Spring Vespers
Closing the year with praises to our Lord

A flurry of excitement was in the air as the students of FBTA scurried to their places for the spring vespers concert. The musicians’ instruments were tuned and voices were warmed up. When Mr. Bradford, the academy administrator stepped up to the microphone, the program rolled into action. “I felt kind of nervous, and I was happy when it was all done,” said Joshua B, 6th grade. Aside from the jitterbugs of nervousness, the performances went as smoothly as hoped for. “It was a wonderful opportunity to play music that mattered since it was all centered on the Lord,” said Mrs. Castilla, director of the orchestra for the concert. Some of the highlight of the night were the elementary choir singing ‘Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho’, the senior high orchestra playing ‘Camp Meeting’, and the grand finale, ‘Worthy is the Lamb’, sung by the junior and senior high choirs. “I was honored and pleased to be able to play. I had a fun time with the piece we played. All of the kids and directors worked hard and did a great job. I’m sure it all honored and glorified God,” said Mr. Lyle, a stand-in-trumpet player for the senior high orchestra. At the end of the performances, awards were given to several outstanding students who exhibited leadership, exceptional musical talent, and responsibility. It was fun recognizing all the hard work from this past year,” recalls Mrs. Castilla. “I think we did pretty well, but we need to work on some of our techniques,” said Estefania M, 7th grade. “I feel like we could talk less and be more enthusiastic, but the best part was when we all sang ‘Worthy is the Lamb’ together,” said Alexis, A, 9th grade. “I think probably our favorite parts were ‘Worthy is the Lamb’ and the fun we had afterward,” said Connor and Caleb D, 7th grade. Great work for all of those who put their effort into making the spring vespers an enjoyable time to praise the Lord!

Don’t forget!
Sports banquet Thursday!

Our Sports Banquet and Alumni Soccer game is Thursday, May 29. The alumni game starts at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are only $3 or $15 per family. Please purchase your tickets ahead of time!

Please arrive by 5:00 p.m. for photo opportunities. The program begins at 5:30 p.m. with a warm-up of Elementary Choir. The show kicks off with an opening prayer. Dan A, President
Jason U, Vice President
Hope Z, Secretary
Jenneth D, Treasurer
Rebecca P, 12th grade rep
Annice C, 11th grade rep
Haven Z, 10th grade rep
Jessica K, 9th grade rep
Hart Z, 8th grade rep
J. T. R, 7th grade rep

Awards were presented to the students who have shown excellence in their grades, sports, music, and business. Some of the highlights of the night included: 1. The junior and senior choir performing “Worthy is the Lamb,” a much-requested favorite song for faculty, parents, and students.
2. The full FBTA junior and senior high choir performed “Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho,” a much-requested favorite song for faculty, parents, and students.
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**Writing the Bucket List**

Students prepare for freedom as they put together their Summer Bucket Lists

by Jenneth D, junior

Summer is quickly approaching with its glorious smells, warm temperatures, exciting activities, and the ever-present consciousness of absolute liberty. As the final days of school tick away, many FBYA students are already collaborating their “Summer Bucket List” for the next three months.

“I’m going to my grandparents’ house to learn how to cook and learn how to work with cars, like to change the oil, change tires, change brakes, and all this other cool stuff. Hopefully, I’ll be able to get my permit when I come back, and then I want to join an orchestra, get a job, and have fun with my friends,” said Victoria R, sophomore, all in one breath.

“My Bucket List for the summer is that I’m going to be working out, I’m going to learn French, and I’m going to get a job,” said Hope Z, sophomore.

“I’m going to be a soccer ref and a base- ball umpire this summer, and I’ll try to get a lot of money so I can go to camp, and then I’ll probably mow lawns and stuff like that...and then I’ll probably go skydiving,” added Hunter H, junior, in a humorous dry tone.

“I’m going to be working this summer as a lifeguard,” said Victoria C, sophomore.

“Drawing, I guess—what are you re- cording me? Stop that! Delete it right now,” said Arjuna C, sophomore.

“I’m swimming, and [I’m] working for the Shierys,” said Nathan P, sophomore.

“I’m going to my sister’s wedding, and I’m being a junior bridesmaid,” said Julia C, 8th grade.

“It’s too early to think about,” said Enoch P, 8th grade, wearily.

“I am going to Maryland at a resort with my dad’s two sisters and their family and my grandma and grandpa, so it’s going to be a lot of people, and [I’m going] to my grandpar- ents’ lake in New York,” said Charity B, 4th grade.

“I’m going to go to California to go to Disney land, LEGO Land, and visit my cousins, and we’re going to the movies with some friends,” said Heath H, 4th grade.

