



**First Baptist Church  
Strategic Planning Survey  
November 2017**

Dear Friend of First Baptist Church,

Our church is currently involved in our second strategic planning process to develop a five-year strategic plan. It is our prayer that all individuals attending our church and taking part in our ministries will complete this survey. **Please understand that your response to the questions in this survey do not constitute a vote on any issue, but simply provide the Strategic Planning Committee with valuable feedback as they prepare a plan to present to the church for adoption.** Your thoughts are very important to us and we would greatly appreciate your feedback.

Please help us by completing this survey no later than **November 30, 2017**, and returning it to the church office or other designated areas throughout the church. **Please circle your answers or write legibly when asked to give feedback.** Please feel free to explain your response to any of the Yes/No questions using the space provided. You may omit the questions that do not apply to you. **This is an anonymous survey so please do not include your name.**

**TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF**

- 1. What is your age:** *under 18 18-23 24-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70-79 80+*
- 2. What is your current family status?** *Never Married Married Divorced Widow/Widower*
- 3. How many children do you have living at home?** *None 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8+*
- 4. What age groups do your children living at home belong to (circle all that apply)?**  
*Less than 1 year old 1-2 3-5 6-11 12-14 15-18 19-23 24+*
- 5. What is your highest completed level of education?**  
*Less than High School High School Some College Associate Bachelor Master Doctorate*
- 6. How many years have you attended First Baptist Church (FBC)?**  
*Less than 5 years 5-10 11-15 16-19 20-29 30-39 40-49 50+*
- 7. How often do you attend a church service/activity in a typical month?**  
*1 time 2 times 3-4 times 5-6 times 7-8 times 9-10 times 11 or more times*

8. Have you publicly professed Jesus Christ as your Savior? Yes No

9. Have you been baptized by immersion? Yes No

10. Are you a member of FBC? Yes No

11. How did you first discover FBC? Family Member Friend Website Facebook Other

12. Why do you attend FBC (circle all that apply)?

Children's/Student Ministry Preaching/Teaching Music Family/Friends Other

If you are not a member of FBC, what obstacles keep you from becoming a member?

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## OUR MISSION

Our mission is "to lead people to faith and growth in Christ." Do you have any questions, comments or suggestions about this statement? \_\_\_\_\_

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## OUR CORE VALUES

Our core values help us understand why we do what we do. We have identified the following core values for our church: *Biblical preaching and teaching, missions, worship, family, fellowship, prayer, discipleship and evangelism.* Do you have any questions, comments or suggestions about these core values?

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## WELCOMING OF GUESTS

1. When you first visited FBC, were you greeted and made to feel welcome? Yes No

2. After visiting FBC the first time, were you contacted in a way that was friendly and appropriate? Yes No

3. Do you think our greeters and ushers do a good job of assisting guests and members?

Yes No

4. What could we do to make our guests feel more welcomed? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **MUSIC AND WORSHIP SERVICES**

1. Which Sunday morning worship service do you normally attend? 8:30 11:00
2. How many times do you attend a Sunday morning worship service in a typical month?  
1 time 2 times 3 times 4 times
3. When you do miss a Sunday morning worship service, what is the typical reason?  
Work Sickness Family Time Vacation/Travel Sports Too Tired/Need Rest Other
4. Do you believe the length of the Sunday morning worship service is appropriate?  
Yes No
5. Do elements such as dramatic Scripture readings, responsive readings, testimonies, etc., help you worship God? Yes No
6. Do you believe the Bible is taught in relevant ways that help you grow in your relationship with God? Yes No
7. The current seating capacity of our sanctuary (including the balcony and choir loft) is approximately 460. According to our latest annual church profile, our average worship attendance for last year was 410, which is 90% of our seating capacity. On 14 out of 52 Sundays (27%) our total worship attendance exceeded 90% capacity and on 2 Sundays our total worship attendance exceeded 100% capacity. **With this in mind, would you be in favor of continuing both Sunday morning worship services each week so there are plenty of available seats for everyone or would you be in favor of changing to one Sunday morning service which may limit the available seats and may prevent someone from attending? Please check your answer below.**  
  
 Continue two Sunday morning worship services so everyone has a seat that wants to attend.  
  
 Change to one Sunday morning worship service knowing that everyone that wants to attend may not be able to find a seat.
8. Would you be willing to financially support the building of a new, larger sanctuary?  
Yes No

9. Would you be in favor of discontinuing Sunday evening worship services? Yes No

10. Would you support the beginning of a performing arts/worship arts school for the purpose of training a new generation of worship leaders? The school would provide instruction for children, students, and adults in such areas as playing instruments, voice lessons, audio/video training, etc. Yes No

11. What topics or books of the Bible would you like to see addressed in a Sunday morning sermon?

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12. What suggestions do you have for improving the Sunday morning worship service?

