

January 2012 Issue



at
First Assembly
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First Assembly
1501 Hwy 24/27 West
P.O. Box 516
Albemarle, NC 28002

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ALBEMARLE, N.C.
PERMIT NO. 06

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bob Gruver ~ Senior Pastor
Rev. George Mullen ~ Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Matt Miller ~ Youth Pastor
Rev. Randy Thompson ~ Children's Pastor
Rev. Matt Gilliam ~ Music/Media Pastor

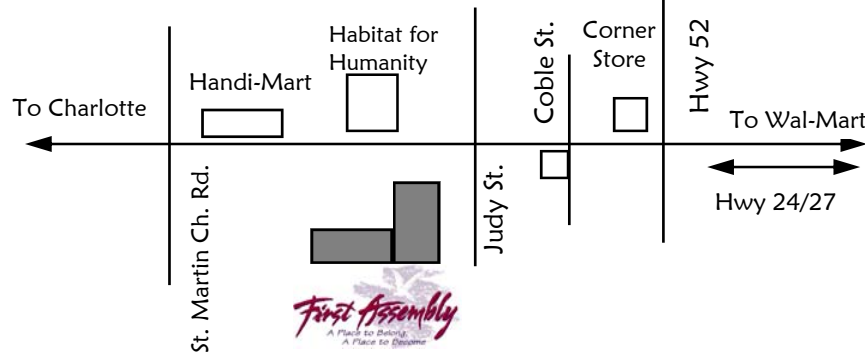
Church Office

Hours:
Monday ~ Thursday
9 AM – 5 PM
Friday 9 AM - 1 PM

Phone:
(704) 983-3719

Fax:
(704) 982-7276

www.albemarlefirst.org



January 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion No PM Service	2 New Years Day Observed Office Closed	3 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	4 7pm: Cleansing Stream 7pm: Small Groups	5 10am: WM's 1 Hour With Him In Sanctuary 6:30pm -7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30 - 9pm Band Practice	6 7pm: Couples For Christ Jr. Ch. Church	7
8 Daniel's Fast Begins FUSION Winter Jam Concert	9 7pm: Stephen Ministry 7pm: Connect365 Bible Study @ Sheila Holland's	10 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 101-102 Victorious Overcomers	11 7pm: Discipleship Training 7pm: Focus Groups	12 10am: WM's 1 Hour With Him In Sanctuary 6:30pm -7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30 - 9pm Band Practice	13	14
15 AM: RR/Impact Awards Ceremony Nursing Home Ministry @ Forrest Oakes	16 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed 7pm: Connect365 Bible Study @ Church	17 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	18 7pm: Cleansing Stream 7pm: Small Groups	19 10am: WM's 1 Hr. With Him Senior Saints Lunch @ Judy's Restaurant 12pm 6:30pm -7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30 - 9pm Band Practice	20 FUSION Ski Trip - January 19th - 21st 7pm: Couples For Christ Jr. Ch. Church	
22 AM: Sanctity of Life Baby Bottles Nursing Home Ministry @ Bethany Woods	23 7pm: Connect365 Bible Study @ Sheila Holland's 7pm: Stephen Ministry	24 1pm: Ladies Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 11:30am: LunchBunch 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	25 7pm: Discipleship Training 7pm: Focus Groups	26 10am: WM's 1 Hr. With Him 6:30pm -7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30 - 9pm Band Practice	27	28 6:30pm: CFC Movie Night (Courageous)
29 Daniel's Fast Ends 6pm: Annual Business Meeting	30 7pm: Ladies' Night Out @ Church (Mexican)	31 1pm: Ladies Prayer @ Bea Cox's 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	Sunday 9am: Adult, Youth & Children Sunday School 10am: Adult Worship Children's Church	Sunday 6pm: Worship Service	Monday 5:30pm - 7pm: Kid's Band Practice 7pm: Visitation Men's Prayer	Wednesday 7pm: Fusion Children's Ministries

at **First** glance

January, 2012

"Seek First the Kingdom of God..."

The Old and New Testaments are full of passages of God calling His people to "...seek Him." At least 25 times, God directly and clearly calls His people to "...seek Him." Beloved, we are living in dangerous days, and the Church through Jesus Christ has the answer. But we, as followers of Christ, must "...seek Him while He may be found" (Isaiah 55:6). Why? In Acts 15:17 (NLT) we read these words, "...so that the rest of humanity might seek the Lord, including the Gentiles - all those I have called to be mine." If we, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, are to make a difference in our community and the world, we must seek God with a fresh hunger and thirst!