“I’m going on a big family vacation, and I’m going to get ready for college, and pack, and get stuff,” said Mackenzie B, senior, smiling a little at the thought.

Whether drawing, car tinkering, ventures to LEGO Land, or skydiving, this summer is going to be jam-packed full of excitement. Get your Bucket List in order, because summer is nearly upon us, comrades!

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**Speech and journalism field trip to the Newseum**

Juniors and seniors continue to learn the importance of a good education

by Hunter H, junior

On Wednesday, May 14, Mrs. Tripp and Mrs. Dyck took the junior and senior journalism students to the Newseum in Washington, D.C., for a field trip. After seeing the large section of the Berlin wall that was on the main level, they started at the sixth floor and worked their way down through the whole museum.

“I always liked seeing the crumpled re- mains of the Berlin wall,” said Mrs. Dyck, journalist teacher. “I thought it was interesting that the ‘free’ side of the wall is covered in graffiti and artwork about freedom, while the communist side is completely bare. No one ever made it close enough to the wall on that side before being shot, let alone get a chance to write about wanting their freedom.”

Many of the students liked the 4-D movie on the fourth floor that was about all of the famous and first investigative news reporters in America and the amazing lengths they had to go through to get the stories.

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**Interest in Pinterest!**

The addicting social network is suddenly buzzing again

by Hope Z, sophomore

This past school year, the interest in Pinterest has launched its way to the top of some classes’ social media preferences. We’ve heard about it everywhere—Pinterest—but what is this social network that everyone is buzzing about?

You’ve been there: you see something online you don’t want to forget! What do you do? Email it to yourself? Take a screenshot? Print it out? Well, now there’s a much easier way to save and compile everything you like online. From DIY everything, to food, men’s and women’s fashion, travel, health and fitness, home décor, humor, and much more, Pinterest has something for everyone.

“I just love how you can get so many ideas about all this stuff, inspirational quotes, and fashion tips,” said Estefania M, 7th grade.

Pinterest is a free app that allows you to “pin” items to an online bulletin board just as you would pin them on a real life bulletin board. All of your pins are saved to your Pinterest account so you can easily access them. Added bonus: Pinterest allows you to follow any and all of your friends that also have an account. You can “repin” anything that you like that is on one of your boards.

“I have learned that promising myself to spend 20-30 minutes a day on Pinterest is com- pletely useless! It is so easy to spend hours on Pinterest without even knowing it. It can be really relaxing and so fun! The best part about it is how you can send pins to your friends and comment back and forth,” said Victoria C, sophomore.

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**Spending time with God**

How to manage your time with God during the summer

by David C, sophomore

With school coming to an end, that only means summer is about to begin. People are getting jobs, going on vacations, and hanging out with their friends. Those things are usual.

But what is sometimes neglected is spend- ing time with God. Just because you don’t have a daily Bible reading sheet to check off every day, it doesn’t mean you should stop reading your Bible and having your personal devotions. Summer should be a time when you get to spend more time actively meditating on God’s Word.

And what may be stopping you from reading your Bible is yourself. Don’t throw excus- 
es and say you’re too busy. It’s simple. All you have to do is manage your schedule and take 20 minutes out of your day. God wants to meet with you daily. But if you don’t set aside time, will you ever even think about reading your Bible?

The Bible isn’t a book. The Bible is THE book.

So what will you do? Will you purpose in your heart like Daniel did? Or will you just follow the crowd. Daniel knew what he had to do. That was to stay true to his God. Dare to be different like Daniel was.

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**A sweet summer snack!**

Fresh fruit and yogurt ice pops!

by Hope Z, sophomore

What you will need:

- 2 cups fresh blueberries, raspberries, strawberries and sliced bananas (and any and all other fruit you may have), mixed
- 1 cup plain or vanilla yogurt
- ½ cup white sugar
- 8 small paper cups
- 8 popsicle sticks

**Directions:**

Place the mixed blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, sliced bananas, yogurt, and sug- ar into a blender. Cover and blend until fruit is chunky or smooth, as desired.

Fill paper cups ⅓ full with fruit mixture. Cover the top of each cup with a strip of aluminum foil. Poke a popsicle stick through the center of the foil on each cup.

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**The Newseum also had a 9/11 gallery, such as a large, twisted section of the broadcast antenna that stood on top of the World Trade Center’s north tower. It’s a moving exhibit for anyone who lived through that experience.

“I think the students are too young to re- member much of what happened on 9/11,” said Mrs. Tripp, speech teacher. “But I can remember exactly where I was and how awful that day was.”

