Friendly GUIDE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The word "January" comes from Roman mythology. The god "Janus" had two faces--one face looked ahead and the other face looked behind him. For this reason, January is called a "two-faced month." It's a time for transitions and beginnings.

Everyone (and I mean everyone) that I've spoken with has told me how much they are looking forward to a new year with renewed hopes for better things ahead. Considering what happened in 2020, it might be wise to be modest in our expectations. At this point last year, no one could have possibly known that a pandemic would soon be on the horizon or that the term "social distancing" would become part of our lexicon.

Just because we've turned the calendar page doesn't mean things are automatically getting better. But, there's good news about a vaccine in 2021. It will take months for distribution to occur so let's persevere during the meantime and remember medical personnel who are on the front lines of the fight against the virus.

Thanks so much for your financial support this past year. You've put contributions in offering boxes on Sunday mornings, via our church website giving option, bank drafts, by mailing them in, and by dropping them by the office during the week. Your faithfulness has been inspiring! Let's remain vigilant in this area and start a new year in sound fiscal position.

I've said before and do so again, "be where you need to be" in regard to your physical presence on campus. Some participate in Bible study and worship in person while others maintain connection through our online media platforms. This is definitely a time where grace must abound as each one of us determines how best to respond to the pandemic.

On a related note, I appreciate those of you who have continued to volunteer your time between Sundays. The Christian Service Center is open each week and also showed great creativity in providing the annual Turkey Time event (and its December counterpart). Angel Tree gifts were delivered to needy families. The Prayer Shawl team has remained active and Deacons delivered gifts to senior adults. These are only a few of the ways you all have touched our community and church family these last several months.

Keep praying for your church staff. They are steady and creative in their ministries given the challenges of the pandemic. Just know that we care deeply about our people and believe that the Lord can use these days to make us stronger and closer as a church family. We are learning what kind of neighbors we are to one another. We will have stories to tell of God's faithfulness.

It's a privilege to begin 2021 as your pastor. You all have encouraged me and my family during our ongoing transition to life in East Tennessee. The pandemic has hindered and complicated my being able to get to know some of you, so I ask for patience and grace in that process.

Remember the words of the Apostle Paul: "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Romans 12.12 NIV).

Stay encouraged.

Christmas Memorials

Poinsettias in memory of:

Louise Egner

Given by: Dinah Gray

Louise Egner

Given by Ed & Karen Smith

Donald & Bonnie Page

Given by: Carolyn & Steve Page

Georgia Kay RobinsonGiven by: Betsy Robinson

Mark Alderson, Bill Bivens, Faye &

Virgil Callaway, H.E. & Ruby Rosenbaum

Given by: Eddie & Becky Rosenbaum

Monnie Champion Rov Darnell

Given by: Betty & Jana Darnell

R.C. Fox and Gary Fox

Given by: Maud Fox, Martha Gallman & Laura Roberts

Richard Buckner & Rich Buckner Given by: Buckner Family

Deacon Nominations

If you wish to have your name removed or added to the Deacon Eligibility List, please contact the church office as soon as possible.



2021 Offering Envelopes

Wreaths in memory of:

Given by Merelyn Young & Steve

Clifton & Maude Sweet

Given by: Rema & Family

Tom & Carmetia Alderson

Given by: Mark, Kandi, Katie,

Given by: Stephen & Felecia

Given by: Jack & Cindy Koelsch

Given by: Marty & Phil Harber

By Zora, Beth Anne, Susan & Bill

Homer & Bessie Wallace

Given by: Dorothy Howell

Given by: Dinah Gray

& Carolyn Page

Kyle Shepherd

Johnathan & Abby

Larry & Louise Egner

Hazel & Glen Harber

Martha Jameson

Reynolds

Bill Bivens

Bill Howell

Charles Gray

O.L. Dabney

Please pick up your 2021 Offering Envelopes in the Garden Room If you need assistance, please contact the church office.

Silent Night

The Birth of a Carol

was presented by FBC Kids Sunday, December 13

Directed by Whitney Denton and Beth White

Missions 2020 Christmas Report

110 Care Packages were given to teachers and staff at all three Clinton City Schools as well as Central Office. FBC also made a \$500.00 donation to the **Senior Center** toward support of their 350 care packages for low-income seniors in AC. Additionally, we provided tents and sleeping bags to TORCH. The funds for these gifts were from our Community Support Missions Funds.

240 Care Packages were distributed. 81 of those for our shut-ins and 159 for the Towers.

550 Hospitality Bags were distributed to those waiting for their CSC Thanksgiving/Christmas Food Baskets.

275 for Thanksgiving 275 for Christmas

2020 Angel Tree Report

73 served 67 Children

6 Moms

These individuals came from Clinton City Schools, Clinton Head Start, call ins, and MIST which is a ministry at Ridgeview in Oak Ridge. This year was (AGAIN) a much different year, and we expected it to be. We had families, individuals and some Sunday School classes sign up to shop. Again, we are always touched to see the heart our church has for families in need.