What should encourage us are the words of our God. 2Chron 15:2 "The Lord will stay with you as long as you stay with him! Whenever you seek him, you will find him." Ps 22:26-27 "All who seek the Lord will praise him. Their hearts will rejoice with everlasting joy. The whole earth will acknowledge the Lord and return to him." (NLT)

Beloved, there is a price in seeking Our God. One key dimension of seeking God is prayer and fasting. As we begin 2012, would you seriously consider joining others at First Assembly in a time of fasting and prayer? We do not know what 2012 will bring but we know who does. I am asking everyone to call upon the Lord privately and corporately for 21 days of seeking God and all that He will speak to us.

There are many personal issues we face and, at the same time, matters that affect all of us in our family at First Assembly. There is no better way to face the uncertain world than with the certainty that God is leading us!! I'll be speaking and offering instruction regarding our month of fasting and prayer... We will begin our time of fasting and prayer on January 8th, 2012...

Our Annual Business Meeting is a time of celebration. Everyone is invited to attend on Sunday, January 29th at 6PM. This is both responsibility and a time to celebrate what God has done and is doing in our church... See you there.

**First Assembly...
a place to belong
a place to become**

**Happy New Year,
Pastor Bob**

FUSION FACTS Music Notes **Firestorm Ministries**

Happy New Year! 2012 is here! Can you believe it? Wow! A brand new year is among us! How awesome is that? I can't wait to see what God is going to do this year. I hope you plan on joining us as a church on our 21 day Daniel Fast, God is going to do a mighty work in our church through this challenge! The ministry that will be executed by First Assembly in 2012 starts in the first 21 days of January, as we seek God's will for us as a body of believers! I know it's going to be awesome!

Speaking of awesome, have I told you yet how awesome your student is? I have had an amazing year serving your students and I can say with all honesty, your student is an amazing gift from God to this church and to FUSION!

January is going to be an amazing month. With ski-trips, local outreach work, National Championship football, we are going to have a phenomenal month! Check the church bulletins and event sheets to see what is in store in the winter/spring of 2012.

This year, I encourage you to pray like you've never prayed before! Not only because it's an election year, not only because the Mayan Calendar runs out (queue spooky music), but because GOD calls us to!!!! Pray! - for our nation. Pray! - for our church. Pray! - for FUSION. Pray! - for revival! America needs it! Our families need it! The Church needs it! So this year as you think about your New Year's Resolution, resolve to PRAY in 2012! Resolve to join us in our church-wide Daniel Fast. Revival is a prayer that God longs to answer, so let's pray it as often and as fervent as we can.

**God Bless,
Pastor Matt**

Happy New Year! I hope all of you are as excited as Jamie and I are about the corporate fast. We have truly witnessed the supernatural during this time of the year. A close friend of mine, one I respected greatly told me this. "When we get serious about God, God gets serious about us!" I just want to encourage you to make an effort this year and see what incredible things God has in store for you!

I also wanted to take a quick moment to thank all of you for your hard work during the Christmas presentation. Our community was given a great opportunity to experience God and remember that He is always with us. Thank you for all that you do!

Quick scheduling note, all praise team and band practices will meet Thursday nights starting January. Praise Team, 6:30-7:30pm & Band, 7:30-9pm.

I look forward to hearing your "God" stories! Remember, "Sometimes the best way to experience God is through the faces and stories of others." ~ God With Us 2011.

**Blessings,
Pastor Matt G.**

**Couples For Christ
Small Group**

Friday, January 6th & 20th
Jr. Children's Church

Movie Night
Saturday, January 28th @ 6:30pm
(Courageous)

Senior Saints
Lunch @ Judy's Restaurant
Albemarle
(behind the old blockbuster building)
Thursday, January 19th @ Noon

Wow! A New Year has begun! With every new year there comes the promise of new opportunities, a fresh start and a brand new perspective. Those kind of topics will be my focus for January in Kid's Church, so make sure your kids are there each Sunday! I will also be speaking to them about change and how there's a season for everything in life. You have probably already heard that my season at Albemarle First is coming to a close at the end of the month and although I will miss everyone in a really HUGE way, I know this is the Lord's direction at this time. Lilly Wilson will do a fabulous job at being the Children's Pastor; God has prepared her for this season in her life. I'm looking forward to working with her as she transitions into this new role. Thank you for allowing me to serve in this "interim" role in 2011. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each and every one of you and your kids!

**Because He Lives,
Pastor Randy**

Connect365 Women's Ministry

Ladies' 1 Hour With Him
(Intercessory Prayer)
Thursdays @ 10am - Sanctuary

Ladies' Bible Study (2 places)

Monday, January 9th & 23rd @ 7pm
@ Sheila Holland's home
433 Lindsey Lane, Oakboro

Monday, January 16th @ 7pm
Rooms 101/102

Ladies' Night Out-Mexican
Monday, January 30th @ 7pm
Rooms 101/102

Victorious Overcomers

Tuesdays, January 3rd - 31st
7pm - Rooms 100-102