

September 2011 Issue



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First Assembly
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First Assembly
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Albemarle, NC 28002

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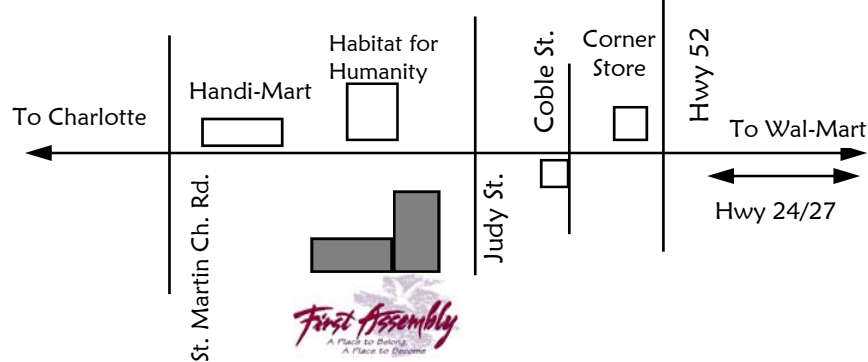
Pastoral Staff

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

Church Office

Hours:
Monday ~ Thursday
9 AM – 5 PM
Friday 9 AM - 1 PM
Phone:
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September 2011

Missions Emphasis Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday 9am: Adult, Youth & Children Sunday School 10am: Adult Worship Children's Church	Sunday 6pm: Worship Service 6:30pm Christmas Drama Practice - YRoom	Monday 5:30pm - 7pm: Kid's Band Practice 7pm: Visitation Men's Prayer	Wednesday 7pm: Fusion Children's Ministries	1 6:30pm-7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30pm - 8:15pm Missions/Christmas Choir Practice	2 FUSION 5th Qtr @ Almond's Home AHS vs. NSHS	3
4 Communion AM: BP Checks 8am - 9am: Praise Choir Practice No PM Service	5 Labor Day Office Closed 7pm: Stephen Ministry Training - Rm 100	6 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers 6:30pm-8pm: Adult Band Practice 8pm - 8:45pm Christmas Band Practice	7 7pm: Small Group	8 6:30pm-7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30pm - 8:15pm Missions/Christmas Choir Practice	9	10
11 8am - 9am: Praise Choir Practice AM: Missions Kickoff PM: 9/11 Remembrance Downtown	12 7pm: Stephen Ministry Training - Rm 100 7pm: Stephen Ministry CE - Rm 101	13 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers 6:30pm-8pm: Adult Band Practice 8pm - 8:45pm Christmas Band Practice	14 7pm: Bible Study	15 6:30pm-7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30pm - 8:15pm Missions/Christmas Choir Practice	16 7pm: Couples For Christ Jr. Ch. Church	17 STL 5k - Concord 6:30pm: CFC Movie Night "The Other Side Of Heaven"
18 8am - 9am: Praise Choir Practice Nursing Home Ministry @ Forrest Oakes 4pm: Membership Class Youth Room PM: Christmas Drama Practice after worship Youth Room	19 7pm: Stephen Ministry Training - Rm 100 7pm Ladies' Night Out Mazatlan - Alb.	20 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers 6:30pm-8pm: Adult Band Practice 8pm - 8:45pm Christmas Band Practice	21 7pm: Small Group	22 Senior Saints Lunch @ Ryan's Restaurant 12pm 6:30pm-7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30pm - 8:15pm Missions/Christmas Choir Practice	23	24 Senior Saints Trip To Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden - Belmont, NC
25 8am - 9am: Praise Choir Practice AM: Missionary Gaylen Hertwick Nursing Home Ministry @ Bethany Woods PM: Missions Dinner	26 7pm: Stephen Ministry Training - Rm 100 7pm: Stephen Ministry CE - Rm 101	27 11:30AM LunchBunch 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers 6:30pm-8pm: Adult Band Practice 8pm - 8:45pm Christmas Band Practice	28 7pm: Bible Study	29 6:30pm-7:30pm: Praise Team Practice 7:30pm - 8:15pm Missions/Christmas Choir Practice	30 Women's Ministry Conference Smithfield, NC (Sept. 30th - Oct. 1st)	

at

First glance

September, 2011

Missions Theme 2012 - - "Committed!!!"

This year's missions theme captures the heart of missions across the nation, around the world and under the shadow of the steeple of our church... Titus 2:14 reminds us why and what we are totally committed to. "He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us **His very own people, totally committed to doing good works.**" The amplified Bible says this, "...[God] purified for Himself a people [to be peculiarly His own, people who are] eager and enthusiastic about [living a life that is good and filled with] beneficial deeds. (Titus 2:14 AMP)

Beloved, my prayer and central focus of our ministry is to present to our Lord and Savior a people totally surrendered and committed to prayer for all things, hearts that are generous to the needs of men, and a zeal to go anywhere to share the love of God and His marvelous message of hope to all people.

In a year when our natural inclinations are to pull in the reins and think about ourselves, I want to challenge all of us to trust God more than ever before for all of our needs. Then I challenge each one of us to commit to Pray, to Give generously, and Go in the power of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, sharing His love and message everywhere we set our feet.