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## **PRAYER MINISTRY**

1. Do you pray on a daily basis? Yes No

2. Do you have a time of prayer/family devotions with your family? Yes No

3. How long do you pray in a typical day?

*Less than 5 minutes 5-15 minutes 15-30 minutes 30+ minutes*

4. Have you ever used the FBC prayer room and resources? Yes No

5. Do you use the prayer notebook provided by FBC? Yes No

6. Would you be willing to participate in an organized prayer event at our church (Saturday prayer time for worship services, home prayer group, Sunday School prayer meeting, prayer conference, etc.)? Yes No

7. How could FBC encourage you in your prayer life? \_\_\_\_\_

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8. What suggestions do you have for the prayer ministry of FBC? \_\_\_\_\_

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## **EDUCATION MINISTRIES**

1. Do you believe FBC provides an environment that enables and encourages spiritual growth? Yes No

2. Do you attend a Sunday School class? Yes No
3. If so, how many times do you attend in a typical month? 1 2 3 4
4. Have you participated in one of our Equipping Center classes offered on Wednesday evening? Yes No
5. If you have not participated in an Equipping Center class, what are some reasons why?  
*Work on Wednesday nights    Not interested in topics offered    Other*
6. Other than a Sunday School class or Equipping Center class, are you currently attending any other small group at FBC (Bible study group, Discipleship group, etc.)?  
Yes No
7. Do you believe you have grown in your personal relationship with the Lord in the past two years? Yes No
8. In what ways is FBC doing well in providing an environment that provides spiritual growth? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How could FBC be stronger in the area of discipleship and spiritual growth?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. If you do not attend a Sunday School class, what are some of the reasons why you do not attend? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What do you like about your Sunday School class? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What could improve your Sunday School class? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. What do you like about our Equipping Center classes? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What topic(s) would you like to see addressed in our Equipping Center? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES**

1. Are you satisfied with the quality of childcare in our nursery (birth to 3 year olds)?

Yes No

2. Are you satisfied with the level of security provided in our preschool area (birth to 5 years old)? Yes No

3. What specifically does the nursery (birth to 3 years old) ministry do well? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What changes could we make in the nursery (birth to 3 years old) to make it better?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What suggestions do you have for our ministry to all preschoolers (birth to 5 years old)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What improvements do you suggest that would make our preschool area (birth to 5 years old) more secure? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

1. Do you have children in your home who participate in our children's ministry?

Yes No

If yes, tell us which grade (circle all that apply): *Kindergarten* 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>

2. Have you ever served as a volunteer in our children's ministry? Yes No

3. What do you like most about the children's ministry of our church? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. In what ways could our children's ministry be more effective at serving the families of FBC? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. In what ways could our children's ministry be more effective in reaching unchurched children in our community? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What, if anything, could encourage more people to faithfully serve in our children's ministry? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. What other suggestions do you have concerning our children's ministry? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES**

1. Do you have middle school or high school student(s) in your home? Yes No  
If yes, tell us which grade (circle all that apply): 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>

2. Have you ever served as a volunteer in our student ministry? Yes No

For Parents (Check all that apply):

- I/We make it a priority for our student(s) to attend Sunday School.
- I/We make it a priority for our student(s) to attend Sunday morning worship.
- I/We make it a priority for our student(s) to attend Sunday evening discipleship.
- I/We make it a priority for our student(s) to attend The Loft on Wednesday evenings.
- I/We are comfortable with friends of our student(s) attending student ministry events.
- I/We have seen spiritual growth in our student(s) from their involvement in the student ministry.
- I/We receive appropriate communication about student ministry events.
- I/We enjoy participating in student ministry with my/our student(s).

For Students (Check all that apply)

- It is important for me to attend Sunday School.
- It is important for me to attend Sunday morning worship.
- It is important for me to attend Sunday evening discipleship.
- It is important for me to attend The Loft on Wednesday nights.
- I am comfortable bringing my friends to student ministry events at FBC Paris.
- I have grown spiritually as a result of my involvement in the student ministry of FBC.
- I receive appropriate communication about student ministry events.
- I enjoy having my parent(s) participate in student ministry events with me.

