

## FIRST THOUGHTS

A few days ago, John MacArthur celebrated his 50th anniversary at Grace Community Church. The California pastor has written a number of books, and he's been outspoken on a variety of topics.

At a conference celebrating his half century of ministry, MacArthur and several panelists were on stage fielding a variety of questions. Then the moderator asked them to offer their gut reactions to one- or two-word phrases. When the moderator said "Beth Moore," MacArthur replied, "Go home."

The reaction to this pithy response has caused quite an uproar in the evangelical community; it was even a trending topic on Twitter for a short period of time. His response intrigued but didn't surprise me, as I'm familiar with his theological perspective and leanings. While I've used a few of MacArthur's resources in the past, I don't find agreement with him on this issue.

What I did find instructive was Moore's response to the Twitterstorm and his critique of her ministry: "I did not surrender to a calling of man when I was 18 years old. I surrendered to a calling of God. It never occurs to me for a second to not fulfill it. I will follow Jesus—and Jesus alone—all the way home. . . ."

Over the course of my life as a Baptist pastor, I've discovered a wide diversity of opinions and personalities as it relates to life in the church. We are all influenced by our life experiences and come to Scripture with our own biases and limitations. What I have tried to model and emphasize, however, is that our shared core belief is the earliest Christian creed: "Jesus Christ is Lord".

Through my own biblical and theological pilgrimage, I have come to believe service in the Kingdom of God is based on gifts and calling rather than gender. On a more personal level, as a father of two daughters, it is important for them (and my son!) to see this lived out in the local congregation.

It is very important to me to be part of a Baptist church who nurtures this spirit of service and calling. I'm especially thankful for those of you who teach, support, and encourage my children in their spiritual formation. I thank you all for your concern for them, and all the young men and women who are part of our family of faith.

Women were the first to arrive at the empty tomb of Jesus. And, it was Mary Magdalene who was the first herald of the resurrection. I'm so grateful that she didn't simply "go home" after she experienced the risen Lord. Her example is formative to our faith and instructive to our witness for Christ.

We're entering the season of Thanksgiving (!) My family and I will be celebrating the holiday season with you and in east Tennessee for the first time. Please know how grateful we are for your continued prayers, sweet spirit, and encouragement.

Your Pastor and friend,  
Danny

## PRIMETIME

- **Regular Session**  
**Monday, November 4**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

- **Singin' & Sharing at Morning Pointe**  
**Monday, November 11**  
**10:00 a.m.**

- **Regular Session**  
**Monday, November 18**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

**No Primetime on Monday, November 25.**

## YOUTH

- **Youth Corn Maze Trip**



- **Refuge**  
**Wednesdays**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
Grades 6 - 12  
FLC Youth Room

- **Youth Christmas Shopping Trip**  
**Sunday, December 8**  
Watch for details!

- **Youth Christmas Party**  
**Wednesday, December 18**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
Family Life Center, Youth Room

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

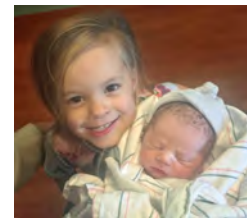
- **It's A Girl!**

Congratulations to Brad and Lydia (Foster) Sellers on the birth of a baby girl, **Edie Joan Sellers**, born Wednesday, October 9. Also, congratulations to grandparents, Lynn and Martha Foster, uncle, Taylor Foster, aunt Meredith Cox and uncle Johnathan Cox.



- **It's A Boy!**

Congratulations to Jason and Carly Bowles on the birth of a baby boy, **Nash Michael Bowles**, born 10/23. He was 6 lbs 7 oz, 20" long. Also congratulations to big sister, Roxie and grandparents, Ernie and Laura Bowles.



- **It's A Girl!**

Congratulations to Kevin and Crystal Widener on the birth of a baby girl, **McKenley Jane Widener**, born 10/25. She weighs 7lbs 7 oz.



Also, congratulations to big brother, Tyler, grandparents, Gene and Sharon Widener, and Aunt Jennifer and cousin Alex.

## MISSIONS

- **Craft Delivery to Homebound Members**  
**Sunday, November 10**  
**1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

- **Homeless-a-thon**  
**Friday, November 15**  
**10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.**  
Local youth groups will spend the night in a "tent city" in our parking lot to develop empathy, raise awareness, and raise funds for homelessness in Anderson Co. Youth will get sponsorships—funds will go to TORCH. Chaperones are NEEDED. *More details on the back.*

- **Towers Movie Night**  
**Saturday, November 16**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Everyone is welcome!  
Free movie and popcorn!

- **reNew Recovery**  
**Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

- **Shepherd's Table**  
**Saturday, November 23**  
**11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
Family Life Center  
Free Community Meal!

- **Turkey Time for the Christian Service Center**  
**Food Item of the week:**  
11/03 Peas  
Drop off food item of the week in the Garden Room or donate \$25 for a complete holiday meal.

- **Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution**  
**Monday, November 25**  
Doors Open at 9:00 a.m. Distribution begins at 10:00 a.m. Clients must have photo ID and a piece of mail and/or CSC Punch Card. First Come, first Serve.

## KIDS KORNER



- **FBC Kids**  
**Wednesdays**  
**6:15 p.m.**



**Special Thanks** to everyone that helped and participated with Trunk or Treat and to those who volunteered at our Community Center Booth. *Visit our facebook page to view more event pictures!*

- **Upward Basketball & Cheerleading Make Up Evaluation**  
**Saturday, November 2**  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
First Baptist Church

- **Random Acts of Christmas Play**  
**Sunday, December 1**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
Sanctuary

- **Christmas Parade FBC Kids Float**  
**Saturday, December 7**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
More details coming soon.