Another place that the students enjoyed was upstairs on the balcony where there were the day’s front pages from newspapers all over the world.

Probably the most favorite place was the social media news section and the newscast practicing, where there was an opportunity to practice giving the news with a microphone and a projector. Everyone seemed to enjoy watching himself on the television.

The class had fun being together outside of school and learning a little more about the world around them.
Recent senior trips and opportunities bring a memorable 2013-2014 school year to a close

Seniors excitedly close out the last few weeks of school

by Hannah Z, senior

Coming directly off of Missions Conference week, on April 28 at 6:00 a.m., the senior class embarked on a “pre-senior trip” senior trip to New York City. Chaperoned by Mrs. Durby and Mr. Bradford, the class arrived in New York shortly before lunch. The rest of the day was packed with activities centered in Lower Manhattan, including the World Trade Center, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Staten Island Ferry.

“Actually standing where the terrorist attack happened and seeing the memorial with all the pictures and videos was touching and the Staten Island Ferry.”

“Actually standing where the terrorist attack happened and seeing the memorial with all the pictures and videos was touching,” commented Christy H.

Upon arriving back to Memorial Baptist Church in Brooklyn for the night, Mr. Bradford led the seniors in a short devotion. After some went to bed, the rest continued to socialize till the early hours of the morning.

The next day brought on a slew of many different adventures in Upper Manhattan. The morning’s bike ride in Central Park gave the seniors many opportunities to make memories.

“I will never forget seeing Katelyn drift into the walking lane and from the back hit a jogger listening to her music. It was a little scary but funny at the same time,” chuckled Reagan R.

After lunch, the following hours were spent on Fifth Avenue visiting the Apple computer store, the famous toy store F.A.O. Schwartz, Saks Fifth Avenue and many other high-end stores.

Nearly everyone had an interesting moment while in New York. Mackenzie gained a street dancer friend, and Reagan experienced a ticket machine failure in which the machine gave him 660 tickets for a few coins!

“Hannah ‘accidentally’ stole two maps from a Delaware rest stop. Watching Kyle get stuck between the subway doors was the best part of the trip. I enjoyed the special closeness of my class that week,” wrote Corynne D. reminiscently.

After a packed twenty-six hours in New York City, the seniors headed back to Virginia. Perhaps the hardest part was that they were able to get out in time,” said Christy H.

Upon arriving back to Memorial Baptist Church in Brooklyn for the night, Mr. Bradford led the seniors in a short devotion. After making sound effects for a helicopter, light saber, fist fight, and more, Mrs. Pigott told the girls that night “she had never been more humiliated in her life.”

Both trips were filled with exciting memories, priceless moments, and class bonding that would serve to further unify the senior class.

Bringing the year to a close, the seniors still received many interesting opportunities. Recent fetal pig and cow eye dissections have taken place in the last week. Also, the seniors had an opportunity to observe an Open-Heart Surgery at Inova Fairfax Hospi- tal, had lunch with Pastor and Mrs. Calvert, and significantly participated in the Spring Vespers Concert and Awards.

With graduation in sight and each steadily plowing ahead, the best way to thank the teachers, commemorate the times together, and ultimately glorify God is to make the most of the preparation and instruction received at BFBA and move forward following the Lord’s guidance as he continues to shape each senior into who he wants them to be.

The seniors describe themselves as pretty busy and with graduation in sight and each steadily plowing ahead, the best way to thank the teachers, commemorate the times together, and ultimately glorify God is to make the most of the preparation and instruction received at BFBA and move forward following the Lord’s guidance as he continues to shape each senior into who he wants them to be.

by Rebecca P, junior

Most senior classes come out of their senior trips feeling like they’ve grown close together as a class. But for the senior class of 2014, unity wasn’t a problem.

“We were already close; we bonded earli-er—before the trip,” said Katelyn B.

“We were leaving the subway when we turned around and saw Mr. Bradford and Kyle still in there with the doors about to close. There was pure horror in Kyle’s face! But they were able to get out in time,” said Christy H.

The seniors leave with parting advice to the rest of the student body to study hard and to enjoy senior year and the rest of high school. “Do your best to enjoy every day. Make high school special,” said Reagan R.

“Stay strong and have a lot of fun. Be a hard worker,” said Kyle K.

“Congratulations, Class of 2014! We’ll miss you guys. Join the seniors on Sunday, June 1, for their graduation.”

