

FIRST THOUGHTS

Henry David Thoreau once wrote: "I make myself rich by making my wants few."

These words written so long ago are an apt description of how to find happiness and contentment these days. We continue to navigate these COVID-19 days with a degree of uncertainty, doing our best to stay informed and take practical steps to help avert the spread of the virus. Churches, schools, and businesses are all forced with difficult decisions relating to the pandemic.

Now I'm hearing about a Sahara dust cloud heading toward the United States. Nicknamed "Godzilla" for its unusually large size, the dust cloud began to emerge off western Africa. It has now traveled over 4,000 miles from the Atlantic Ocean to the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico; we should be experiencing this phenomenon soon.

I'm resisting the urge to say, "What else could happen?" This year hasn't turned out to be anything like any of us could have imagined.

I think it's safe to say that we are being tested as a people. Some of you on a personal level, others of you with your families, are dealing with some tough choices. And, it hasn't been made easier by the limitations that have been placed upon us relating to our gathering together as a church family.

It has been said that "we may be through with the virus, but the virus isn't through with us." With this in mind, our church staff has been seeking to lead us effectively and well through these frustrating times. Our desire has been to monitor changes and challenges related to the virus, seeking to be intentional about phasing in different activities along with way.

As you know, our church resumed in person worship services on June 7th. Obviously, our attendance hasn't been close to what we'd consider normative for this time of year. But, I am grateful for those who are with us in the building AND those who participate through our online media platforms. It's important to be where you need to be during these days—just know that I miss seeing all of you!

I did want you to be aware that there will be a large group Sunday School class meeting at 9:30 am in the Family Life Center beginning July 12th. Lori Chisholm will be teaching a three Sunday series on "Faith over Fear" and I encourage you to participate.

Finally, please know of my sincere gratitude for your prayers and support related to the death of my mother. She lived to be 89 years old, yet her death was still a shock to us. She lived in a state of readiness to meet her Lord and now her faith has become sight. Lori, Cally, Lucy, Matt, and I are grateful for all the expressions of love and kindness; we are grateful to be part of your lives and have you in ours.

Let's work on making our "wants" fewer and learning to find contentment in Jesus Christ alone. I'll see you soon (in person or online)!

Your Pastor and Friend,
Danny

YOUTH



• Youth Zoom Meetings Wednesdays

12:30 p.m.
Jason sends out zoom meeting information weekly.



• Youth Block Party

Grades 6-12
Wednesday, July 8
6:00 p.m.
Church Parking Lot



ATTENTION PARENTS:

We will not have Busy Bags available for the services until further notice.

There will be no nursery during worship services. Families are encouraged to sit together.

RENEW RECOVERY

Tuesdays
6:00 p.m.
Facebook Live on ReNew Recovery of Clinton Page



Large Group Sunday School Class

July 12, 19, 26
9:30 a.m.

In the Family Life Center Gym
Led by Lori Chisholm
No Childcare available.
Masks encouraged.
Families, please sit together.

"What are you afraid of? Fear can wreck havoc in our lives. It can be the source of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual pain that shortens our lives and robs us of joy. We have a Savior who is greater than our fears. The topic that Jesus most often addressed with a directive was encouraging us to fear not or take courage.

This study will challenge us to cast off the shackles of fear, to take hold of our faith and to step into God's calling for each part of our lives. Doing so will create kingdom impact and encourage fellow Christians."

Guidelines for Re-Gathering approved by the Church Council:

We will resume the two worship services schedule on June 7th (8:30/10:40 am) but will have no combined worship services for June and July. There will be no childcare provided during worship services; families are encouraged to sit together.

Social distancing will be encouraged. The wearing of facial coverings (masks) will be encouraged but not required. Persons who have pre-existing health issues as well as those who may be uncomfortable returning to in person worship are encouraged to remain home at this time.

We encourage those who are uncomfortable returning to in person worship at this time to participate via our online platforms. Those who are sick or have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus are also urged to remain at home.

The worship services will be livestreamed via social media platforms.

We are making modifications to our worship services to minimize physical contact. For example, there will be no "passing of the offering plates" or "the meet and greet" time during the worship service.

There will be no small group Sunday School (on campus) at this time. Groups may continue to meet online in virtual platforms.

Wednesday Night Adult Bible study (prayer meeting) will continue in a virtual format.

If a member or attendee tests positive for COVID-19, we will seek CDC guidelines and local health department recommendations to determine whether our church should cease in-person gatherings, close for additional cleaning, or otherwise change our protocols.

2020 DEACONS

New Deacons serving a three year term, ending March 31, 2023 (unless otherwise noted), effective immediately.

