

2025 KINGDOM CONFERENCE

First Baptist Church Highland Park

“Building From the Inside Out”
Psalm 27:3



Engage. Equip. Expand.

Agenda

Call to Order.....Pastor Palmer

Scripture Reading.....Deacon Wadie Moore

Opening Prayer.....Deacon Theopalis Donahue

Congregational Hymn.....“What A Fellowship”

Pastoral Message

- What God Did
- Introduction of Director of Operations

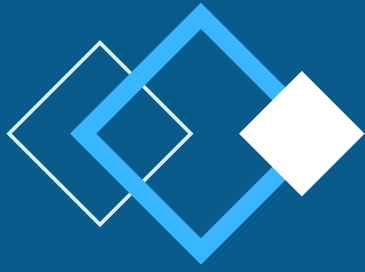
2026 Goals.....Deacon James Johnson

2026 Projected Budget.....Deacon Issac McBride

Recitation of Mission Statement:

“Our mission is to **Engage** the Lost, **Equip** the Saints, and **Expand** the Kingdom of God through the preaching of the Word and guidance of the Holy Spirit.”

Closing Prayer.....Deacon Ray Franks



PASTORAL MESSAGE



To My Beloved FBCHP Family,

2025 has truly been an amazing and unforgettable year for our church! God has blessed us in ways that continue to stretch our faith, deepen our gratitude, and remind us that His hand is actively at work at First Baptist Church Highland Park. We see the evidence of His handiwork in every aspect of this ministry—through transformed lives, renewed commitments, strengthened families, extended outreach, and the unity He continues to cultivate among us.

As you peruse our Annual Report, you will witness the many ways God has grown us spiritually, numerically, and financially. Each page reflects answered prayers, faithful stewardship, and the collective investment of a church that loves God and loves people. Words cannot express how thankful I am for your continual support, sacrifices, and service. Your willingness to partner in the mission of this church, coupled with your consistency in maintaining a prayerful spirit, has made—and continues to make—a major impact in the lives of many.

This Kingdom Conference provides us with a sacred opportunity not only to reflect on what God has already done but also to posture our hearts in expectation for what God is getting ready to do as we move forward together. We stand on the brink of new possibilities, new victories, and new levels of ministry effectiveness.

As we prepare to cross the threshold of yet another year, let us do so with renewed commitment, focused devotion, and a determined heart to use our God-given time, talents, and treasure for the advancement of the Kingdom of God. While much has been accomplished, there remains so much more work ahead. Jesus said to His disciples:

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:37–38, ESV).

We are still striving to lower the “**unemployment rate**” in the church. Ministry is not a spectator sport—God has a work for each of us to do in this place, and your contribution truly makes a difference. Every gift matters. Every effort counts. Every act of service advances the Kingdom.

Looking to the years ahead, our theme will continue to be “**Building From the Inside Out**” over the next four years. This is not just a slogan—it is a spiritual mandate. We are committed to being intentional about developing the Kingdom infrastructure necessary to meet the ministerial challenges of this present age. This theme reminds us that strong ministry begins with people whose hearts, minds, and spirits are shaped by the wisdom of God. Scripture declares:

“By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established” (Proverbs 24:3, ESV).

It is through God’s wisdom and understanding that we will continue building a church that is spiritually grounded, structurally sound, scripturally astute, and mission-driven. Together, we will cultivate leaders, strengthen families, deepen discipleship, expand outreach, and build systems that support long-term Kingdom growth.

To all of our volunteers, members, church officers, ministry leaders, and staff: you are the fuel that mobilizes us to be a church of impact, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your labor is not in vain. Your presence is felt. Your service is appreciated more than words can convey.

Let us continue to keep our hands to the plow and remain a church that believes in **Engaging the Lost, Equipping the Saints, and Expanding the Kingdom of God**. Together, with God’s help, we will continue to rise, build, and walk boldly into every promise He has prepared for us.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Palmer", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Nathanael A. Palmer I
Senior Pastor

WHAT *God* DID

WE ENGAGE

Provided over 300 bags of fresh fruits and vegetables to our Senior Saints

This outreach ensured that seniors in our church and community received healthy produce and consistent nutritional support.

Provided over 1,000 meals to families at Our House

Our church made a significant impact by feeding families experiencing homelessness and transition, demonstrating God's love through compassionate service.

Provided 168 backpacks for children and youth returning to school

We helped students begin the academic year with confidence by supplying essential school supplies.

