

## First Thoughts

In a recent devotional reading from *Streams in the Desert*, I read about Jesus' "withdrawing to a solitary place" (Matthew 14.13) and the importance of boundaries. The author offered these words:

"There is no music during a musical rest, but the rest is part of the making of the music. In the melody of life, the music is separated here and there by rests. During those rests, we foolishly believe we have come to the end of the song. God sends us times of forced leisure by allowing sickness, disappointed plans, and frustrated efforts. He brings a sudden pause in the choral hymn of our lives, and we lament that our voices must be silent."

The author concludes in this way, "God does not write the music of our lives without a plan. Our part is to learn the tune and not be discouraged during the rests."

The calendar shows that it's 2021, yet that doesn't mean that the pandemic has suddenly disappeared. Schools, businesses, families, and yes, churches, are seeking ways to deal with this unpleasant reality. When it comes to the COVID-19 virus, our nation is not of one mind in how to deal with it.

Many of us (including myself) are wrestling with COVID fatigue. This is a new phrase for the moment—meaning essentially that we are tired of social distancing, canceled or modified activities, and ongoing efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus. In short, we want this to be over!

Unfortunately, it's not over. We are going to have to deal with this virus and its effects for months yet to come. Like you, I am eager and hopeful for a vaccine. Until that time, it's imperative that we slow down rather than try to force through this unpleasant season.

Even though this may be an uncomfortable time, it is also the only time we have to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. I believe the Lord has purpose in this situation and if we are sensitive to it then it can be a source of growth for us. Remember this: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of various kinds, because you know the testing of your faith produces perseverance" (James 1.2).

We are in a period of "forced leisure" right now. Let's be patient with each other and may graciousness abound.

I appreciate your faithfulness in your prayers and financial support; I also am grateful for those who have been able to attend in person worship during these days. If you are unable, unsure, or sick, please continue to participate online.

Pastor Danny

## February Sermon Series: Life in the Fellowship

**Sundays beginning February 7  
at 8:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center  
and 10:40 a.m. in the Sanctuary**  
In-person and online

Pastor Danny will be preaching a series of messages from Hebrews and I John which relate to our shared life in Christ. We will revisit the importance of loving Christ and how that is reflected through our actions and affections. The pandemic has hindered our being together, yet it's important to recognize that each of us is part of a church family and we need each other.



## QUESTIONS JESUS ASKED

**New Wednesday Bible Study  
begins February 3 at 6:00 p.m.  
In the Sanctuary**

Jesus was the master story teller and one of his favorite teaching methods included asking questions. In this new study, "Questions Jesus Asked", we will look deeper into these questions and see how our responding to them can help us in our relationship with Christ.

## 2021 Offering Envelopes

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

## Congratulations FBC!

We have exceeded our \$8,000 Missions Goal for Lottie Moon and Global Missions!

CBF Global Missions: \$3,755

SBC Lottie Moon: \$4,250

**Total Received to Date: \$8,005**



## 5 Year Staff Anniversary Recognition



Rev. Amanda Taylor is celebrating her 5 years of service at First Baptist Church. Amanda serves as Minister of Missions and Director of Creative Arts Ministry. We are thankful to have Amanda as part of our church staff and for her service here at FBC and in the community. Please take time to say thank you and congratulations to Amanda.

## February Birthdays

<b>2/1</b> Tim Borum Darla Hutchins Julie Saterfield	<b>2/16</b> Billie Loveday
<b>2/2</b> Tucker Borum Jane Halcomb Holly Webb	<b>2/17</b> Kandi Alderson Sandra Harber Gailon Jeffers
<b>2/3</b> Kathy Shoopman Jim Webster	<b>2/18</b> Susan Antrican Megan Jenkins Joshua Reynolds
<b>2/5</b> Vivian Schlandt	<b>2/21</b> Rema Dabney
<b>2/9</b> Avery Hubbard	<b>2/22</b> Dinah Gray Emily Noss
<b>2/10</b> Jason Bowles Steve Lynch	<b>2/24</b> Maddox Wallace Samuel Bowling
<b>2/11</b> William Zacchi	<b>2/25</b> Kelli Shoopman
<b>2/12</b> Regina Loy Aryanna Stovall Rosa Trivette	<b>2/27</b> Kenzlee Hutchison Jessica Lawson Meredith Schlandt
<b>2/13</b> Sue Hill	<b>2/28</b> McCarter
<b>2/15</b> Marlee Holbrook Kay Hannah Aubree Franklin	<b>2/29</b> Christie Williams Billy West

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship Applications will be available in the church office, beginning in **March** and are due to the church office by **Monday, April 26.**

### *Ervin and Freddie Queener Scholarship*

This scholarship is available to any student from First Baptist who is enrolled in and has a chosen field of study in a 4 year college or university. This scholarship can be applied for all four years of college enrollment.

### *James and Imogene Cheely Memorial Seminary Scholarship*

This scholarship is designed to further the seminary education of Christian students, with similar values, attending a moderate Christian seminary and called to church or missions work. The scholarship can be applied for each year they are enrolled in the seminary.

### *Judy Parish Turner Music Scholarship*

This scholarship is for students attending a 4 year college or university enrolled in a music curriculum and/or to pay for private music lessons. It can be applied for all four years of students college enrollment.

## Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary **Sunday, February 10** are in loving memory of **Herbert Ward**, given by Chloe Ann and family.

## Deacons Meeting

**Tuesday, February 9**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
Sanctuary



Youth Grades 6 - 12  
**Wednesdays**  
**Resuming February 3**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
(Dinner is available 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in the youth room)



Age 3 - Grade 5  
**Wednesdays**  
**Resuming February 3**  
**6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.**  
(Dinner is available 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. in the classroom)

## Friendly Figures

### December Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 79,499
2020 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 16,722
2020 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 17,284
Budget Expense	\$ 78,179
Dec. Deficit/Income	\$ 1,320
2020 Deficit/Income	\$ 30,746
TOTAL December 31	\$ 32,066

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 December Financials and Minutes were approved. The housing allowance for Dr. Danny Chisholm and Jason Taylor was approved.

## Business Meeting

**Wednesday, February 24**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Please note date change due to Ash Wednesday Service on February 17.

## ReNew Recovery

**Tuesdays**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
Online Only



Sharing what God is doing in our lives is important for the edification and training of the church body, but also for practicing ones own ability to see Him. If you have a specific story of how you saw or felt God working during an FBC Clinton mission or ministry opportunity, please write, type, concisely record (1-2 minutes of video or audio), or verbally share your story with Amanda. Help us collect these stories to share in the future (for more information, check out fbclinton.org (church blog) or our Facebook page). Approach mission opportunities with hearts of expectation—looking for Divine appointments and Divine encounters!

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



~ FEBRUARY 2021 ~



## SUNDAY SERVICES

**In-person and Online**

**8:30 a.m. Family Life Center and 10:40 a.m. Sanctuary**

**Sunday School resumes February 7**

**9:30 a.m.**

Some adult classes are not meeting in-person at this time, please check with your teacher.

## WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

**Resume February 3**

**Adult Bible Study 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Youth Refuge 6:30 p.m.**

**\*\*If there are changes to the schedule we will keep you informed.**