

CONNECT GUIDE

JAN - MAY 2024



live it.
every day.

www.fbcava.org

our mission

To live in Christ every day, for everyone, in every way.

our vision

Empowered by Christ's love, our community flourishes.

our values

unity

We are one community made up of unique individuals.

hospitality

We care for others and try to put ourselves in their shoes.

neighboring

We treat our community like family

wholeness

We pay attention to our spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing.

honoring

We respect the past while nurturing the future.

ways to connect



join a group

If you're looking for a group of people to find friendship with while learning to follow Jesus, then we'd love to help you get connected. We've got groups for each stage of life, groups that meet at different times of week, and groups that meet on and off campus.

worship with us

Worship helps us to grow with one another as we grow close to God. We currently gather on Sunday mornings at 10:15 am for our worship service. It is streamed live online and is posted on our website early each week. We also make and deliver DVD's for people without internet access. Consider connecting with a friend during or after watching the service to share how God is moving in your life.

e-newsletter

One of easiest ways to know what's happening around here is to get our weekly emails. We won't spam you, and we work hard to give you up-to-date information on ways we can be connected.

prayer list

Each week we send out a prayer list with names of people who have requested prayer. If you would like to pray with us or if you'd like to add yourself or someone you know to the prayer list, we'd be grateful to pray with you.

volunteer

There a million ways you can serve both inside the church and on mission with us. From helping with our food pantry, working behind the scenes on the A/V team during worship, to serving with kids, students, or our community garden there is room for you and we could use your hands and heart to help us live out God's love in our community.

give

Creating opportunities for kids, sharing food with our neighbors, and living on mission together is possible because of the generous giving of financial, spiritual, and relational resources. Your financial gifts and offerings both serve as an act of worship to God and help us to creatively be an extension of God's love in Ashland and beyond.



Groups for all ages meet Sunday mornings from 9-10am and/or at various times throughout the week. You can find a complete list of groups on the website. Here are the different types of groups we offer:

live it! groups

Groups where you can grow in your relationship with God, develop deeper friendships, and serve our community. They often meet once a week for 10-12 weeks in a row.

courses

Short-term groups (usually 4-8 weeks) focused on a particular topic or book study.

meetups

A great way to meet people and take a "next step" with FBCA, whether for a service project or just to have some fun. Meetups can happen week-to-week for a season and others meet for special events.

SUNDAY MORNING LIVE IT! GROUPS

Disciple Zone | 9-10am, Rm 207

Preschoolers and school-age kids will have a blast in Disciple Zone! Breaking into small groups, kids will learn about living out faith as a result of hands-on activities, games, and Bible lessons.

Nursery | 9-11:15 am, Rm 113

We love infants and babies at FBCA! Our caring background-checked volunteers will be ready to receive your children during worship. Please remember your diaper bag and any special instructions for your child.

Noah's Park | 10-11am, Rm 132

Toddlers and preschoolers are welcome to enjoy time outside, hear a story, color, and play.

Worship Zone | 10:30-11:15, Rm 205

Kids K- 5th grade worship with their families then depart to enjoy a snack and connect everyday kid experiences to a Bible lesson. Kids will engage through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a large-group setting.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY LIVE IT! GROUP

Tuesdays | 5:30-7pm

(meets off campus in homes)

Share meals and build relationships around Bible study, prayer, and service as a whole family.

MEETUPS

Winter Meetup | Jan 14

11:45am-1pm

We'll gather after worship for lunch at Casa Herradura. Spend time with other families and FBCA Kids leaders.

Valentine Meetup | Feb 11

11:30am-1pm

Kids ages 3 - 5th Grade will gather in Rm 219 for pizza and a Valentine craft and game. Bring a friend!

Easter Egg Drop Party | Mar 30

3-4pm

Kids are invited to hide 24 candy-filled eggs between 12 and 3pm at another family's home (who does not attend FBCA). Then come over to Pastor Laura's deck for refreshments and fellowship from 3-4 pm.

Spring Meetup | Apr 14

11:45am-1pm

Join us at Anthony's in Ashland after worship for pizza with our families. It's always a great time to be together!