- **FBC Kids Happy Birthday Jesus Party**  
**Wednesday, December 18**  
**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**  
Fellowship Hall  
Pizza and Happy Birthday Jesus Cake.

## FBC INFORMATION & EVENTS

### • Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the altar in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 10 are in honor of all **Veterans**, given by Mike & Carolyn Cook.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 10 are given by **Paul Smith's** wife and children in loving memory of his 95th birthday, which would have been November 14 and what would have been he and Betty's 71st Wedding Anniversary in January.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on November 24 are in loving memory of **Larry Pierce**, whose birthday was November 22, given by Betty Kay Pierce and Lydia Thorpe.

### • Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended Karen Hurley, whose father, **Archie Weems**, passed away, (10/1), to the family of **Alline McConkey** (10/17), to family of **Josh Phillips** (10/25) and to Paul Wilder, whose mother, **Sally Wilder**, passed away (10/27).

### • Fellowship Dinners

**Wednesdays**  
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  
Family Life Center  
Cost is \$8.00 per person. Please call the church office to RSVP!  
Kids & Youth Eat Free!

### • Prayer Service and Bible Study

**Wednesdays**  
6:30 p.m.  
Lower Auditorium  
Led by Dr. Chisholm



• **Church-wide Wedding Shower**  
for **James Bigler & Anystin Good**  
**Sunday, November 3**  
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Family Life Center, Hearth Room  
Registered at Target, Walmart & Amazon

### • Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Thursdays**  
5:30 p.m.  
Family Life Center



### • Women's Ministry Candy/Cookie Making

**Saturday, November 9**  
10:00 a.m.  
Family Life Center, Gym

### • Combined Worship Service

**Sunday, November 17**  
8:30 a.m.  
Family Life Center  
Baby Dedication

### • Deacons Meeting

**Sunday, November 17**  
10:40 a.m.  
Lower Auditorium

### • Business Meeting

**Wednesday, November 20**  
6:30 p.m.  
Family Life Center (Level 2)

### • Thanksgiving Food Box Assembly

**Wednesday, November 20**  
6:30 p.m.  
Family Life Center Gym  
Adults, Youth and Children help to assemble the Holiday Food Boxes for the Christian Service Center.

### • Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

There will be no Wednesday activities on **November 27**. The Church Office, Family Life Center & WEE Ministry will be closed on **November 28 & 29**.

### • Advent Book

Our theme this year is, "Make My Life a Bethlehem". Articles may include Christmas photos or drawings. If you would like to sign up to write a devotion, please contact Katrina in the Church Office. Devotions due 11/4.

## FRIENDLY FIGURES

### • Sept. Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 72,092
2019 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 15,161
2019 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 16,339
Budget Expense	\$ 81,502
Sept. Deficit/Income	(\$ 9,410)
2019 Deficit/Income	(\$30,153)
TOTAL Sept. 30	(\$39,563)

### BUSINESS MEETING

The September Minutes and Financials were approved. The Missions Goal for Lottie Moon and Global Missions was set at \$8,000 combined. Central Park, Church Office and Garden updates will be made. Copeland Brothers will be adding electrical outlets and will run wiring for new light fixtures and a ceiling fan. Renee Jones' letter was granted to Second Baptist Church.

### CHRISTMAS GATHERINGS

Please contact the church office with the date, time and location, of your class Christmas Gathering so that it can be included in the Advent Devotion Book.

### Homeless-a-thon

*Together we make a difference for those in need.*



#### Who is homeless in Anderson County?

Children, youth, elderly, disabled, single women (& pregnant women), single men, families, veterans, & people working full-time jobs. Homeless women outnumber homeless men (2018: 141 men & 199 women).

#### What causes them to be homeless?

Lack of resources & lack of a support system. Many people live paycheck-to-paycheck with inadequate safety nets & get behind on bills when they (or someone in the family) experience job loss, medical bills, loss of transportation, residential fire, death in the family, or injury, illness, or disability (physical or mental) that makes them unable to work for a period of time. Many of us have family & friends to turn to in difficult times, but some do not.

**WHAT:** A homeless-a-thon is an event where participants get sponsorships, usually hourly, to sleep outside in makeshift shelters (similar to the well-known nationwide program "Sleep Out").

**WHY:** The goals of this event are to raise awareness & education in our community, empathy & compassion among participants, and funds for the cause of homelessness in Anderson County.

**WHEN:** Friday night, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

**WHERE:** The host site is the parking lot of First Baptist Church of Clinton (also the financial sponsor of the event).

**WHO:** church youth groups, sports teams, clubs or civic groups, and non-profit agencies can all register teams for the event.

THE FRIENDLY GUIDE • PO BOX 268 • CLINTON, TN • (865) 457-9353

POSTMASTER: Please send change of address notices to The Friendly Guide PO Box 268, Clinton, TN 37717. Friendly Guide (USPS 210-520) published monthly by First Baptist Church, 225 North Main Street, Clinton, TN 37716. Periodical postage paid at Clinton, TN



~ NOVEMBER 2019 ~

### COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

**Sunday, November 17 @ 8:30 a.m.**  
Family Life Center  
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.  
(No 10:40 Service)

### THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS

#### FOOD BOX ASSEMBLY

**Wednesday, November 20 @ 6:30 p.m.**  
Family Life Center

### THANKSGIVING FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION

**Monday, November 25 @ 10:00 a.m.**

Give Thanks