3. Would you be in favor of utilizing a part-time college student or a part-time adult assistant to help lead the student ministry of our church? *Yes No*
4. Would you be in favor of utilizing a part-time college student or a part-time adult assistant as a means for identifying a new full-time student minister? *Yes No*
5. What do you like most about the student ministry of FBC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. In what ways could our student ministry be more effective at serving the families of FBC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. In what ways could our student ministry be more effective in reaching unchurched students in our community? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. In what ways could our student ministry better partner with parents? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What, if anything, could encourage more people to faithfully serve in our student ministry? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What other suggestions do you have concerning the student ministry of FBC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

1. Have you ever been part of a women's small group Bible study or equipping center study? *Yes No*
2. Are you currently involved in a women's small group Bible study or equipping center study? *Yes No*
3. Would you be interested in participating in women's accountability group or mentoring group? *Yes No*
4. If you have never attended or are not currently attending a women's small group Bible study or equipping center study, what obstacles keep you from participating in one?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How has being part of a women's small group helped you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 6. What types of activities (events, mission projects, fellowships, etc.) would encourage you to get together with other women of faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7. What other suggestions do you have to improve our women's ministry? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MEN'S MINISTRY**

- 1. Are you currently participating in a men's small group Bible study or accountability group? *Yes No*
- 2. If you are not currently in a men's small group, what obstacles have kept you from joining one? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. How has being a part of a men's small group helped you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. What types of activities (events, mission projects, fellowships, etc.) would encourage you to get together with other men of faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5. What other suggestions do you have to improve our men's ministry? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES**

- 1. Do you attend the monthly LLL meetings? *Yes No*  
If yes, what do you like best about these meetings? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
If no, why do you not attend? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Do you participate in the senior adult trips offered by our church? *Yes No*
- 3. What activities would you like to see our senior adults do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. How could our church improve our ministry to senior adults? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **MARRIAGE/FAMILY MINISTRY**

1. Have you participated in Equipping Center studies (Wednesday nights) on marriage and family? *Yes No*
2. Have you found these studies to be helpful? *Yes No*
3. What subjects would you like to see addressed related to marriage and family? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Would you attend a weekend marriage conference hosted by our church? *Yes No*
5. Where would you prefer a weekend marriage conference be held?  
*Church Other Location*
6. How can FBC help to strengthen your marriage and family life? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Would you seek marriage and family counseling if needed? *Yes No*

## **MISSIONS**

1. Are you satisfied with the level of missions involvement of FBC at this time? *Yes No*
2. How can we improve missions awareness at FBC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What local mission opportunities do you think FBC should consider in the future? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What state mission opportunities do you think FBC should consider in the future? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What national mission opportunities do you think FBC should consider in the future?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What international mission opportunities do you think FBC should consider in the future? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **EVANGELISM/MINISTRY/OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY**

1. Do you believe Upward is an effective outreach ministry to our community? *Yes No*
2. Do you believe Vacation Bible School is an effective outreach ministry to our community? *Yes No*

3. Do you believe the Bus Ministry is an effective outreach ministry to our community?

Yes No

4. Do you feel prepared to share your faith with others? Yes No

5. Have you taken advantage of evangelism training offered by our church? Yes No

6. What needs do you see in our community that a church like ours could address? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What evangelistic outreach ministries do you think would be effective for reaching the lost in our community? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What suggestions do you have for reaching the next generation and keeping them connected to the church? \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

1. Have you ever used the [www.fbcparis.org](http://www.fbcparis.org) website? Yes No

2. Have you ever viewed a Facebook live stream of our worship services? Yes No

3. What are your preferred ways of learning about church events and activities?  
(Circle all that apply)

*Weekly newsletter*

*Worship Guide*

*Wednesday announcement sheet*

*Email*

*Text message*

*Facebook*

4. What is the most helpful feature of our website? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What suggestions do you have for improving our website? \_\_\_\_\_

6. How could we improve our communication with the members of FBC? \_\_\_\_\_

## FACILITIES/PROPERTY

1. Do you utilize the church library? Yes No

If no, why do you not utilize the library? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Would you utilize the library if it were located in a different area of the church? Yes No
3. Do you feel safe when you attend services and activities at our church? Yes No
4. What areas of concern do you have that our safety and security committee should address? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What facility/property needs do you believe we should address? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS**

1. Do you have any suggestions or concerns regarding our yearly budget or budgeting process? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How connected do you feel at FBC? *Very connected* *Somewhat connected* *Not connected*
3. What could help you to feel more connected? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What do you like best about FBC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What would you like to see changed about FBC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you have any suggestions for our church staff? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What three new initiatives (ministry, program, emphasis, etc.) do you believe are most important for our church to START in the next 5 years?
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_
8. When we begin a new initiative, we often have to make time for it in our schedule. What three things do we need to STOP doing in order to make time for new initiatives?
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your feedback!**