If we are totally committed to do good works with perfect motives, right hearts and attitudes, then I am convinced God will do miraculous deeds in our families, our church, and our community. Our goal for 2012 is 100% participation in our Faith Promise commitments. Last year we had nearly 97%. We can reach our goal...

LET'S COMMIT,

Pastor Bob

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

FUSION FACTS

September is here. School has begun. The summer that seemed to be flying by has come to a screeching halt. And now all you can do is catch your breath! Before you know it, we will be drinking hot apple cider and checking for packages under a tree! But before I get too far ahead of myself, let me catch you up to speed with all the happenings at FUSION.

Whether your student likes it or not, the school year is well underway. I know your schedules are filling up daily, so we want to help you in your planning. This fall we will see such things as the Fire Fall Holy Spirit Encounter, Aftershock Youth Rally, the PRC Walk-for-Life, Camp-out and NC Youth Convention. It will be a fun filled, action packed fall for FUSION. If you need any info concerning any of the above events let me know!

With the new school year starting, so starts the beginning of our Middle School and High School Ministries. I would like to thank all the great leaders in FUSION who are making this transition possible! I am so blessed to work with such amazing men and women of God! If you have any questions about our new Middle School and High School Ministries do not hesitate to call the church and ask away! September is also Mission's Month. FUSION will be studying about God's heart for missions and will also be attempting to collect all the coins we can for Speed the Light! All proceeds raised will go towards the STL 5K we are participating in on Saturday, September 17th. They will not want to miss a FUSION Service this month! Get praying and see what God would have you do for world and local missions for the remainder of this year and the next.

God bless,
Pastor Matt

Couples For Christ

Small Group
Friday, September 16th @ 7pm
Jr. Children's Church

Movie Night
Saturday, September 17th @ 6:30pm
"The Other Side of Heaven"

Music Notes

Have you ever known people to really seek God under extreme circumstances in their lives, or really discipline their lives after being forced to? These same people tend to become spiritually lazy when everything goes according to plan. Can anyone you know describe you this way? If you were honest, does your spiritual walk look like this? For many years, most all of my life to be honest, I treated God this way. After reading my bible, this thought occurred to me. Many times, our spiritual walk is referred to as "running a race" (i.e. 2nd Timothy 4:7, Hebrews 12:1).

When you were younger, you probably heard the story of the *Tortoise and Hare*. The moral of the story was: Slow and steady wins the race! However, Paul tells us to PRESS towards the mark (Philippians 3:14). I wonder, had the Hare pressed towards the finish line but kept a steady slower pace as he became tired, would he have finished first? Undoubtedly, the story of the *Tortoise and Hare* would have ended differently. I believe that God has given us each unique gifts, yet we are ALL called to run the race. My prayer is that we all seek the face of God both in the good times and bad, sometimes in great bursts, but steady when we are weary. Whatever gifts we have, we use to our full potential! One day, we will experience what it truly means to be told "Well Done."

Important Band/Choir Practice Times:

Sunday Nights:
Christmas Drama Practice - After Worship
In Youth Room

Tuesdays:
Praise Band Practice - 6:30pm - 8pm
Christmas Band Practice - 8pm - 8:45pm

Thursdays:
Praise Team Practice - 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Christmas Choir Practice - 7:30pm - 8:15pm
We are looking forward to working together!

Love You Very Much,
Matt & Jamie

Victorious Overcomers
Tuesdays, September 6th - 27th
7pm - Rooms 100-102

Firestorm Ministries

We have welcomed Pastor Randy with a "flaming" birthday cake and are ready to learn and be blessed as God directs him to lead us. God has great plans for us!

Our Sunday night program "Mega sports camp" closed with a pizza/water party where we enjoyed playing together with water balloons and a sprinkler. Sunday nights are now devoted to our Christmas program practice. "Back to the Manger" will return by popular demand.

The Royal Rangers travel to Charleston, SC, on Saturday, September 10th to board the battleship at Patriot's Point. Come to Rangers boys! Don't miss the fun!

JBQ will start back soon. See Mrs. Lilly if you'd like to be a Bible Wiz Kid. God's word accomplishes great growth and prepares for future leadership development.

Parents, we'd like to invite you to come visit us and become acquainted with all the exciting kid's activities provided here at First Assembly. Your kids will be enriched and encouraged in their walk of faith as they meet our staff of dedicated teachers and workers.

SAVE THE DATE! Our Fall Festival will be held on Monday, October 31st from 5pm - 8pm. There will be an outdoor stage, food, games, and much more!

Because He Lives,
Lilly Wilson

Senior Saints

Lunch @ Ryan's Restaurant
Thursday, September 22nd - 12pm

Trip To Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden
Belmont, NC
Saturday, September 24th
Leaving Church @ 9am

Connect365 Women's Ministry

Ladies' Night Out @ Mazatlan Restaurant
Albemarle, NC
Monday, September 19th @ 7pm

LunchBunch with Char
Tuesday, September 27th @ 11:30am
@ Zaxby's

WM's 2011 Fall Conference
Friday & Saturday, Sept. 30th & Oct. 1st
First Assembly of God
Smithfield, NC

Cost: \$100 - Includes registration, room, and travel. \$60 deposit due on Sunday, September 11th to secure your spot