

First Thoughts

I read an article recently about the former CEO of Waffle House, Bert Thorton. He grew the restaurant to almost 2,000 locations at the time of his retirement. His desire was that the people who enter a Waffle House would always feel welcomed and know what to expect. He also wanted to help his employees. Thorton said, "We take people from where they are and give them a chance to rise up within the company." The secret of the company's success? "The people working at Waffle House usually have a sense of humor and like having fun together."

What would happen if churches were like that? You wouldn't have to be perfect to join in, and folks in general could enjoy serving the Lord together. We wouldn't have to agree on every issue to have fellowship with someone else. It would be enough to raise our voices and say "Jesus Christ is Lord."

For me, Easter Sunday provided a taste of that kind of experience. The refrain of "He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!" echoed through our buildings. It didn't matter what our individual backgrounds or biases happened to be. It was enough to show hospitality to those who entered our doors to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each Sunday is an opportunity for us to do this.

I'm excited to welcome Lauren Neal to our staff as Minister of Children & Young Families. Our church voted recently to transition her into the 'permanent' part-time position—as many of you know, she is a teacher at South Clinton Elementary School. Lauren brings a lot of joy, creativity, and maturity to this position. I look forward to good things continuing to take place through her leadership.

On a related note, please keep the Youth Minister Search Committee in your prayers. They are actively meeting, reviewing resumes, and conducting interviews. I appreciate them and the important work they have underway. In the meantime, I am grateful for Ben Neal and the good work he is doing as our Interim Minister of Youth. We are fortunate to have him and his leadership in our church.

Our church, like many other American faith communities, has had to face the emotional, spiritual, and financial strains relating to the pandemic. No church is going to be the same coming out of the pandemic as it was going into it—this is true of First Baptist Church as well. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but offers an opportunity to be open to the Holy Spirit's doing a new work in the life of His church.

The arrival of May signals the end of another school year. Graduations will soon occur and will be occasions for excitement, tears, and celebrations. The class of 2022 will have stories to tell about their journey through high school and the challenges they've overcome to reach this milestone. I am proud of them and look forward to celebrating their achievements.

Pastor Danny



Grades 6 - 12
Wednesdays
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Dinner is available at **6:00 p.m.**

Senior Recognition Day

Sunday, May 1
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.
 Seniors will be recognized in both morning services. There will be a luncheon in the Family Life Center for graduates and their families.



CENTRIFUGE Youth Summer Camp

@ Carson-Newman University
 Grades 6 - 12
June 27 - July 1
COST PER STUDENT: \$125
\$50 DEPOSIT DUE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT



Piper Neal Morgen French Max Neal

Join us for our **Baptism**
Sunday, May 8
10:40 a.m.

FBC Kids

Wednesdays
6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
 Music, Crafts, Bible Story
 Dinner is available at **5:30 p.m.** in the FBC Kids room.
 Follow us on Facebook @FBCKidsClinton



FBC KIDS MUSICAL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11
6:00 P.M.
 SANCTUARY

FBC Kids Summer Kick-Off

Wednesday, May 18
5:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
 Lower Back Parking Lot
 Pizza Games Crafts Inflatables
 Bring a Friend!



Vacation Bible School

June 13-17
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 Age 3 - Grade 5



VBS Volunteer Brunch

Sunday, May 15
 Following LifeGroups
 FLC, Hearth Room
 RSVP to the Church Office



Movie Night at the Towers

Saturday, May 7
6:00 p.m.
 Popcorn and Drinks provided. Volunteers needed! Please

contact the church office if you can help.

Towers Craft

Saturday, May 14
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 Rock Painting Craft
 Volunteers needed! Please contact the church office if you can help.



Compassion Ministries

has asked to use our parking lot for a very big drive-thru food distribution to our county, so we are partnering with them to make this happen. If you would like to volunteer at this event, **Saturday, June 11, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**, please let Amanda or the church office know.

Congratulations FBC!

We exceeding our Global & Annie Armstrong Missions Goal! Our combined goal was \$3,500 and we received \$4,650! (\$2,415 Annie Armstrong and \$2,235 Global Missions)

FBC is on the Air!

Sunday morning worship services are aired on WYSH 1380AM & also on WGAP 1400AM. Services are aired at 11:00 a.m. and are on a one week delay.

Christian Service Center March Report

Served 173 individuals
 16 Children
 84 Adults
 75 Seniors

5968 food items were distributed. 291 clothing items and 107 miscellaneous items such as kleenex, toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, laundry and dishwashing detergents, and Covid tests were distributed.

We are accepting clean spring and summer clothing that are washable. No dry clean items are accepted. Gently worn shoes are also welcome.



W.E.E. Ministry News

W.E.E. are very excited about our upcoming graduation on **Tuesday, May 17 at 11:30** in the church Sanctuary for the preschoolers that will be going to kindergarten this Fall. This is the first graduation since 2019 we have had that the people will be allowed to attend because of Covid. The kickoff to our summer daycare program for preschoolers as well as school agers will be on **Tuesday, May 31**. We will be participating in V.B.S. with our older preschoolers and school agers. This summer we will be getting to do local field trips with our school agers. We are looking forward to a wonderful summer.