Mother's Day Tea | May 12

9-10am

We would like to honor the ladies of our church at a Mother's Day Tea! You are invited to enjoy many types of tea and refreshments to celebrate this special day together in Rm 205. Kids can bring their mother, grandmother, aunt, etc. *Registration required.*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Nursery Volunteers

Sunday Mornings, 10-11:15 am

4

SUNDAY MORNING MEETUP

9-10am, Media Rm

Youth in grades 6-12 spend time together in Bible study on Sundays before the worship service.

SUNDAY EVENING LIVE IT! GROUP

5:30-7:30pm, Rm 239 (Youth Cafe)

Youth in grades 6-12 enjoy fun, friends, games, worship and Bible study each Sunday night.

WEDNESDAY EVENING LIVE IT! GROUP

7-8pm, Bethany's house

A smaller gathering for prayer and Bible study, especially for youth in grades 6-12 who want to deepen their relationship with God and each other.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Third Sundays | 11:30am-12:15pm

Student leaders help plan activities with adult leaders.

OTHER MEETUPS *(check email & website for more details as they get closer)*

Winter Retreat | Jan 26-28

Super Bowl Party | Feb 11, 6-9pm

Girls/Guys Split Night | Feb 25, 5:30-7:30pm

Bowling | Mar 17, 5-8pm

Amazing Race | Apr 20, 12-8pm

Grad Sunday | May 19, 9-11:15am

Worship Night | May 19, 5-8pm

SAVE THE DATE

Summer Camp, Jul 8-12

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Evening Youth Meetup Volunteer

Build relationships with youth in grades 6-12 in a large-group setting on Sunday evenings.

Youth Live It! Group Leader

Nurture a love for scripture and God, others, and the community by walking through life with students in grades 6-12.

5

adults

Tom Lynch, Pastor of Missions
& Discipleship Strategies
tom@fbcava.org

OUTDOORSMEN MEETUP

Friday | Jan 5 | 6:30-8pm, Bass Pro Shop Conference Room

Interested in connecting with other men who enjoy the outdoors? Bring your ideas and join us to plan a calendar of events.

NEWCOMERS MEET & GREET

Sundays | Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 31, Apr 28, May 26 | 11:20-11:50am

We'd love to meet you, answer any questions you might have and help you get just a bit more connected here. Stop by the Hendricks Family Rm after worship.

COURSES

'Grace Interlaced' with author, Virginia Heslinga

Sunday | Jan 7 | 9-10am, Thompson Hall

Start the year with a fuller sense of trust in the Lord. Through struggles expected or shocking, no matter how tough times may be, our faith offers us a solid cornerstone. Join with others for a presentation and discussion on the love of God, hard questions, trust, grief, and forgiveness. Author Virginia Heslinga will present and lead a discussion based on some of the life lessons in her book, *Grace Interlaced*.

How To Read The Bible

Wednesdays | Feb 21-Mar 27 | 6-7:30pm, Rm 233 (and online via zoom)

This course, led by pastor, professor, and social worker, Rev. Tom Lynch, is about learning two different ways to read scripture so that it is less intimidating and easier to understand. This is for both seasoned Bible-readers and those who are new to the scriptures. Online attendance through zoom is an option.

The Unseen Realm: Recovering the Worldview of the Bible

Wednesdays | Jan 10-Feb 7 | 6-7:30pm, Rm 235

A 5-week course exploring ancient biblical authors' supernatural worldview and culminating with encouraged participation in an Ash Wednesday Service on 2/14 (optional 6th week). Mat Blankenship will use material from Dr. Michael Heiser and The Bible Project to deepen our understanding of the context from which the scriptures are written.

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

As part of our FBCA family, you can access thousands of biblical video resources. Study on your own, or better yet, gather some friends and pick a course to take together! To get started, go to:
www.fbcava.org/groups

FBCA *seniors*

Todd Smith, Pastor of Senior Life
todd@fbcava.org

YOUNG AT HEART MEETUP

Wednesdays | 11:30am - 1pm, Thompson Hall (begins Jan 10)

Join our senior adults each week for some fun and fellowship.

