

# THE FIRST BAPTIST NEWS



Published by **The First Baptist Church of Los Angeles**  
760 South Westmoreland Avenue • Los Angeles, CA 90005 • (213) 384-2151 • [fbcla@fbcofla.org](mailto:fbcla@fbcofla.org)

Volume LXXXIV

No. 18

AUGUST 29, 2016

An American Baptist Congregation Making God's Love Known in Los Angeles Since 1874  
*International • Intercultural • Ecumenical*

## ALL-CHURCH PICNIC, AUGUST 21, 2016, PHOTO ALBUM



Photos from  
Donald Artola and  
Ann Brodie.



## NEWS SCHEDULE

The **next issue** of the *First Baptist NEWS* will be published **September 12, 2016**. Material and articles for the September 12<sup>th</sup> issue should arrive in the church office two weeks before publication, or **no later than 9:00 a.m. August 29**.



## THE FIRST BAPTIST NEWS

(USPS 194-440)

Annual Subscription Rate:

\$10.00 per year

Published biweekly by First Baptist Church, 760 South Westmoreland Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90005. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to First Baptist Church *NEWS*, 760 South Westmoreland Avenue, Los Angeles, California, 90005.

All copy for the NEWS should be typed or written plainly and reach the Church Office no later than **9:00 a.m. MONDAY, two weeks prior** to publication.

**STAFF:** Norman Bullock, *Interim Pastor*; Esther Sanchez, *Administration and Building Coordinator*. James Johnson, Josue Guevara, Odos Nabors, *Custodians*. Kyle Irwin, *Organist/Choirmaster*. Sandra Rogers, *Communications Coordinator*, Lisa Thomas, *Interim Building Facilitator*.

### CHURCH PHONE:

(213) 384-2151

**FAX :** (213) 382-9669

VISTA TOWER: (213) 386-2786

### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

[www.FBCofLA.org](http://www.FBCofLA.org)

### email addresses:

General: [fbcla@FBCofLA.org](mailto:fbcla@FBCofLA.org)

Norman Bullock: [NBullock@FBCofLA.org](mailto:NBullock@FBCofLA.org)

James Johnson: [JJohnson@FBCofLA.org](mailto:JJohnson@FBCofLA.org)

Sandra Rogers: [SandraBR@FBCofLA.org](mailto:SandraBR@FBCofLA.org)

Esther Sanchez: [ESanchez@FBCofLA.org](mailto:ESanchez@FBCofLA.org)

Lisa Thomas: [LThomas@FBCofLA.org](mailto:LThomas@FBCofLA.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

Dear Friends:

The end of summer is upon us. A reminder that summer is ending occurs when we celebrate Homecoming. As we prepare to celebrate the 142<sup>nd</sup> Church Anniversary during Homecoming Sunday on September 18, it affords us the opportunity to pause and thank God for all that God has done for us. We pause to celebrate our church's past and gather to embrace the glorious future that God has planned for us.

As we celebrate Homecoming, let us realize that one day we were prodigal children who were lost in our sins, or we had strayed away from the church. God welcomed us back as we came to God; God welcomed us back to the family. This parable is a picture of God. God is the Father who waits outside late in the night for God's children to return. When we returned home to God, there was a celebration of the angels in heaven, and there was jubilation in the congregation. Let us celebrate Homecoming as a new beginning in our lives.

Homecoming Sunday will also be the launch of the Diaconate Family Ministry Plan. Over the next few weeks, you will be receiving a call from a member of the Diaconate Ministry to connect, engage and provide a special invitation to you to attend Homecoming Sunday. First Baptist Church is committed to implementing the Diaconate Family Ministry Plan for our church. We want to make certain that every member, family and friend of the congregation experiences the love and support of the congregation. We want to be known throughout our community as a loving and caring church. We want to enhance and improve the ministry of caring of First Baptist Church.

What is the Diaconate Family Ministry Plan? It is a plan through which the diaconate can join the interim pastor in ministering to the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of each church member, family and regular attender. Every diaconate servant leader will be assigned a group of twelve to eighteen families as their Diaconate Family Ministry families.