Ms. Tammy, W.E.E. Director

Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Lindy Pyatt, whose husband, **Steve Pyatt**, passed away April 10.

Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 1, are in loving memory of **John Cobb's** birthday, May 3, given by Beth and Connie.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 8, are in loving memory of **Miss Reba Gentry**, given by Jack & Carol Jones.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 15, are in loving memory of **Richard Buckner's** birthday, May 20, given by his wife, Marilyn Buckner and children, Jaci Harris and Michael Buckner.

The flowers on the altar in the Sanctuary, Sunday, May 22, are in loving memory of **Mrs. Mary C. Hollingsworth**, whose birthday was May 23, given by Joe, Trey, and Nicci Hollingsworth.

The flowers in the baptistry, May 22, are in loving memory of **Les Swann's** birthday which was May 24, given by Jo Anne and Lesley Swann.

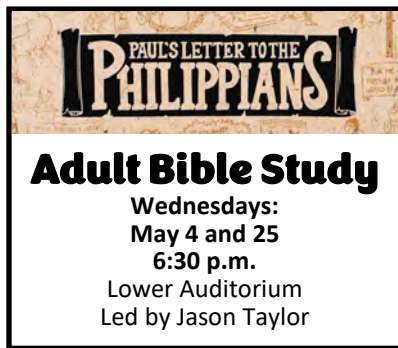
The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 29, are in loving memory of **Libby Marshall** and her parents, **Charles and Lucille Taylor**; Tom Marshall's parents, **Jim and Patsy Marshall**; and Pat Marshall's parents, **Wayne and Thelma Reynolds**, given by Tom, Pat, Ginger and Robyn.

The flowers in the baptistry on Sunday, May 29 are in loving memory of **Imogene Cheely**, whose birthday was May 25, given by daughters, Jean Cheely and Ann Hofmeister.

Spirit Sisters

(Widows Support Group)

Meetings are the **1st Monday, monthly at 6:00 p.m.** in the FLC Hearth Room. Social outings will be on the 3rd Monday monthly.



PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays:
May 4 and 25
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
Led by Jason Taylor

From the Pulpit

Sundays in May
8:30 a.m. Family Life Center
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
01 Genesis 12:1-6
08 2 Timothy 1:3-5
15 Job 1:20-22
22 1 Kings 19:1-9
29 Matthew 26:6-11

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays in May
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
04 Jason w/Philippians study
11 FBC Kids Choir Program
18 Business Meeting
25 Jason w/Philippians study



First Baptist Mugs are **\$10.00** each and can be purchased in the Church Office or at the FLC desk!

Memorial Day Recognition Service

Sunday, May 29
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.
During the worship services the names of church members that have passed away since last Memorial Day will be read aloud. When your loved one or friend's name is read you may go forward and move a flower from the basket to the vase.

March Financial Summary

Budget Receipts \$ 51,331
2022 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$ 16,052
2022 Weekly Budget Req. \$ 17,732
Budget Expense \$ 69,129
March Deficit/Income (\$17,790)
2022 Deficit/Income \$ 20,852
TOTAL March 31 \$ 3,062

Thank you for your generous support of our church. 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 worship services.



Scan the QR Code to Connect with online giving.

Business Meeting Report

The March Financials and Minutes were approved. **Lauren Neal** was approved for the permanent, part-time position of Minister of Children and Young Families. **Piper Neal** and **Max Neal** were added to the church roll by baptism (Baptism is 5/8). The following names were removed from the church roll: **Jeremy, Caroline, and Neyland Bray** (Main Street Baptist) and **Josh, Lauren and Adeline Queener** (Main Street Baptist).

Business Meeting

Wednesday, May 18
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

It's A Boy!

Congratulations to James and Anystin Bigler on the birth of a baby boy, **Azariah James Bigler**, born Tuesday, April 12. Also, congratulations to grandmother, Beth White, great grandparents, Jim and Glenda White, and aunt, Emily Bigler.



Memorial Day Closings

The Church Office, Family Life Center & W.E.E. Ministry will be closed on **Memorial Day, May 30.**

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.



The Church Library/Conference Room (lvl 2) AND the Children's Library (lvl 3) will be open beginning **Sunday, May 1.**



Library Hours:
Anytime the doors to the building are open.

- ◆ pick a book
- ◆ borrow a book
- ◆ return a book
- ◆ No check-out required

Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, May 10
5:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

Deacon Ordination

Sunday, June 5
6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary
Deacons to be ordained:
Rebecca Aiken, Jacob Floyd, Johanna Whitley



~ MAY 2022 ~

Senior Recognition Day

Sunday, May 1

We will recognize our seniors during both morning Worship Services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:40 a.m.

There will be a luncheon for seniors and their families following the second service in the Family Life Center, Gym.

High School Graduates

Samuel K. Bowling

Clinton High school

Ryan Bradley

Clinton High School

Alexander Hill

Clinton High School

Alex Swanner

Clinton High School

Sam Whitaker

Clinton High School

Tara Brooks Zody

Clinton High School

College Graduates

Jack Hutchins

University of Tennessee

Bachelor of Science, Data Science and Statistics

Kara Bradley

Warner University

Bachelor of Science, Accounting

Rachel Clement

University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice