

The F I R S T E D I T I O N

**Loving God, Loving Each Other
Loving Little Rock**

**“Let us love one another,
for love comes from God.” 1 John 4:7**

Everybody Lead Somebody to the Lord

*Do you remember the first time you got a speeding ticket?
Do you remember the first time you flew on an airplane?
Do you remember the first concert you went to?*

*New experiences seem to stick in our mind. Maybe it is
the excitement of something new. Here are a few more.*

*Do you remember the first date you went on?
Do you remember the first house you lived in?
Do you remember the first person you led to the Lord?*

*I sure do. It was the summer after my freshman year
in college, and I was working as a staff counselor at a
church camp in Colorado. One week during an
elementary camp while we were between activities, I
noticed two of my guys were still in the cabin. When I
went in to check on them, I found them sitting on their
beds talking, and one of them had tears in his eyes. My
first reaction was that someone had hurt his feelings, so
I asked, “What’s wrong?” His friend spoke up with an
answer that surprised me. “He wants to ask Jesus into
his heart, but he doesn’t know how.” I wish I could say
I quoted 15 verses from memory, explained what the
word “salvation” means in the original Greek language,
and gave a Billy Graham altar call while whistling “Just
As I Am,” but it didn’t work that way. I sat down beside
him, reiterated the few points I could remember from the
chapel services, and told him that if he will ask with faith
Jesus into his heart, that Jesus will come into his heart.
He did and Jesus did!*

*Could you answer all the “do you remember” questions
above except the last one? Have you ever felt the
excitement of seeing someone accept Jesus as their Lord
and Savior? That is our goal at First Nazarene this year
– to have **Everybody Lead Somebody to the Lord in 2018.***

*We are going to offer the motivation, training and oppor-
tunities and the Holy Spirit will provide the power. Will
you make our church’s goal your New Year’s resolution?*

*Someone you know is ready to ask Jesus into their
heart. The Holy Spirit has been working in their
life, and they just need someone to point the way.
Will you lead them to the Lord this year?*

***Always be prepared to give an answer
to everyone who asks you to give the reason
for the hope that you have. 1 Peter 3:15***

All for Jesus with a Smile!

Pastor Bobby

Discipleship Training Summit “Why They Stray”

Saturday, January 27

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

(Registration begins at 9:30 AM)

LR First Church of the Nazarene

Cost: \$10 / person includes lunch

**This year, the North & South Arkansas Districts
will join together for this training event!
But that's not all, we are adding discipleship training
for our Hispanic churches as well!**

Two Presenters:

Steve Parr, Sunday School & Evangelism
Director for the Georgia Baptist Convention and
Roberto Hodgson, Hispanic Ministries Coordinator
for the Church of the Nazarene

**That's two districts, two speakers, and two languages
at one place at the same time!**

This is going to be amazing!

**A round table discussion will be held during lunch
in response to Dr. Parr's morning presentation.**

Pray about attending! It's gonna be great!

Prayer Groups

Prayer is a vital part of every Christian's life.

You are encouraged to make prayer a priority in 2018. Here are a couple of ways to increase your prayer ministry.



1. Ladies, come to the ladies' prayer group that meets each Thursday at noon.
2. Join the prayer chain. Those on this list are called to pray as requests are received. To be added to the prayer chain, contact the church office or Edith Pendergraft.

Nazarene Theological Seminary Offering



Nazarene Theological Seminary helps prepare men and women of all ages to be effective in their area of ministry. It is also a theological resource for many in the Church of the Nazarene.

Because NTS doesn't receive regional educational budget monies, your gift is the primary way local churches support NTS as they prepare men and women for their service to the Church. Your financial support is the lifeline enabling NTS to keep tuition down and provide scholarships to students. It also helps with faculty, facility, and technology expenses.

All contributions received for the seminary are eligible for 10% giving credit for our local church! To contribute, make your check payable to First Church of the Nazarene and mark "NTS" on the memo line.

40th Annual March for Life

Sunday, January 21, 2018 - 2:00 PM

Join other supporters and show the state and nation that "The Heart of Arkansas Beats for Life."

The march will begin at Capitol Avenue and Wolfe Street.

Staging is between Battery Street & Wolfe Street on West Capitol Avenue behind the Capitol.

Reserved parking for seniors, disabled, or families with small children is available on Wolfe Street.

All others are asked to please park at open lots from Marshall to Summit or in front of the Capitol.

No parking will be allowed behind the Capitol along the March for Life route.

Please follow the 7th Street sidewalk to the Staging area.

For more information, call 501-663-4237 or visit www.artl.org/march-life



**ARKANSAS
RIGHT TO LIFE**

Greeters

The smiling faces and warm handshakes we receive each Sunday as we come into the church are given by the incredible members of the First Impression team. We are needing a few more helpers in this ministry. Would you pray about being a part of this?

Members serve one Sunday every other month on average and enjoy this time getting to know the people of First Church. See Pastor Rita or Edith Pendergraft for more information and to volunteer. A training lunch will be held on **February 18** for additional information and instructions.

Sanctuary Choir

The First Church Sanctuary Choir is starting our spring season on Wednesday, January 3. The 13-week season will run through Easter Sunday, April 1. We have many styles of songs to learn this session and would love to see YOU in this ministry. Won't you come try it out? Rehearsals are Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 in the downstairs choir room. I promise that you will enjoy your time of singing and fellowship with the greatest group of people around. If you have any questions, see a current choir member or Pastor Rita.

Worship Team Family Luncheon

A worship team family luncheon will be held at the Powell home following the morning service on Sunday, **January 21**. This is for all worship and technical team members and their families.

Let Pastor Rita know if you can come.

Box Tops for Education

Save Box Tops off products you buy. Put the Box Tops (see sample at the right) in the dark brown file box on the Welcome Center or give to Tammy Foshee.



Each box top is worth 10 cents and is used by the Native American Christian Academy in Arizona to purchase items for the school. See the school's latest newsletter on the hallway mission board by Pastor's office.

Thank you for supporting this program. Last year, we sent 1,302 Box Tops. Can you help us send at least 1,500 this year?

Children's Christmas Highlights

Thank you to Ms. Amy and the entire children's department (and parents) for all of your hard work in preparing for the children's Christmas Musical, *The Dream Team Parade*, and for the Christmas story presented by the Nursery Department in December. They were fantabulous!!!



PT Cruiser Luncheon

Friday, January 5, 11:30 AM

Invite a friend to come with you to
Hermon Hall at First Nazarene
for lunch and fellowship.
Bring soup, salad, crackers, or a dessert.
Let Ron or Connie Graham know if you plan to attend.

Assisted Living Center Service

January 14, 5:30 PM

You are invited to Brookdale Assisted Living Center
along with others from First Nazarene to visit, sing,
and have a devotional with some of the residents.
They are so appreciative of the time we spend with them.

Wednesday Meal

January 17, 5:30 PM

On a pew card, write your family's name and how many
will be coming to dinner or call the church office by
Tuesday, 1/16, to make your reservation.
The menu is roast beef, mashed potatoes,
broccoli salad, rolls, and dessert.
The cost is \$5/person or a maximum of \$20/family.



January 19-21
at Lake Fort Smith State Park
Cost \$50/person

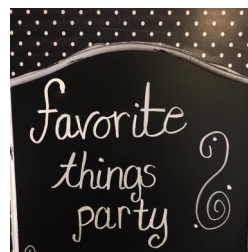
The group will leave after school on Friday, January 19,
and return in the afternoon on Sunday, January 21.
See David Powell for more information.

The First Edition

January 2018 Edition

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Bobby Howard, Pastor
Dr. Jim Daniel, Senior Care Pastor
Rita Powell, Worship Pastor
Amy Howard, Children's Minister
David Powell, Youth Minister



Ladies' Favorite Things Party

Friday, January 26
6:30 PM

Ladies, choose one of your
favorite items, then buy and wrap separately three
of that item (\$7-\$10 range each). On that evening,
wear your favorite pajamas, bring your three gifts,
and a favorite snack to share.
Invite a friend to come with you and share the fun.

Teen Luncheon

January 28

Mark your calendars now to attend this luncheon
and support our teens. The cost is your donation.
The menu will be posted by mid-January.

2018 Calendar Items

*To help you plan, here are some important dates
to mark on your calendars for 2018:*

Chili Cook-off - Feb. 11

SoAR District Ladies' Retreat - March 2-3

Winter Jam Concert - March 18

Arkansas Travelers Softball - April 21

SoAR Children's Mission Explosion - April 28

Jr. High Camp - July 9 - 13

Kid's Camp - July 16 - 20

Sr. High Camp - July 23 - 27

Children's Family Picnic - September 16