### Opportunities for worship, fellowship, discipleship, evangelism and ministry within Family Care Ministry Plan:

- **Checking in with you.** – Your diaconate will contact you to introduce themselves to you as your Diaconate Family Care Leader and will make other contacts regularly when someone in your family is in the hospital or you have sorrow or sickness in the home or if you just need to connect with someone.
- **Rejoicing with you and your family.** – Your Diaconate Family Care Leader will share your joy when you celebrate important events or accomplishments in your life.
- **Being a friend.** – As your Diaconate Family Care Leader listens to your troubles and concerns, you will know someone who cares.
- **Giving support in times of crisis.** – Sometimes your Diaconate Family Care Leader can help you through a crisis by listening and giving support. Other times, your diaconate will know someone else or a community agency that can help.
- **Helping you know and have fellowship with other members and families in the church.** – Your Diaconate Family Care Leader will encourage you to participate in social occasions when families in the assigned group or other church members get together for fun and fellowship.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR *(continued)*

- **Helping you find ways to serve in and through the church.** – Your Diaconate Family Care Leader will watch for opportunities for you to use the talents, skills, and abilities God has given you.
- **Answering questions about your church's mission and ministries.** – These are exciting days at First Baptist Church and your diaconate will want to know the details of what is going on so you can find how the Lord might want you to be involved.
- **Praying for you and with you.** – Believing that you are important and believing in the power of prayer.

With Hope,



Norman Bullock

## CHURCH OFFICERS

**Moderator:** Shirley Parsley

**Church Clerk:** David McFadden

**Treasurer:** Ann Brodie

**Council of Ministries – At Large**

Gerald Gubatan, Marta Torres, Alma Pineda, Linda Zaretsky, Richard Rogers

**Spiritual Gifts Ministry / Nominating Committee**

John Sturm, Coordinator, Maria Juarez, Kenneth Mercier, Ben Marte, Santiago Morales

### HOMEcoming and 142<sup>nd</sup> CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

We are planning a special worship celebration for Homecoming Sunday, **September 18, 2016**. Special Music and reflections will be shared about our historic journey as a congregation of committed believers. We are inviting all of our members (past, present and future), families and friends to join us. It will be an unforgettable day of worship, fellowship and inspiration.

The **Homecoming Meeting** of the Congregation and Corporation of the First Baptist Church of Los Angeles, shall be held at 760 South Westmoreland Avenue, Los Angeles, California on **Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary for the purpose of hearing reports, election of officers, and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before such meeting.

—David McFadden, *Church Clerk* and Shirley Parsley, *Moderator*

A **Luncheon** will follow the Homecoming Meeting, in the Robbins Dining Hall. Adults, \$8.00; Children under 12, \$5.00.

## EBENEZER DAY & REUNION SUNDAY

National Hispanic Heritage Month is the period from September 15 to October 15 in the United States, when people recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States and celebrate the group's heritage and culture. During this time, First Baptist Church will recognize the many accomplishments of Hispanic and Latino Americans to this congregation. September 25 will be Ebenezer Emphasis Sunday. Members of the Ebenezer Ministry will lead us in worship. There will be a celebration luncheon at 12:30 in Robbins Dining Hall. All former and present members of Ebenezer are invited to join us. We are planning an Ebenezer Reunion Choir to share during the Morning Worship on that day.

## CAR DONATIONS

Summertime is almost gone! And that means...the long adventurous road trips with air conditioners running full blast are coming to an end – both, of which, can take a toll on any car. With the high cost of car repairs, and the new 2017 models rolling out in the fall, now is the perfect time to remember the First Baptist Church Car Donation program in partnership with CARS (Charitable Adult Rides & Services) that accept car donations as a way to support the ministries and programs of our church.

The end of year will be upon us before we know it. So...you should start thinking about donating that unused car or truck to First Baptist Church with the proceeds used to enhance the ministries of First Baptist. Please visit the

website below to make your car donation or for further information <http://www.cardonatingiseasy.org/donate/?CharityID=3957> . You call also call 855-500-7433.

## PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Zuleima Argumedo

Daniel Choi

Gerald Gubatan, Chair

David McFadden

Shirley Parsley

Alma Pineda

Richard Rogers

Marta Torres



## COMMUNION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

**9:30 a.m.**

Church School Classes for All Ages

**11:00 a.m.**

Worship in the Sanctuary

**“OVERCOMING OBSTACLES”**

(Please read Joshua 6:1-21 in preparation)

**DR. NORMAN BULLOCK**, Preaching



## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

**9:30 a.m.**

Church School Classes for All Ages

**11:00 a.m.**

Worship in the Sanctuary

**REV. DOUG HUBBARD**, Guest Preacher

Regional Resource Minister for Youth and Global Missions