Supplied professional clothing to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Clothing Closet

We supported college students and job seekers by donating business attire to enhance career readiness and interview success.

Provided lunch for teachers at Stephens Elementary during Teacher Appreciation Week

We encouraged educators with a gesture of love and gratitude, recognizing their hard work and daily dedication.

Provided 110 snack bags to Children's Hospital staff

Our church honored frontline healthcare workers with tokens of appreciation to uplift, energize, and encourage them.

Conducted Family & Friends Sunday with overwhelming attendance

This special Sunday strengthened fellowship, welcomed guests, and deepened community connection.

Obtained a Hunger Alliance grant to provide meats, fruits, and vegetables to over 50 families

This grant expanded our food distribution efforts and strengthened our ability to care for families facing food insecurity.

WHAT *God* DID

Assisted Arkansas Baptist College employees during a payroll crisis

FBCHP led a statewide coalition of 15+ churches, raising over \$25,000 to support staff with utilities, rent, and food during a payroll emergency. The church was honored at the Difference Maker's Banquet at Arkansas Baptist College.

Financially assisted several church members affected by the Government Shutdown

We responded compassionately to members in need, offering tangible support during a challenging financial period.

WE EQUIP

Sermon/Bible Study Series Throughout the Year

"Do You Know Him: Unpacking the I AM Statements of Christ", "Giving God the Best That I Have", "I'm Flawed, But He's Faithful: Lessons from the Life of Peter", "Health Check: Signs of a Healthy Church", "A Perfect God for Imperfect People: Lessons from the Life of David", and "Family Matters."

Provided Leadership Training Seminar — "Managing Your Ministry Bus"

Our Servant Leaders received essential training focused on ministry organization, sustainability, excellence, and effective service.

Hosted the Union District Baptist Association Congress of Christian Education

Our church served as a hub for Christian education, offering training, spiritual formation, and ministry enrichment to congregations across the district.

Launched A Young Adult Sunday School

Designed specifically to meet the spiritual needs of young adults within our congregation. This class provides a space where Biblical truth and spiritual insight are shared in a relevant, engaging, and practical manner.

WE EXPAND

Installed the "Dr. W.W. Walker Jr. Family Life Center" exterior signage

This installation honored the ministerial legacy of our Pastor Emeritus and enhanced visibility for members and visitors.

WHAT *God* DID

Cleared campus shrubbery, trees, weeds, and debris; repainted parking spots

These enhancements beautified the campus, improved curb appeal, and created a more inviting environment.

Rebuilt deteriorating retaining wall and added fencing on the lower parking lot

This project improved safety, prevented further erosion, and increased structural integrity.

Upgraded and renovated our Nursery Space

We created a safer and more welcoming environment for infants and toddlers through new paint, graphic vinyl artwork, a protective gate, and a smart television.

Added concrete steps, a metal railing between the lower and upper parking lots, and storage unit

These additions created safer, more convenient, and more accessible pathways between campus areas. Additionally, the storage unit increased our capacity to clear out clutter and store essential items properly.

Developed an Assimilation Ministry called “Connect & Embrace”

This ministry tracks new members during their first year and helps them connect to ministries where they can use their God-given gifts.

Hosted “Pancakes with the Pastor”

A ministry event designed to help new members connect with church leadership, learn more about ministry opportunities, and sign up to serve.

Major Media and Technology Improvements

Upgrades included a new sound board, installation of P16's and boom microphones, replacement of sanctuary lighting, development of a recording/media room, installation of a new speaker system, and purchase of Sermon Shots software.

67 New Members and 24 Baptisms!

God blessed our church with tremendous growth—new disciples, restored faith, and lives committed to Christ.

2026 GOALS



WE ENGAGE

Community Garden – Partnership with Centennial Bank

We will re-launch our Community Garden in partnership with Centennial Bank to provide fresh produce, promote sustainability, and strengthen community ties. This garden will serve as an outreach tool, inviting neighbors to learn, volunteer, and connect with the FBCHP family.

Increased HBCU Campus Presence

We will strengthen our presence at Arkansas Baptist College, Philander Smith College, and Shorter College by providing move-in boxes with essential items and church paraphernalia.

We will also assist with voter registration efforts ahead of the 2026 Midterm Elections to encourage civic engagement among students.



FRAngelism Sundays in the Month of March

In addition to our Family and Friends Sunday in September, we will observe FRAngelism Month in March. Throughout the month, we will focus on inviting and bringing: Friends (1st Sunday), Relatives (2nd Sunday), Associates (3rd Sunday), and Neighbors (4th Sunday).

