

First Thoughts

“Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!”

Spring has sprung and we are adjusting to the additional hour of daylight each day. There are signs of the changing of the seasons with flowers in bloom and grass beginning to grow again (I just mowed mine for the first time in a long time).

The pandemic is still with us, and it’s still important for each of us to help mitigate the spread of the virus. For me, that means getting the vaccine. I received my first dose a few weeks ago and will get the second one this month.

I remember vividly the news of our schools closing last March, and how our church responded to the spread of the virus by discontinuing in person meetings. I saw a Facebook “memory” picture of me sitting in an orange Vol shirt while doing the first Wednesday livestream from my house--I think more of you were excited to see me in that shirt than hear anything else I said! (FYI--I’m still an Auburn fan)

Yes, this past year has been filled with a great deal of uncertainty—for all of us. Our leadership challenged us to remain faithful in our financial and prayerful support while “being where you need to be” as it related to the virus. We went through the ordeal of lost rhythms of life, graduations, celebrations, and special events.

It’s been a stressful time for our nation. Pandemic fatigue has hit a new high and we are all just about fed up with being fed up with COVID19 and everything that goes with it. And, there have been mass shootings in Atlanta and Boulder, Colorado. So, there’s a lot at home and abroad to concern us.

Although these experiences may be unique, they are not new. Life is not easy, and it was into this kind of world that Jesus came. We’ve made it to Easter and are celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. And with this mind, I’m also praying for a resurrection and renewal of spirit to occur in First Baptist Church as well.

The Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard once wrote that the church has too many “admirers” when what Christ really wants are “imitators.” Jesus not only took up his own cross but challenges each of us to do the same. Easter is an ideal time to renew your relationship with Christ and involvement in the church.

I’m excited about what is yet to come for 2021. The church staff is still sorting out and anticipating what things will look like later this year. I look forward to being able to ordain new deacons, dedicate babies and their parents, celebrate graduates, and share in the Ordinances of the Lord’s Supper and Baptism all at different points along the way. Special moments like this have been missed, and my hope is for them to take place once again in the near future.

I’ll look forward to seeing more of you in person and others of you online. Let’s keep on keeping on and remember **“Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!”**

Pastor Danny

From the FBC Pulpit

April

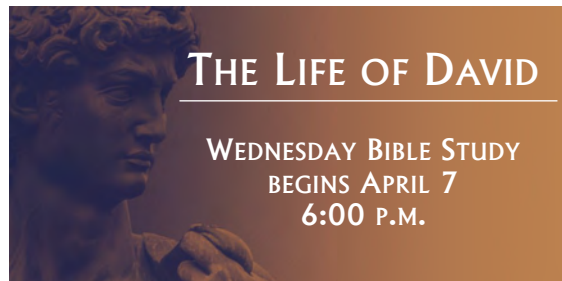
- 4 John 20:11-18 “I Have Seen the Lord!”
- 11 Habakkuk 3:16-19 “Rejoicing. . . Regardless”
- 18 Matthew 22:34-40 “The Great Commandments”
- 25 Matthew 28:18-20 “The Great Commission”

Services are at 8:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center, 10:40 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Online.

New Deacons Rotating Off 2024 (unless otherwise noted):

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Mike Aiken | Tommy Meredith |
| Kevin Barber | Ashley Neal (to be ordained) |
| Jackie Champion | Page Scarborough |
| Ann Gann | Vicki Violette |
| Mark Halcomb | David Wall |
| Greg Fay (filling an unexpired term ending 2022) | |

Other Deacons Currently Serving:
Jonathan Childers, Rusty Fritts, Larry Gann, James Garrett, Beth Green, Jim Hamby, Mike Hammons, Mary Magill, Tom Marshall, Scott Page, Steve Page, Wimp Shoopman, John Stair, Sr., Jeremy Webb, Jill Whitaker, Sam Zachary, Billy Zody



In the month of April, Pastor Danny begins a new Wednesday night series on the life of David. David began his journey as an obscure shepherd and rose to the highest levels of prominence and authority. Along the way, he went through a wide range of experiences that impacted his relationship with God and those around him. There are lessons we can glean from his life which can be useful to us today.



Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday, April 1
6:00 p.m.
 In the Sanctuary and Online
 Communion will be observed.

Good Friday
Friday, April 2
 The Church Office, Family Life Center & WEE Ministry are closed.



Easter Sunday Services
Sunday, April 4
8:30 a.m. Family Life Center
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
 AND ONLINE

SUNDAY SERVICES
 In-person and Online
8:30 a.m. Family Life Center
and 10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES
Adult Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
FBC Kids 6:15 p.m.
 (Dinner at 5:30 p.m.)
Youth Refuge 6:30 p.m.
 (Dinner at 6:00 p.m.)
Sanctuary Choir 7:15 p.m.



Saturday, April 3
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Creekside Stables
 677 Miller Road, Clinton
 Egg Hunt, Prizes, Pizza & Horse Rides

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



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

SENIOR RECOGNITION
Sunday, May 2
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.
 Graduates will be recognized in both morning services. There will be a breakfast for the graduates and their families at 9:15 a.m. in the FLC.

Carson-Newman Endowment Scholarship
 This scholarship is for a full-time undergraduate student for the 2021 Fall Semester. Please contact the church office at 865-457-9353 with your name, date of birth and CN student ID number **by April 26.**

In Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Ray Elkins whose wife, **Gladys Elkins** passed away (3/10), to Gailon Jeffers, whose wife, **Barbara Jeffers**, passed away (3/19), and to the family of **Gene McClanahan** (3/20).

Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary on April 4 are in loving memory of **Bessie May Wallace**, whose birthdate is April 2, given by Dorothy Howell.

If you would like to place flowers in someone's honor or memory, please contact the church office.

Our **Christian Service Center** (Food & Clothing Pantry) Director, Jack Jones, plans to retire in August, after almost 20 years of service. We are so grateful for Jack and ask that you keep the process of finding his replacement in prayer.

April Birthdays

April 1

Ron Eslinger
Peggy Fletcher
Pauline Henry
Bobbie Williams

April 2

Marjorie Whittlesey
April 3
Sharon Antrican
Whitney Denton
Caroline Bray
John Manning

April 4

Dustin Coleman
Jim Sanderson

April 5

Andrew Shoopman
April 7
Wimp Shoopman

April 8

Anna Childers
Julianne Smith

April 10

Emily Wallace

April 11

Jim Miller
Riley Webb

April 12

Madison Floyd
Margaret Stallard

April 14

Joan Hutchins

April 15

Lori Chisholm
Charles Noss
Jerry Schlandt
Dee Dee Swanner
Ruth Worthington

April 16

James Abner
George Aylor
Gary Bowers

Brenda Daugherty
Becky Rosenbaum

April 17

Anita Childers
Marsha Hollingsworth

April 20

Kathy Fila
Sonya Holbrook

April 21

Nancy Fay
Ronnie Williams

April 22

Julie Bowling

April 23

Jeremiah Ballew
Kara Bradley
Carmen Fox de Quintana
Robert Holt

April 24

Billie Lane
Stephanie Reynolds
Michael Smith

April 24

Dennie Worthington

April 25

Vickie Coleman
Alex Swanner
Kylie Stovall

April 27

Scott Merkle
Matthew Walker

April 28

Ron Meredith
Lindy Pyatt

April 29

James David Meredith
Jacob Meredith
Kelly Williams

April 30

Andy Harness
Deanne Jenkins

FLC Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. & 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. only

Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 5:30 p.m.

Sanctuary

Annie Armstrong & Global Missions

FBC Missions Offering Goal: \$3,500

Annie Armstrong: \$1,479

Global Missions: \$315

Total Received: \$1,794

Friendly Figures

February Financial Summary

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Budget Receipts | \$ 61,208 |
| 2021 Receipts/Wkly Avg. | \$ 18,424 |
| 2021 Weekly Budget Req. | \$ 17,878 |
| Budget Expense | \$ 66,770 |
| February Deficit/Income | (\$ 5,562) |
| 2021 Deficit/Income | \$ 33,728 |
| TOTAL February 28 | \$ 28,166 |

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 February Financials and Minutes were approved. The Missions offering for Annie Armstrong & Global Missions was changed to \$3,500 combined. Greg Cooper resigned from the Youth Committee effective immediately. New Deacons were approved (listed inside Friendly Guide) rotating off 2024. A new riding lawn mower will be purchased at Deans for a cost of \$2,265. Amanda Patterson has been added to the church roll by statement.

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.

Business Meeting

Wednesday, April 21

6:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

2021 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2021 Offering Envelopes in the Garden Room.

ReNew Recovery

Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

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

Ervin and Freddie Queener Scholarship

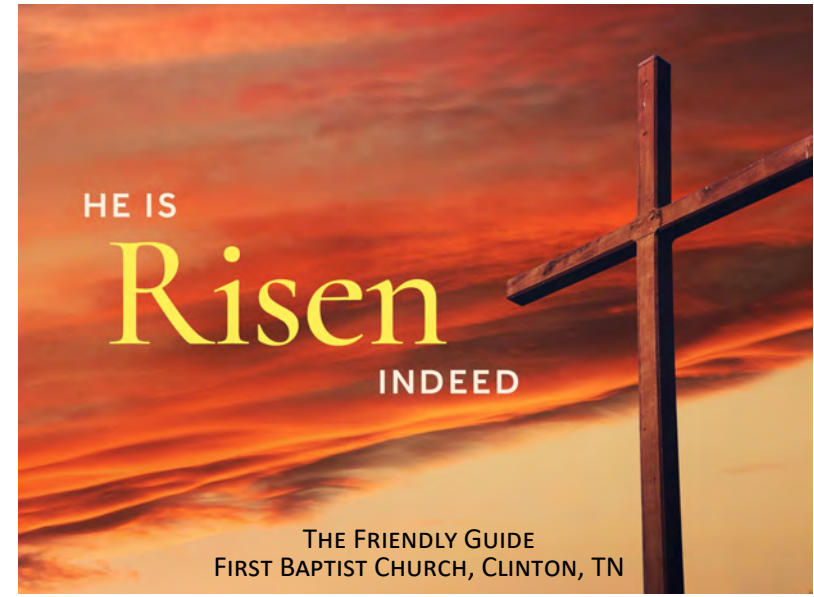
This scholarship is available to any student from First Baptist who is enrolled in and has a chosen field of study in a 4 year college or university. This scholarship can be applied for all four years of college enrollment.

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.



~ APRIL 2021 ~

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1

6:00 p.m.

In the Sanctuary and Online

Good Friday

Friday, April 2

The Church Office, Family Life Center & WEE Ministry are closed.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 3

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Koelsch Farm – Creekside Stables

677 Miller Road

Clinton, TN 37716

Egg Hunt, Prizes, Pizza & Horse Rides

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4

8:30 a.m. Family Life Center

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:40 a.m. Sanctuary

AND ONLINE