Thank you to all those who sponsored a child or gave monetary gifts to help us shop for those without a sponsor. Special thanks to Beth Green, Sondra Davis, Laura Bowles and KK Webster.

20 Memory Boxes were prepared for the Waters of Clinton.

Christian Service Center

Second Harvest Food Bank donated 2100 lbs of food to the Christian Service Center on December 9, 2020.

The Christian Service Center distributed all **240 Thanksgiving food** baskets and all **210 Christmas food baskets**.

2021 Budget

The 2021 Budget was approved in a special called Business Meeting on December 6. Voting was also done at a drive-thru December 4. The results were 93 Yes and 5 No.

January Birthdays

1/15

12/16

1/18

1/19

1/20

1/21

1/22

1/23

1/24

1/25

1/26

1/28

1/29

1/30

1/31

Dennie

Patsy Rollow

Mary Webber

Mark Halcomb

Michael Hutchins

Pam Hamby

Worthington

Sam Zachary

Jean Webster

Morgan Smith

Gracie Barreira

Steve Heatherly

Amanda Taylor

Gene Widener

Patricia Baird

Jessica Cooper

Arianna Śmith

Neyland Bray

Caleb Clement

Bonnie West

Donna Cloyd

Gary Cooper

Jessica Zody

Karen Arowood

Jacob Floyd

Steve Loy

Phil Harber

1/1 Darla Fritts 1/2 Jean Gann Jack Williams 1/3 Kevin Heaton Bill Pace Rosie Schlandt 1/4 Steve Page 1/5 Eric Champion 1/6 James Cardwell Amy Lyda Catherine Rutherford Ronnie Webber 1/8 Elaine Carmichael Brenda McRae Jeff Stovall 1/9 Savannah Cooper Allen Hess 1/10 **Grant Bailey** Beth Green Carol Jones Corbin Robinson 1/11 Felecia Reynolds 1/12 **Grace Long** 1/13 Stefanie Holbrook Dean Knight Tara Zody 1/14 Brenna Copeland Joe Hollingsworth, Jr.

Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary on January 17 are in loving memory of Monnie Champion's birthday, which was January 15, given by Jackie, Elyssa, and Eric Champion and Erin Lambert.

The flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday, January 24, are in loving memory of Homer H. Wallace, whose date of birth was January 27, given by Dorothy Howell.

Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family of Mark Alderson (11/23), to the Tommy Meredith family of Lester Fox (11/25) to the family of Louise Egner (11/30) to Onah Fox, whose husband Fred Fox, passed away (12/18) to John Stair and Gwenda Ford, whose mother, Patsy Stair Lomeli, passed away (12/20) and to the family of William Donovan (12/23).

It's a Boy!



Congratulations to Parker and Courtney Fritts Ford on the birth of a baby boy, Hudson Carr Ford, who was born, Saturday, November 28.

Also, congratulations to proud grandparents, Rusty and Darla Fritts and great grandparents, Billy and Bonnie West.

New Wednesday Bible Study **Questions Jesus Asked**

Wednesday, January 27

6:00 p.m.

Online Only

November Financial Summary Budget Receipts \$ 66,313 \$ 16,459 2020 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$ 17,284 2020 Weekly Budget Req. **Budget Expense** \$ 66,205 \$ 108 November Deficit/Income 2020 Deficit/Income \$30.638 \$30,746 **TOTAL November 30**

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 November Financials and Minutes were approved. It was approved to upgrade the filters in the HVAC system. Jimmy Gillespie will be painting in the FLC. The following names were removed from the church roll: Roger & Cathy Robinson, Sweetwater First Baptist Church, Ken & Jo Bowlin, Sweetwater First Baptist Church, Stephen & Christina McNally, Second Baptist Church Next Business Meeting is January 20.



Schedule to be announced.



Schedule to be announced.

Renew Recovery Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for Worship Online Only January 10 & 17 10:00 a.m.

Deacons Meeting

Deacons will not meet in January. The next meeting will be in February. Date to be announced.

FIC 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



~ JANUARY 2021 ~



Our church will continue to meet online only at 10:00 a.m. for the next two Sundays: January 10th and 17th. Wednesday night activities including youth, children, adult Bible study, and adult choir rehearsal will not meet at this time. This decision is in support of Governor Lee's mandate limiting the number of people for indoor gatherings. Even though churches are exempt from this mandate, our church is part of the broader community and can offer support to this urgent request. You will be informed of any additional changes to our gathering schedule as needed.

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

CBF Global Missions: \$3,345 SBC Lottie Moon: \$3,550

Total Received to Date: \$6,895

Friendly Figures