

## First Thoughts

Alex Trebek, the longtime host of the popular game show *Jeopardy!* died of pancreatic cancer. He was 80 years old.

In his memoir, "And the answer is. . . reflections on my life" Trebek offers the following advice: "Stop worrying about the future. Just treat every day as a blessing and try to be aware when you leave this earth you made a difference in the lives of other people."

Nothing has happened this year in the way we could have imagined. The year 2020 was supposed to be for "renewed vision" (20/20, right?) and optimism. Yet, the pandemic ushered in a time of uncertainty, frustration, and disruption of our routines and livelihoods.

That sentiment is reflected in the theme of our Advent Devotional Guide: "An Unexpected Christmas." I appreciate so many of you who offered devotionals and artwork for us to enjoy, and encourage all of us to read through this together.

December seems a good time to reflect upon what has occurred these last number of months. And, even though we anticipate the beginning of a new year, the same challenges related to COVID-19 remain. I've been encouraged by news of a vaccine to be made public soon, but this won't get to us for several months yet to come.

The presidential election is over. You can go to the church blog on our website and find some thoughts I've offered about the result and its aftermath. In short, we are urged to pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2.1-3). I prayed for President Trump while he was in office, and plan to do the same for President-Elect Biden. I ask you to do the same.

For those who faithfully tithe and give your offerings to the church, I am truly grateful for your financial support. We've learned how to use the giving tab on the website, mail in our contributions, use bank drafts, drop offerings off at the building and use the offering box in our worship spaces. Your faithfulness is inspiring.

The pandemic, an election, plus numerous personal challenges have all been part of 2020. We've also recognized the importance and value of family and our church family; I hope we never again take these relationships for granted.

Let's slow down and embrace the season of Advent. It's a time of waiting and preparation as we celebrate the birth of our Savior once again. I look forward to sharing in the upcoming worship experiences, and hope you'll take part in them either in person or online over the next several weeks. Take care, and I'll see you soon.

Pastor Danny



We are entering the month of December and will revisit familiar themes and scriptures. Pastor Danny will be preaching from the passages listed below on several Sundays this month. We will also hear from other voices who will help us prepare for the arrival of the Christ child. Make plans to be part of worship (in person or online)!

November 29	(Hope)	Mark 1.1-8
December 6	(Peace)	Luke 1.26-38
December 13	(Joy)	Jason Taylor preaching
December 20	(Love)	Matthew 1.18-25 (early service)
Adult Choir Christmas Program (traditional service)		

**Early Voting  
2021 Budget Vote**  
Friday, December 4  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
and 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Drive-thru in Church Parking Lot

**2021 Budget Vote**  
Sunday, December 6  
8:30 a.m. and 10:40 a.m.



**Children's Program**  
Sunday, December 13  
6:00 p.m.  
In the Sanctuary



**Adult Christmas Program**  
Sunday, December 20  
10:40 a.m.  
In the Sanctuary



**Monday, December 21**  
6:00 p.m.  
In the Sanctuary

## FBC Angel Tree

Visit the Angel Tree in the Garden Room (Level 2 Main Church Building).

Please have gifts at the church by **Monday, December 7.**

If you aren't able to shop at this time, monetary gifts are greatly appreciated and we will do the shopping for you!



## FBC Missions

### Gifts for our Shut-ins and Friends at the Towers

We need lots of help!!! Go to [www.fbclinton.org/care-packages](http://www.fbclinton.org/care-packages) to craft a personal touch for our shut-ins: color bookmarks, decorate cards, create origami or a meaningful crochet chain from instructional videos! Drop off travel size lotion, travel sized Kleenex packets, and 12 pack colored pencils (\$1.00) in the Garden Room! Crafts & donations **due December 6.** Help also needed assembling bags, socially distanced!

### Christian Service Center Christmas Food Box Distribution

**Monday, December 21**

Drive-thru Church Parking Lot

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Clinton residents with a 37716 zip code will be served and beginning at 12:00 p.m. all persons will be served. **REQUIRED:** Phot ID and either a CSC Punch Card or Piece of Mail with Current Address.