Establishment of a TikTok Account

We will expand our digital presence by launching an official TikTok account to share sermon clips, ministry highlights, and inspirational content that reaches younger audiences



WE
APPRECIATE
YOU.

Servant Leader Appreciation Banquet

We will host a banquet to honor ministry volunteers who faithfully support the work of the church. This celebration reinforces a culture of gratitude, encouragement, and unity.

2026 GOALS

WE EQUIP

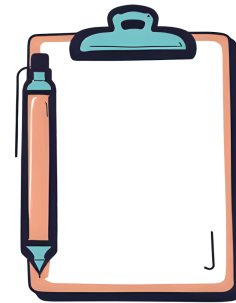


Holistic Stewardship Training (Mental, Physical, Financial, and Spiritual Health)

We will introduce a comprehensive stewardship initiative focusing on mental, physical, financial, and spiritual health. This will be the focus of our May Sermon Series, accompanied by Wednesday evening classes featuring experts in each area to equip members with practical wisdom, resources, and support.

Two Annual Leadership Trainings

We will host two leadership development sessions to equip ministry leaders and volunteers with training in communication, conflict resolution, ministry excellence, and spiritual leadership.

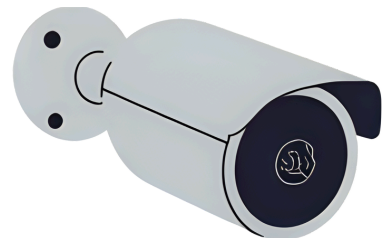


Establishment of a Christian Education Council

We will establish a council to oversee Christian education, curriculum development, discipleship planning, and spiritual formation, ensuring theological depth, clarity, and consistency throughout the church.

Annual Background Checks & Child Maltreatment Checks

We will uphold safety and accountability by conducting annual background checks and child maltreatment screenings for the Pastor, staff, the Official Board, and all Youth/Children's Ministry volunteers.



Installation of Additional Security Cameras

We will enhance campus safety by installing additional cameras to cover blind spots and improve monitoring across the property, particularly in our children's and youth areas

2026 GOALS

WE EXPAND

Membership Growth of 75 New Members & At Least 40 Baptisms

We aim to grow our congregation by at least 75 new members and celebrate a minimum of 40 baptisms in 2026 as part of our commitment to evangelism, outreach, and discipleship.



Reformat New Member Orientation (Online Option Included)

We will update the New Member Orientation Curriculum by offering both in-person and online options to better serve new members and support their integration into church life.



Remodel Children's Church & Teens Ministry Rooms

We will renovate two classrooms in the Dr. W.W. Walker, Jr. Family Life Center to create updated, engaging spaces for our Children's and Teens Ministry.



Continued Exterior Campus Beautification

We will enhance the appearance of our campus grounds by removing stumps from the parking lots, clearing debris, updating signage, and repainting parking spaces to create a more welcoming and polished environment for members and visitors.

2026

PROJECTED BUDGET

Income Sources	Projected Income 2026
Tithes	466,269
Givelify	160,000
Tithely	41,400
Total Income	667,629
Expenses	Projected Expenses 2026
Total Utilities (Electric, Gas, Water, Telephone)	56,692
Total Mortgage (Church Mortgage & Capitol Improvement)	129,936
Total Operations (Accounting/Legal Services & IT Contracts)	21,145
Total Travel/Accommodations (Conferences & Church Van Maintenance)	3,100
Total Insurance (Church Liability)	40,000
Total Fees (National Baptist, SS Publishing, AR Baptist College)	6,000
Total Property (Church Maintenance & Repairs)	35,560
Total Education/Outreach (External Church Ministry Expenses)	45,119
Total Church Services (Internal Church Ministry Expenses)	44,750
Total Administrative Fees	10,277
Total Salaries	275,100
Total Expenses	667,629

2026

IMPORTANT DATES

FRANgelism Month- March

Leadership Training - April

Pancakes with the Pastor - June

Leadership Training - August

Friends & Family Sunday - September

Kingdom Conference - September

Multi-Church Fall Festival - October

Church Anniversary/Fellowship - November

Servant leadership Appreciation - December



First Baptist Church Highland Park | 1701 S. Pine Street | Little Rock, AR 72204

501-666-2700 | **firstbaptisthp.org**