There I sat with others just outside the judgment room, As one by one the lost were called to face eternal doom. We all sat very quietly for no one spoke a word, Then out of nowhere came a voice like we had never heard. His voice like thunder echoed out to call another name, As we began to realize things would never be the same. Above the silence in that room a scream would pierce our ears, We knew not what was happening, our eyes just filled with tears. Once again I heard the thundering voice of God proclaim, I started shaking fearfully for He had called MY name. An angel came and ushered me before God’s Great White Throne, I fell upon my knees. I had no strength to stand alone. The record books were opened one by one my sins were named, I tried to find a place to hide, Oh how I felt ashamed. Then the Book of Life was opened, through it He did search, I told Him of my many deeds and how I went to church. I saw Him search through all the book as my heart grew with fear, And then I heard him say these words, “Your name is not in here.” I began to scream out loud, as those we heard before. Please! No! It just can’t be! Oh please just search once more! Then God in all His righteous vengeance, fierce as He could be, Thndered out the awfulllest words, “Sinner, depart from me.” Two angels took me by the arms and carried me away, They flung me in the Lake of Fire forever there to stay. I couldn’t see a single thing, but darkness I could feel, The burning flames engulfed my soul I now knew Hell was real. The only thing my mind found worse than being here to stay, Is knowing my lost wife and child are also on their way. I lived a sinful, wicked life and they just followed me, Now my life will lead them here for all eternity. The deafening screams of untold millions overwhelmed my ears, Yet I knew this punishment would not just last for years. This punishment is everlasting, never will it end. Oh how I would give anything to live my life again. Oh sinner if you’ve not been saved please trust the Lord today, So from this Lake of Fire, you’ll forever stay away.

Written By: Anthony Agan ©Copyright 2018

Because He Lives!
Pastor Byron
Yuliya Shubina received a shoebox gift in Central Asia that connected her to a caring friend halfway around the world and was one of the seeds that brought her to faith in Christ. Yuliya’s father brought her a shoebox gift from missionaries who were distributing the gifts to local children. There were many gifts inside, including a letter from the girl who had packed the shoebox. Yuliya and the girl exchanged letters for many years afterward, and when Yuliya came to the United States to finish high school, she was able to meet her pen pal in person. Today Yuliya serves with Operation Christmas Child to tell the story of God’s faithfulness in her life. To hear more about what the Lord has done in her life, please join us for a special time of Yuliya sharing her testimony.

UPWARD SOCCER
Games start Saturday, September 8th at 9:00 am. Spectators are welcome and needed! Please come out and show your support for the children and the Upward Soccer program. Contact Pastor Rob with questions at rob@fbcinverness.com

Welcome to the Family...

New Members
July & August

Carolyn Perez
Debra & Les Jobe

Dessert Auction
Sunday, September 9th at 5:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall.
The proceeds will go to the cost to upgrade the Audio & Visual Equipment for the Sanctuary. Plan to be there!
In Memory of Joyce Walker
For: Free To Follow
From: The Partners in Christ Class
From: Dan & Donna Tvenstrup
For: Audio & Visual Equipment
From: Wayne & Jean Snyder

In Memory of Faye Wagner
For: Free To Follow
From: Robin Moffatt
For: Operation Christmas Child
From: Larry & Sherry White

In Memory of James S. Jones (Suzanne McFarlin’s Dad)
For: Free To Follow
From: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jones

In Memory of Ray Almand
For: Free To Follow
From: Robin Moffatt

In Memory of Frank Pullen
For: Free To Follow
From: Robin Moffatt
For Youth
From: Ben & Flo Hayward

In Memory of Ruthie Gleason
For: Free To Follow
From: LaVerne Register

BOOK REVIEW
THE NARROW ROAD by Brother Andrew begins with the incredible autobiography of Brother Andrew, the remarkable man who risked his life smuggling Bibles into countries where scriptures are outlawed. In the Narrow Road journey into places still hostile to Christians—with profiles of courageous champions of the faith. Meet teens and others across the globe who, like the believers Jars of Clay visited, are mercilessly persecuted for their faith, yet display extraordinary joy. Their stories, along with Brother Andrew, will forever change the way you walk the narrow road. The question is—are you willing to walk the narrow road?
MORE ON SERVING HIM: Angels & Smugglers by Alyce Mann & Jimi Miller (266.092), A Missionary God Gave Wings by Bob C. Green (266.092), The Savage My Kinsman by Elizabeth Elliot (266.0089), and An Army of Ordinary People by Felicity Dale (262.26).

In the Library...

