Sons of Chariot (mentoring program of Sigma Phi Rho), extended an invite to our young men; to tour the facility – talk to inmates, those on drugs, and in gangs. An experience that would have an impact on their lives. All with the hope of deterring at risk behavior. Four young men attended.

The tour was so effective, we asked to have another visit – this time for our females. We returned to the facility in less than a month, with 5 females. Thank you to Bro. Keith Stith, (National President Sigma Phi Rho) for including us.

"Visiting the prison was a liberating experience. It really gave me a new perspective on life. Talking to the inmates touched me."

-Brianna Armstead

Church Fellowship

Fellowship with and support of programs with other churches either through song or dance

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Roselle

Emmanuel Tabernacle, Linden

First Hopewell Baptist Church, Newark

Second Baptist Church, Rahway

White Rock Baptist Church, Linden

Union Baptist Church, Elizabeth

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

In June of 2012, we congratulated three of our members for graduating from High School. Tanasia Bailey, Albert Myers III, and Jasmine Tobe. .

We urged them to seize opportunities and to make the most of them. To stay grounded in faith and living in His Word. We wish them much success

Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom – Aug. 25th

In appreciation of and dedication to our youth, we sponsored a day trip to Dorney Park. We had a lot of fun. There was something for everyone; thrilling rides, fabulous food, and live entertainment. But most of all, we created lasting memories with one another.

Third Annual Walkathon

June 30th

The "Walk for Health" Walkathon was held at Warinanco Park, Roselle, NJ. This was the third year, we held the event. We partnered with Emmanuel Tabernacle Assembly of God's Youth Ministry (Linden, NJ) to host it.

Proceeds from the Walk, went to enhance youth programs at both churches. This is the only fundraiser our ministry had, and we were very pleased with the results.

This year, we scheduled the Walk for the day after VBS. We had a great turnout - more than 50 youth participated.

A special thank you to our sponsors, Walgreens Pharmacy and Modell's Sporting Goods.

"At the walkathon we walk around Warnianco Park. For every mile that we walked, we raised money. After the walkathon we went back to the church. We had hotdogs, hamburgers, juice, and soda. We each got a raffle ticket and if your raffle ticket was called then you won a gift card to Modell's Sporting Goods. I had a very good time. My friends and I walked two miles." – Rikiyya Paige

YOUTH CHOIR 50th ANNIVERSARY – Nov. 25th

The Youth Choir celebrated 50 years at First Baptist Church .

The theme "The Past, The Present and the Future", was appropriate since the program included current and former youth choir members.

The celebration included selections from First Baptist Praise Dancers and the Junior Choir from White Rock Baptist Church. Youth expressed their creativity and their love for Christ.

Thank You

Thank you everyone who helped and supported us with the activities, events, and programs. We can't do it alone.

The Youth Ministry was able to fund 99% of these programs without passing on a cost to youth ministry members. We were able to do so because of the success of our Walkathon and the donations made to the Youth Ministry.

A special THANK YOU to the youth who provided comments for the newsletter. They did so willingly and weren't shy about expressing how they felt. These are their comments verbatim; showing the impact these programs have on them. Which is why we will continue to offer similar programs. We look forward to an even brighter 2013.

Financial Aid Workshop – Nov. 5th

This workshop was cancelled due to inclement weather. The workshop will be rescheduled in 2013.

Mission Statement

To mentor our youth into young ambassadors for Christ. We shall commit to the enrichment of their knowledge of the Lord's purpose. We shall engage to educate, enable and empower opportunities, for young people to understand and recognize who Jesus is, and what it is to live for Him only.

Word Hunt

Hunt for ten words of five letters each, and all beginning with the letters RO.

Each word is described to help you guess it, and you can check your answers by looking for the word in the Bible verse given.

1. Garments. (Luke 20:46)
2. A way to cook meat. (1 Samuel 2:15)
3. Parts of a tree. (Mark 11:20)
4. To waken. (Genesis 49:9)
5. The opposite of smooth. (Isaiah 40:4)
6. Kingly (Esther 5:1)
7. Large twisted cords (Acts 27:32)
8. Large stones. (Jeremiah 4:29)
9. Parts of a house. (Matthew 23:6)
10. Men of a certain nationality. (Acts 22:29)