Bring a bag lunch and a friend! Desserts and drinks are provided.

Our theme for this season is "Dream Big." God calls us to follow him – regardless of our lack of qualifications – and make a difference in the world. This happens when we dream God's dreams for our lives. It is time to DREAM BIG. It is time to dream about the life that God wants for you.

GRIEF SHARE

Sundays, beginning Jan 7 | 2-3:30pm, Thompson Hall

Whether your bereavement experience is recent or not-so-recent, this video-driven course offers Christ-centered teaching on grief and practical tools for dealing with the death of a loved one. You'll hear from nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by small group discussion. Past participants have found the seminars helpful, informative, and encouraging.

Cost: \$20 for workbook (scholarships are available).

Leaders: Kay Boggs (804) 239-2738 and Todd Smith (850) 274-3242

Register online or call the church office.

Here are some of the ways you can serve!

FEEDING OUR COMMUNITY

Sustainable access to food is essential for life. FBCA seeks to create access to fresh produce, pantry goods, personal items, and meals.

- **Food Pantry**
1st and 3rd Tuesdays & 3rd Saturdays, 9-11am
- **Community Garden**
Planting season begins in May

INTERNATIONALS & REFUGEES

FBCA helps with English language classes, advocacy opportunities with refugee families, and participates in international immersion experiences.

- **“Disciples Depot” Clothing Closet**
3rd Saturdays, 10:30am-12:30pm, Ashland Christian Church.
- **English Language Learner Class**
Pre-Beginner Class (starts 2/28)
Thurs, 10am
Beginner Class (starts 1/22)
Mon & Thurs, 10am

contact Lily Cameron
(lilycameronrva@gmail.com)

EMPOWERING NEIGHBORS

A collaboration between FBCA and community partners working together in pursuit of thriving communities.

- **Tax-prep Assistance**
Greeters, Intake Specialists, and Site Coordinators are needed.
Thurs, 4:30-8pm & Sat, 9am-1pm.

contact Eric Moore (director@empoweringneighbors.org)

worship

Ross Wright, Pastor of Worship
ross@fbcava.org

Elena Aronson, Choir Director
elena@fbcava.org

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

Weekly | 10:15am - 11:15am

- in person
- livestream (fbcava.org)
- video/audio with discipleship guide (fbcava.org)
- DVD (by request)

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Feb 14, 6pm

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Mar 29, 7pm

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

Mar 31, 10:15am

Worship Team Rehearsal

Wednesdays, 6pm

Choir Rehearsals

Wednesdays
OK Chorale, 6:45pm
Sanctuary Choir, 7:30pm

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Hospitality Team

Serve on a quarterly rotation, greeting members and guests on Sunday mornings and/or at special gatherings, practicing hospitality by helping with directions, providing information, and monitoring safety.

Worship Team Member

Guitarists, drummers, singers and a variety of music-makers gather to prepare for worship each week. *Contact Pastor Ross to learn more.*

Choir Member

Join your voice with other singers to make a joyful noise! *Contact Elena to learn more.*

A/V Team

A key behind-the-scenes role, helping primarily with our Sunday morning services, running the slides and livestream.

DVD Deliveries

Do you know someone who doesn't use the website to view our worship services and would like a DVD? Let us know! We'd be happy to help them stay connected.



need support?

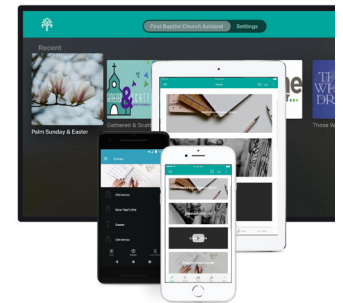
Our church can provide meals in times of transition (surgeries, loss of loved ones, births, etc), visits while sick or in the hospital, prayer, and support through all that life brings. Please reach out by email, phone, or through our website to let us know how our pastors and deacons can help.

info@fbcava.org | (804) 798-9014
<https://fbcava.org/request-support>



First Baptist Church Ashland

Available in App Stores



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ASHLAND

800 Thompson Street

Ashland, VA 23005

www.fbcava.org | info@fbcava.org | (804) 798-9014