COMING SOON
TeamKID Starts back Wednesday, September 5th with a Back to School Water Bash from 6:00 — 7:30 pm.

COME JOIN US AS WE SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH CHILDREN ON MONDAY AFTERNOONS AT PLEASANT GROVE ELEMENTARY
Volunteer Training
September 17th from 9:00 am — 12:00 pm at First Baptist Inverness.
Sign up at the Children’s Desk.
Please see Mrs. Dee for more information.

Contact DeAnna Davis at deanna@fbcinverness.com
THREE MYTHS ABOUT OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

We all have those moments, the ones where we “lose it” for just a split second. It doesn’t really matter where we find ourselves in those moments. The point is we “lose it”, we lose control, and lash out, or link together a few less than savory words. Be it a road rage incident, a really bad day at work, a little white lie (or big black one!), or (insert personal failure here)...

We tell ourselves that no one is perfect, that everyone fails or falls at some point. True, but aren’t we Christians supposed to be able rise above such actions and deeds? Aren’t we supposed to be strong enough to NOT do those things? Shouldn’t we be able to control ourselves? Shouldn’t we be strong enough to overcome those desires and inclinations?

So we continue to try, and to fail.

No one is immune to this struggle. We all fall into that pit, don’t we? We are not very much like Jesus and often have no idea how to be like Him. We try to capture His life like a photo, only to have our actions spew forth obscenities through our failures. We fail to see the difference between our “Trying” (our resolve that it is up to US to make things happen), and actually “Trusting” (our resolve that God is actually in control!)

We are reminded in Proverbs 3:5-8 of how we should act: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.”

I am reminded of a song penned by John Chism and George Searcy, entitled “Christ Above Me”. The chorus went like this: “Christ above me, Christ beside me. Christ within me ever guiding. Christ behind me, Christ before. Christ my love, my life, my Lord.”

It is based on an 8th century Celtic hymn entitled “Deer’s Cry” (more popularly known as St. Patrick’s Breastplate), and is perhaps the most beloved of all Celtic hymns. The last stanza emphatically states: “Christ with me, Christ before me; Christ behind me, Christ in me; Christ under me, Christ over me; Christ to the right of me; Christ in lying down, Christ in sitting, Christ in rising up; Christ in the heart of everyone that thinks of me; Christ in every eye that sees me; Christ in every ear that hears me.”

Isn’t this what we long for? Isn’t this what we are called to? Isn’t this our greatest need? To be so immersed in Christ that He becomes our very life?

The apostle Paul said it this way in his letter to the church in Galatia (Galatians 2:20), “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

We place so many barriers between ourselves and Christ. So much about what our relationship with Him is “supposed to be” is clouded with personal bias, misunderstanding, and – let’s face it - downright lies.

Why is there such a disconnect between the life that we live, and the life that we are called to? It’s partly because of: Little or poorly structured discipleship & training within the church; Poor self discipline to seek out training/self study on our own; and our simple acceptance of the word of “saints/teachers” without balancing their teaching against the inerrant Word of God to see if it is truly “of God”...

Over time, these things, these misconceptions, have become myths that we believe about the spiritual life we are trying to live out. So let’s clear away some of the barriers, and particularly the myths, that permeate our thoughts and actions as we go about living a spiritual life.

Continued on Page 5
We continue to collect Peanut Butter and Jelly for the less fortunate students at Inverness Primary and Pleasant Grove Elementary. Please keep the peanut butter and jelly (in plastic containers only please) on your grocery list and continue to keep the children on your prayer list! Thank you for your generosity. Questions, call Marilyn Jordan at 726-1658.

F.A.I.T.H. Riders
Next Meeting September 8th at 10:00 am in Room 174B
MISSION: 2 Peter 3:9 No One Left Behind
NATIONAL RALLY: August 31—September 2, 2019 in Ridgecrest, NC
Please contact Shaun Stewart for more information about F.A.I.T.H. Riders.

About The Father’s Business
August Totals
Cards—85; Phone Calls—56; Visits—9;
Cookies—12 dozen; Volunteers—32;
Prayers—Too Many To Count

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Paula Johnson or Joyce Hill. Volunteers work one Monday, once a month at 6:00 pm. They need people to make visits, make phone calls, bake cookies, send cards, and pray. If you cannot help on Mondays but would still like to help make visits, other days can be worked out.

Weekly Men’s Breakfast
An open invitation to the men of First Baptist to meet each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am at Joe’s Restaurant. Find out why so many men continue to come each week. You’ll get a spiritual uplift along with great food and fellowship! We hold it to 1 hour maximum so come visit, you’ll be glad you did!
Contact Bob Plaisted for more information.

