

## FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

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## **OUR HOMES**

## PASTOR ANDY

LAST NIGHT THE YOUTH GROUP HAD THEIR CHRISTMAS DINNER AT VERA THOMPSON'S HOUSE. THIS WAS THE 4TH YEAR SHE HAS INVITED US TO HER HOUSE AND THE 2ND YEAR FOR DINNER. THE KIDS LOVE GOING TO HER HOUSE. OUR FIRST YEAR (4 YEARS AGO) WAS ONLY FOR DESSERT. OUR TEENS ENJOYED ALL THE SWEETS BUT WERE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT DRINKING THE HOMEMADE EGGNOG. IT TOOK ONE BRAVE SENIOR GUY TO TRY IT AND THE REST IS HISTORY. NO ONE ASKED ME THIS YEAR WHAT WE WERE HAVING FOR DINNER. THEY ONLY WANTED TO KNOW IF WE WERE GOING TO VERA'S AND IS THERE GOING TO BE EGGNOG. IT HAS BECOME A STAPLE TO OUR YOUTH GROUP. SHE HAD TO MAKE MORE THIS YEAR.

It is something they enjoy, not because I asked Vera to host us - it was not my idea but hers. To be invited to someone's house is a blessing.

MATTHEW 9: I O - THEN IT HAPPENED THAT AS JESUS WAS RECLINING AT THE TABLE IN THE HOUSE, BEHOLD, MANY TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS CAME AND WERE DINING WITH JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES.

MARK 1:29 - AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY CAME OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY CAME INTO THE HOUSE OF SIMON AND ANDREW, WITH JAMES AND JOHN.

JOHN 12:2 - SO THEY MADE HIM A SUPPER THERE, AND MARTHA WAS SERVING; BUT LAZARUS WAS ONE OF THOSE RECLINING AT THE TABLE WITH HIM.

MATTHEW 26:12 - AND HE SAID, "GO INTO THE CITY TO A CERTAIN MAN, AND SAY TO HIM, 'THE TEACHER SAYS, "MY TIME IS NEAR; I AM TO KEEP THE PASSOVER AT YOUR HOUSE WITH MY DISCIPLES.

When the disciples were sent out, they stayed in peoples house who invited them in.

Mark 6: IO - And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town.

THE LORD ENJOYED BEING IN OTHER'S HOMES. WE AT FRBC HAVE PEOPLE WHO ARE OPENING THEIR HOMES STARTING IN JANUARY, ON THE 1ST AND 3RD SUNDAY NIGHTS, TO FACILITATE OUR CHURCH BODY IN GROWTH, PRAYER AND ENCOURAGEMENT THROUGH FELLOWSHIP. IT IS A JOY TO BE ASKED AND YOU NEVER KNOW THE BLESSING YOU COULD HAVE, AND BE TO OTHERS, BY JOINING WITH THEM OVER COFFEE (OR EGGNOG) AND DESSERT.

MATTHEW OPENED HIS HOUSE TO JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES, AND IT WAS INSTANTLY FILLED WITH NON-BELIEVERS WHO WANTED TO MEET JESUS. OPENING OUR HOMES IS A GREAT AVENUE TO INVITE OUR FRIENDS TO JOIN IN AN UNTHREATENING DISCUSSION ABOUT OUR LORD AND SAVIOR. I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO SIGN UP AND BE A PART OF THESE GROUPS AND SEE THE IMPACT IT CAN HAVE ON YOU, OTHERS, AND THIS CHURCH.