Greg Fay (4/1/21)	*Mike Hammons	Steve Page (4/1/22)
Larry Gann	Mary Magill	*Jill Whitaker
James Garrett	Tom Marshall	Sam Zachary
*Jim Hamby	Scott Page	

***to be ordained**

Other Deacons currently serving: Mark Alderson, Kevin Bowling, Jonathan Childers, Greg Cooper, Rusty Fritts, Beth Green, Alan Neal, Wimp Shoopman, John Stair, Todd Temple, Johnafred Thomas, Jeremy Webb, Garry Whitley, Jr., Garry Whitley, Sr., Gene Widener, Billy Zody

JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 1
Chona Meredith
James Cantrell
Isaac Childers
Betty Smith
Katherine Thomas

July 3
Johnathan
Alderson
Paul Oglesby

July 4
Linda Severs
Luke Severs
Beth White

July 5
Lee Daugherty
Karen Hurley

July 6
Sophia Whitaker

July 7
Rylan Boshears
Kacy Robinson
Karl Thatcher
Corey Zachary

July 8
Gary Parks

July 9
Scott Bailey
Jeannie Garrett

July 10
Brooke Bailey

July 11
Onah Fox
David Robinson

July 12
Lillian House
Gale Jones
Liz Lee
James Meredith
Erin Webster

July 13
Cindy Koelsch
Elaine McKinney

July 14
Charles Abner
Lane Carmichael
JoEllen Meredith
Steve Pyatt
Karan Stovall

July 15
Lindsay Bowling

July 16
Carl Elliott
Johanna Whitley

July 17
Karen Cooper

July 18
Morgan Holbrook
Taylor Singleton

July 19
Travis Smith
Jo Suggs

July 20
Bob Arowood
Matt Neal
Teresa Parks
Bobby Wesson

July 21
Lynn Neal
Abram Temple

July 23
Gordon Cagle
Roger Robinson

July 24
Britt Manning
Randy Yates

July 25
James Antrican
Jordon Clemons

July 27
Tammy Thatcher

July 29
Ben Neal

July 30
Rusty Fritts
Katherine Long

July 31
Jim Hamby

NEW MEMBER



Kim Meredith

A SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

Pastor Danny will be preaching from the Psalms on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center, 10:40 a.m. in the Sanctuary AND ONLINE via the Church YouTube and social media platforms! We hope you will join us in person or online!

PRAYER SERVICE & BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Facebook Live Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Study on the *Parables of Luke* Led by Dr. Chisholm

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Wednesdays 7:15 p.m. In the Sanctuary

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar Sunday, July 5 are in loving memory of **Joe Magill's** birthday, which was July 3, given by his wife, Mary.

The flowers on the altar Sunday, July 12 are in loving memory of **R.L. and Wilma Daugherty's** Wedding Anniversary which was July 16, given by Terri and Stuart Brabston and family.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Pastor Danny, Lori, Cally, Lucy, and Matt in the passing of Danny's mother, **Dorothy Chisholm**, (6/18).

FRIENDLY FIGURES

• **May Financial Summary**
Budget Receipts \$ 78,422
2020 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$ 17,388
2020 Weekly Budget Req. \$ 17,284
Budget Expense \$ 65,809
May Deficit/Income \$ 12,613
2020 Deficit/Income \$ 7,701
TOTAL May 31 \$ 20,314

Please remember that our missing Sundays due to the COVID-19 virus will put additional strain on the church's finances. You may give online via church website or direct mail (P.O. Box 268 Clinton 37717) during this time. For questions or other options call the church office 457-9353.

DRIVE-THUR GIVING

There will be a drive-thru giving opportunity the **fourth Thursday** of each month from **1-2 p.m.** and **6-7 p.m.** until further notice.

BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, July 15
6:30 p.m.
In the Sanctuary

JUNE BUSINESS MEETING REPORT

The April and May Financials and February and May Minutes were approved. There will be a drive-thru giving opportunity every 4th Thursday, monthly, until further notice. New deacons were approved (see inside F.G. for list of new and current deacons). New A/V equipment was approved. It was approved to defer committees out 1 month (September) due to pandemic. Jenks Bostic resigned from Finance Committee. Activities and Nominating Committees will have 5 members instead of 7. There was a report from WEE Ministry. The Church Clerk added the following names to the church roll: Lesley Swann, Darla Bayless, Kim Meredith, Jacob Floyd, Parker Ford.

The Church Office, FLC, & WEE Ministry will be closed on Friday, July 3 for Independence Day Weekend.

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.



~ JULY 2020 ~



First Baptist Church is collecting supplies for the **Teacher Supply Depot** presented by the Education Foundation that supports Clinton City and Anderson County Schools. Items can be dropped off in the Garden Room (Level 2) through July 31st.

SUGGESTED ITEMS:

Binder Clips, Binders 1" & 2" (White, Blue or Black), Card Stock Paper, Colored Pencils, Construction Paper, Copy Paper White, Crayons, Erasers, Erasers for Dry Erase Boards, Expo Dry Erase Markers, Glue Sticks, Glue Bottles, Hand Sanitizer, Highlighters, Kleenex/Tissues, Labels, Manila Folders, Manila Paper, Notebook Dividers, Wide Ruled Notebook Paper, Paint, Paper Clips, Pencil Top Erasers, Pencils, Post-it Note Pads, Poster Board, Push Pins/Tacks, Rubber Bands, Scissors, Sharpies, Staples & Staplers, Tape, Tape Dispensers, Washable Markers.



Wednesday, July 8
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Family Life Center
Masks required.
Contact Medic for reservations.
Drop-ins are also welcome.



Mammography Unit
Wednesday, July 15
First Baptist Church Parking Lot
Appointment required.