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A final tribute to the seniors

June 1, 2014—the end and the beginning

by Hannah Z, senior

A final tribute to the seniors

by Rebecca P, junior

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Good times, last times
Classy night for senior high to get dressed up and dine at a distinguished restaurant in downtown DC
by Victoria C, sophomore

Getting ready for a nice dinner can be a hassle, and the senior banquet is no exception. The banquet took place on May 23. The teens attending met at the FHTA facilities and proceeded to drive over to Chez Billy to eat a formal, yet delicious, dinner. The dinner was not the only reason for getting dressed up for the night because after dinner the seniors had picked several memorials in the D.C. area for the teens to walk around and take pictures together to remember this occasion. The girls and even the guys going definitely wanted to look their best for this formal, relaxing night.

Between the two, girls seemed to look forward to the excitement of these types of events more than most guys, although that is not the case in all instances, especially when it comes to getting dressed up. Girls normally go through a process starting with getting a new dress, and then, if they are going with an escort, they usually like to match with that person. Once they find the perfect dress, they must find accessories and shoes to go with the dress, and maybe even a new hand purse. The second stage of the process begins on the actual day and includes wearing with hair and make-up.

“It should take me about an hour to get totally ready for the night,” said Annie C, sophomore. For some girls like Annie, it’s not “that” big of a deal, but still special enough to take a whole hour away from the day to get ready for the event.

“It will probably take about three hours for me to be ready because I am getting my hair cut and styled, and I’m getting my make-up professionally done,” said Mackenzie H, sophomore. On the other hand, girls like Mackenzie take this banquet very seriously, making sure they do everything perfectly and reserving their whole afternoon to beautifying themselves.

“It was definitely a big deal to me my first year as a sophomore, but as the years went on, the excitement was still there, but it wasn’t that new, fresh excitement that you get the first time doing something,” said Hannah Z, senior. Hannah and probably the rest of the senior girls are definitely excited for the banquet, but it not as big of a deal for them as it is for this year’s sophomore girls. It’s really not that big of a deal when it comes to getting ready for it because it’s just the usual suit and tie,” said Nathan P, sophomore.

It must be just a girl thing to care so much about getting dressed up for events. Because most guys don’t make that much of an outward fuss about what they are going to wear or how their hair is going to look that night, that doesn’t mean they don’t care about those things. For some, an old suit and tie are their best or all they feel like wearing, but some enjoy going shopping for a brand new suit and new tie. Some guys don’t even like wearing a suit, instead, they enjoy wearing a dressy vest with a bowtie.

“For me it won’t take a while to get ready because I know what I’m wearing, but to other guys it might take some time to find the right colors and patterns,” said Reagan R, senior.

No matter how long or how short it takes one to get ready for the evening, the teens always end up having a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, sight-seeing, and eating. It’s a wonderful night that the senior high gets to honor the seniors by watching several interviews and presentations the seniors and Bro. Boyd have put together. The night seems rather happy, yet sad; it’s an exciting time for the lower classes to enjoy the experience, but it’s the seniors’ very last banquet.

Thanks to our staff
by Mrs. Dyck, advisor

I wanted to say a public thank you to the journalism class for all of the hard work they have done on the yearbook and newspaper this year. Even those of you who didn’t think you enjoyed writing have improved so much, and the yearbook continues to get better every year. I know the deadlines were tough, and the pressure during ODAcs was intense, but you all produced a great product. I appreciate the perseverance, and I know our readers do as well. Have a great summer!
Friendship
by Kyle K
The doctor that prescribes the cure to confinement,
A refreshing sensation;
The provision of rejuvenation
To one’s broken heart.
The deliverer from one’s emptiness,
It saves one from friendlessness.
This is very powerful.
One should not suffer from detachment.
This cure lasts a lifetime.
It is the provider of great memories,
And it keeps one’s mind off his enemies.
This cure is friendship.
A refreshing sensation,
The provision of rejuvenation.
Friendship lasts a lifetime.

Machine
by Reagan R
Bow set, sitting straight,
Wrist taut, notes of eight,
First measure, counting eyes,
Second measure, music flies!
1 ... 2 ..., counting beat,
3 ... 4 ..., now repeat,
Upscale, arpeggios,
quiet now, piano.
Half note, quarter rest,
Cut time, fingers pressed,
Pounding drums, whistling winds,
Blaring brass, percussion spins.
Stark Conductor, wood winds,
percussion, brass, and violins,
Well-oiled machine, an orchestra,
Individual musicians playing as one.