## December Birthdays

**12/1**  
Iris Greene  
Betty Hagans  
**12/2**  
Ambre Belcher  
Judy McKenney  
Frances Neisser  
**12/3**  
Anthony Hinkle  
Lauren Neal  
**12/4**  
Brant Henderson  
Julian Morrison  
Sharon Widener  
**12/5**  
Michael Buckner  
William Zody  
**12/7**  
Lisa Davis  
Tyler Davis  
Mackenzie Earle  
**12/8**  
Carolyn Cook  
Tom Lee  
Piper Neal  
**12/9**  
Ward Bigler  
Jo Anne Swann  
**12/10**  
Amanda Borum  
Emma Fila  
**12/11**  
Roxie Bowles  
Austin Saltkill  
John Stair, Sr.  
Doug Williams  
**12/13**  
Robyn Singleton  
Chloe Ann Ward

**12/15**  
Leah Barber  
Ronnie Phillips  
**12/16**  
Kaelyn Bowling  
Teresa Schlandt  
**12/17**  
Cheryl Broome  
Irene Fox  
Patty Hylton  
**12/18**  
Betty Darnell  
Jane Williams  
**12/19**  
Jack Hutchins  
Stephen Reynolds  
David Zachary  
**12/21**  
Tim Williams  
**12/23**  
Greg Cooper  
**12/25**  
Keith Herbst  
**12/27**  
Lyndsey Denton  
**12/29**  
Sue Brummett  
Lucy Chisholm  
Tommy Howell  
**12/30**  
Elizabeth Manley  
Catherine  
Meredith  
Johnny Thomason  
**12/31**  
Nicholas  
Daugherty  
Jo Elliott  
Alex Saltkill

**Lottie Moon and  
Global Missions**  
FBC Offering Goal:  
**\$8,000**

**Christmas Memorials - Poinsettias \$10/Wreaths \$25**  
Memorial for: \_\_\_\_\_  
Given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Given: \_\_\_\_\_



**Wednesday, December 16**  
6:00 p.m.  
In the Youth Room  
White Elephant gift exchange.



**FBC Kids Christmas Party**  
Wednesday, December 16  
5:30 p.m.

## Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary on December 20 are in loving memory of **Mary McClanahan's** birthday, which was December 19, given by Gene McClanahan and Family.

## Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Tim Beatty, whose mother, **Betty Beatty**, passed away 10/23, to James Miller, whose wife, **Bonnie Miller**, passed away 10/23, to Terry Thoma, whose son, **Aaron Thoma** passed away 11/5, and to the family of **Dot Rutherford** 11/12.

## Renew Recovery

**Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.**  
FBC Level 1

## Prayer & Bible Study

**Study: "Joseph: A Man of Integrity and Forgiveness"**  
Led by Pastor Danny  
**Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.**  
In the Sanctuary and Online  
*(Business Meeting is the 3rd Wed., Monthly)*

## Youth Refuge

Grades 6 - 12  
**Wednesdays (No Youth Dec. 2)**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
Youth Dinner **6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

## Friendly Figures

### October Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 71,717
2020 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 16,831
2020 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 17,284
Budget Expense	\$ 69,868
October Deficit/Income	\$ 1,849
2020 Deficit/Income	\$ 28,789
TOTAL October 31	\$ 30,638

Thank you for your generous support of our church during this pandemic. You may continue to give online via the church website, by direct mail (P.O. Box 268, Clinton 37717) or by giving in person in the boxes provided. For questions, call the church office 457-9353.

## Business Meeting Report

The October Financials and Minutes were approved. The resignations of Christina McNally from the Hostess Committee and Dot Howell as Church Clerk were approved. Lauren Neal was added to the Children's Committee, Ashley Neal was added to the Hostess Committee and Becky Rosenbaum was appointed Church Clerk. Staff Christmas Bonuses were approved. The 2021 Budget was discussed. *Next Business Meeting is December 16.*



Age 3 - Grade 5  
**Wednesdays**  
**6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.**  
Kids Dinner **5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.**  
**\*\*FBC Kids Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal will be Saturday, December 12, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pizza will be served following\*\***



**FBC Kids Christmas Party**  
Wednesday, December 16  
5:30 p.m.

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CLINTON, TENNESSEE

## Silent Night

Children's Christmas Program  
**Sunday, December 13**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
In the Sanctuary

## A Child Is Born

Adult Choir Christmas Program  
Words and Music By John Purifoy  
**Sunday, December 20**  
**10:40 a.m.**  
In the Sanctuary and Online

## Longest Night Service

**Monday, December 21**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
In the Sanctuary

## Christmas Eve Service

**Thursday, December 24**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
In the Sanctuary and Online

## Christmas Schedule

The Church Office and FLC will be closed December 24, 25, 28, and January 1. The WEE Ministry will be closed on December 24, 25, and January 1. There will be no Bible Study, Youth Refuge or FBC Kids on Wednesday, December 23 or December 30. Bible Study, Youth and Kids will resume activities on January 13.

## Large Group Sunday School

**Sundays, 9:30 a.m.**  
Family Life Center, Gym  
Led by Mike Aiken

## Join us for Worship in-person or online!

Sunday Services:  
8:30 a.m. FLC  
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

## FLC Schedule

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**  
9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.  
and 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday and Friday**  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. only