**Financially...**

**Revenue** $481,998.87
**Expenditures** $429,644.14

**Year to Date Giving... Through July 2018**

$  52,354.73
Youth Anchored by Christ
Grades 6th—12th
Youth Worship Wednesday Night at 6:00 pm
Sunday at 9:00 am for Sunday School

What a start to the school year this has been. We have seen tragedy take place; a young man lost his life. We have seen a school and community come together. Merge Citrus was an overwhelming success. Looking back on the event, God really moved and a number of students made decisions at this one event. The youth pastors of this area have their work cut out for them. Speaking of Merge Citrus, I know mere words in a newsletter could not convey the many thanks to everyone who helped to volunteer for this event. This event could not have happened without your help. If you donated financially to the student ministry, this event could not have been possible without your generous donation. There were also so many areas that had to be manned and the volunteers came through in the clutch. We are excited to announce that Merge Citrus 2019 will take place on August 24. We look forward to seeing God move then as much as he did this past year.

As we start the new school year, my challenge to the students is to begin working the ground where God has them planted. Matthew 9:37—Then Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. The students just came off Merge Citrus and before that a death of a student named Alec McMurray. These two events in Citrus county have caused students to pause and ask spiritual questions that they would not have otherwise be asking. People in this county are asking some hard questions, we have the answers. All we have to do is provide answers to these questions and point those people to the cross and the throne of Jesus Christ.

September is a very exciting time in the life of the youth ministry. I have included the October events as well because of the upcoming i-Serve Missions weekend. Please encourage your student to invite their friends to any one of these events. More events will be added to the calendar as they are scheduled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FCA at IMS</td>
<td>every Tuesday</td>
<td>Inverness Middle</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCA at CHS</td>
<td>every Wednesday</td>
<td>Citrus High School</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Youth Parent Meeting</td>
<td>9/9/2018</td>
<td>FBC Inverness</td>
<td>12 pm</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Leadership</td>
<td>9/16/2018</td>
<td>Pastor Rob’s house</td>
<td>3—5 pm</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pray and Play</td>
<td>9/23/2018</td>
<td>Bryant Park</td>
<td>3—5 pm</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>See You @ the Pole</td>
<td>9/26/2018</td>
<td>School Flag Pole</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hurricane Alternative</td>
<td>9/28/2018</td>
<td>FBC Inverness</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td>i-Serve Missions Weekend</td>
<td>10/6/2018</td>
<td>FBC Inverness</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>i-Serve Missions Weekend</td>
<td>10/27/2018</td>
<td>FBC Inverness</td>
<td>9 am—6 pm</td>
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<td>i-Serve Missions Weekend</td>
<td>10/28/2018</td>
<td>FBC Inverness</td>
<td>9 am—12 pm</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trunk or Treat</td>
<td>10/31/2018</td>
<td>FBC Inverness</td>
<td>5:30 pm—7 pm</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions about any of the upcoming events, feel free to contact me at the church or email me at rob@fbcinvernesss.com

Holding Firm in Him,
Pastor Rob

Ministries and Opportunities

Quilt Ministry at First Baptist Church
If you quilt or are interested in learning how to make quilts, we would love for you to join us. We meet once a month on the third Thursday of the month from 9:00 am to around 2:30 pm. We meet in the space between the sanctuary and the choir room. Drive around to the back of the church, to the doors closest to the dumpsters for easier loading and unloading of equipment. We usually order salads from Joe’s Restaurant for lunch, but you can bring your lunch if you prefer. Please contact Sharon Cignoni at 352-419-6305 for more information.

Women’s Breakfast: Women and friends of First Baptist Church are invited to breakfast on September 15th at 9:00 am at B & W Rexall Drugs in Inverness. Breakfast is “Dutch Treat”. Please sign up in the foyer. The restaurant would like to know the number to be seated. Contact Donna Tvenstrup at 352-726-9325 for more information.

Hospice House Ministry: This ministry provides snacks for the families of those in Hospice. Donations of individually wrapped packages of snack cakes, crackers, chips, etc. can be left in the library or in adult Sunday School rooms in designated baskets. Thank you for your donations.

Baby Bottles-Thank you to all who donated to the fundraiser for Citrus Pregnancy Center. The total collected was $4555.65!

Samaritan’s Purse

Thank you for all of the items you have given to OCC so far this year. We will have a box packing party in November and we want to make it successful. We need more of the items from the list from the past months. School supplies, art supplies and toys are always needed. Thank you to all of you who came and helped in the last workshop. Please help us bless the children.