The Battle
by Roger C
The team walks on; the field is set.
The wind screams, the rain falls, the enemy is near.
Hatred and adrenaline spread like a plague—
They are ready for war!
Their armor shines like ice,
Their breath comes like smoke,
They become a wall, the wall of Troy.
Unbreakable, Unbending, Unmoving.
A warrior breaks from the wall.
Battered, Bruised, Bleeding.
His armor dented and muddy,
The valiant warrior charges his enemy.
The enemy is broken, trampled by the warrior.
The battle is won! The enemy scatters.
The countrymen cry out—
They have won! They have won!

The mission of Roc Solid Foundation is to build hope for children battling cancer and their families by offering them Roc Solid opportunities to engage in the simple joys of childhood despite their conditions.

In the spring of 2010, the Fairfax office of Keller Williams Capital Properties was looking to partner with a nonprofit organization that focused on the needs of children. Each May, Keller Williams Realty offices across the United States and Canada participate in a national day of service called “Red Day.” From their website: “RED Day isn’t about cleaning up a park. It is a one-day expression of what happens 24/7 in the Keller Williams culture. It is seeing a need, discovering who can meet that need and then getting it done.”

FBTA and Victoria’s family is so grateful to you all for the wonderful encouragement you have given to Victoria. Thank you!

Keller Williams Capital Project teams up with Roc Solid to build a beautiful play structure for K5 student Victoria R

On Thursday, May 8, the kindergarten class took a secret field trip to the home of Victoria R to help in the surprise of presenting her and her family with a beautiful play structure. Since Victoria’s diagnosis of leukemia several months ago, she has missed much of the school year with her classmates. They were all happy to get the chance to see her and reconnect, as well as helping to present the surprise play area and have a cookout together with food donated by Blue Iguana. Congratulations, Victoria! We all love you and are praying for you!
Back to the Basics

I had never been skiing before. I mean, what’s so hard about balancing on two thin, smoky planks and using tall poles to toss myself about? Nothing, right? Sure, it looked easy. Boy, was I wrong. Nevertheless, with vast experience under my belt, I was ready to conquer the hills.

At the time, my dad was a regular daredevil and suggested we spend the day at Liberty Mountain: just another potential ski area of a skier. The car ride up to Liberty was filled with anticipation. Upon our arrival, my dad and I stood in line to rent skis and buy passes. “Hello, and welcome to Ski Liberty, what can I do for you today?” said the lovely cashier. “Hi, yes,” returned my father. “I would like to rent size sixteen shoes. The attendant stopped the ascent of a swan; rather like the fall of a body. I will need a second.” He then suggested we rent the ski. I will take this moment in my story to mention that most people begin their skiing career with the bunny slope. I, however, did not. On our way to the ski lift of the level two slope, my dad gave me a quick crash course. “Don’t look down. Bend your knees. Use your poles,” he warned, “and you will be just fine.”

The ride in the lift was enjoyable and fun. I remember clapping my ski together and jumping snow on the hands of the present people below. The lift ride quickly ended, and my dad left off, leaving me to try to execute the transition from the lift to the ground alone. No, it was not like the graceful ascent of a swan; rather like the fall of a body. I will need a second. So step by step, you enhance immensely the value of your first.” I missed out on the first step of skiing and thus nearly took my own life. Do not forget, for basics are for the foundation for the future.

Emma [exasperated]: I do – I want to believe that, but it’s just so hard sometimes to remember, especially in such a grave situation. Dr. Wilson: It’s a positive option, considered by Hannah Z

...and over to myself. With the end of the slope

in sight, I realized that my dad had left out a crucial detail: how to stop. I desperately racked my brain to see if I remembered my dad giving me any instructions on that trivial subject. I vaguely remember that I had to slow down and carefully cross the front tips of my ski in an “x” formation. How on earth was I to control my ankles in such a way while racing in one-hundred-ski pass.” Eleven hours I thought. No big deal. After finding a becker, stowing away our gear, and watching what we left the snow, I will take this moment in my story to mention that most people begin their skiing career with the bunny slope. I, however, did not. On our way to the ski lift of the level two slope, my dad gave me a quick crash course. “Don’t look down. Bend your knees. Use your poles,” he warned, “and you will be just fine.”

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The ride in the lift was enjoyable and fun. I remember clapping my ski together and jumping snow on the hands of the present people below. The lift ride quickly ended, and my dad left off, leaving me to try to execute the transition from the lift to the ground alone. No, it was not like the graceful ascent of a swan; rather like the fall of a body. I will need a second. So step by step, you enhance immensely the value of your first.” I missed out on the first step of skiing and thus nearly took my own life. Do not forget, for basics are for the foundation for the future.

Emma [exasperated]: I do – I want to believe that, but it’s just so hard sometimes to remember, especially in such a grave situation. Dr. Wilson: It’s a positive option, considered by Hannah Z

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