

# First Thoughts...

Tim Keller, long time pastor of Redeemer Church in New York City, died a few weeks ago after a three year battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 72 years old. His death has generated an outpouring of gratitude for his life, leadership, and contributions to the Christian witness. Christians and non-Christians alike have been gracious in their recollections of his life.

He is the author of numerous books, yet one of his most cited sayings relates to the centrality of the Good News. Keller writes, "The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope."

It is easy to lose sight of our purpose as a family of faith; there are any number of activities or projects that we could take on. The number of choices we have and the myriad of ways our energies can be invested is overwhelming. Many of these have their value, but we must keep "the main thing the main thing" in our work and witness. The main thing is the gospel. The main thing is sharing and living out our faith in Christ in our town and community.

One of the great evangelistic tools we have is Vacation Bible School. Many of us grew up with VBS and remember the songs, snacks, crafts, and simple lessons led by people who volunteered their time to tell us about Jesus. It takes a great deal of time and effort to plan and carry out this week long period of intense study and fellowship with children.

I hope you will join me praying for our VBS to impact our children and community for Christ. I also ask that you volunteer your time and energy to helping make sure this week is an effective means for planting spiritual seeds into the lives of children, some of whom will be hearing about Jesus for the first time!

Let's take advantage of the opportunity to invite parents and children into our fellowship, especially those who have children. VBS is a wonderful time to invite non-members and people outside the church to experience life around people of faith. We can trust God with the results of our efforts and pray for a work of the Holy Spirit among us.

The calendar is telling me that Father's Day is this month. I recognize that this holiday carries a variety of meanings and emotions for each of us. Let's take time to be grateful for the men in our lives who model a Christlike spirit through their words and actions. We'll take time on this occasion during worship to remember and celebrate those men who have influenced us.

Summer is upon us. Although we will shift gears a bit with our regular schedule, there will still be opportunities for fellowship and fun through our children, youth, and adult gatherings.

I also know this is a season for trips and travel. So, please keep in mind that the work of the church continues through the summer months, so thank you for your ongoing financial support.

We are more loved in Christ than we ever dared hope. That's a message worth sharing!

Pastor Danny



**Wednesday, June 7**  
**Open to close FUN!**  
**Leaving FBC: 8:30 am**  
**Return to FBC: 10 pm**

Let Kris know if you want to go!

- \$60 without a pass (pass and transportation)
- \$10 with a pass (transportation)
- The church will cover the cost of lunch and dinner.
- Youth need to eat breakfast before you arrive.
- Bring extra money for snacks and souvenirs if you wish.
- Don't forget sunscreen.

## Youth Pool Party

**Garry & Angela Whitley's House**  
**Friday, June 16**

Following VBS, youth VBS volunteers will ride the church van to the Pool Party. Bring your towel and swimsuit. Parents of youth are also welcome to attend.

## Top Golf Knoxville

**Tuesday, June 20**  
**Leave FBC at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Return to FBC at 3:00 p.m.**

Cost: \$20 (lunch and 2hrs of golf)  
Lunch at Top Golf: Turkey Sandwich on Texas Toast, Kettle Chips, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Drink. Bring money for additional food if needed.  
We have 20 spots available.  
Let Kris know if you want to go!



## Kids Church

Sundays during the 10:40 a.m.  
Service in the Church Library.



## VBS

**June 12 - June 16**  
**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
Family Life Center  
Age 3 - Grade 6



- **Sweet P's Snowball Shack**  
**Friday, June 9**  
**6:00 p.m.**
- **Chunky Monkey**  
**Friday, June 23**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
- **Lakefront Splash Pad**  
**Friday, July 7**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
- **South Clinton Park & Pizza Party**  
**Friday, July 21**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

### What's a Pop-Up?

A Pop-Up is a family event where FBC Kids throws a party somewhere around town!

## Youth Girls Day at Build-A-Bear



### Ice Cream Social



**Wednesday, June 7**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium  
Everyone is invited!

### Women's Summer Bible Study

### Women of the Bible

#### Mondays

**June 19, 26 and July 10, 17**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
Church Parlor

No Cost, No Book  
Refreshments Provided  
Women of all ages invited!

- June 19 - Study of "Eve" led by Jessica Temple
- June 26 - Study of "Rachel and Leah" led by Lori Chisholm
- July 10 - Study of "Rahab" led by Beth Green
- July 17 - Study of "Miriam" led by Vicki Violette

### Atlanta Braves

Church-wide Trip  
**Thursday, July 20**  
**Leave FBC at 7:00 a.m.**  
**Game is at 12:20 p.m.**  
All tickets have been claimed.



## NEW at the FLC

### Mondays

**5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

All adults are invited to come join us. We have 2 courts and paddles available.



### Norris Dam State Park

**Thursday, June 1**  
**11:30 a.m.**

Meet at Shelter #2  
If you need transportation, be at the back church parking lot at 11:00.  
RSVP to Church Office or email [Vicki@fbclinton.org](mailto:Vicki@fbclinton.org) so we can have a head count for food.

**The church will provide hamburgers and hotdogs!**  
Sign up in church office for a side dish or dessert.  
No cost - just a side or dessert! Bring a lawn chair!

## In Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Mike Hammons** (5/15).

## Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the altar, Sunday, June 4, are in loving memory of **Homer and Bessie Wallace**, whose anniversary was June 3, given by Dorothy Howell and the Wallace family.

The flowers on altar, Sunday, June 11 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 on the altar, Sunday, June 18, are in honor of all those special dads out there on Father's Day and in loving memory of our dad, **John Cobb**, given by Beth and Connie.

The flowers on the altar, Sunday, June 25 are in loving memory of **Sissy Holt**, given by Bob, Donna and Doug.

## From the Pulpit

**Sundays**  
**8:30 a.m.** Family Life Center  
**10:40 a.m.** Sanctuary  
04 Acts 1.1-11  
11 Matthew 5.13-16  
18 Matthew 21.28-32  
25 Proverbs 12.16

## LifeGroups

**Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.**  
We have LifeGroups for all ages.

## Wednesdays

**6:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium  
June 07 Ice Cream Social  
June 14 No Adult Bible Study (VBS)  
June 21 Business Meeting  
June 28 Rev. Mike Aiken

## Welcome New Members



**Michael & Marlita Parravano & Isaac Benton**

## Savannah Bananas

**Saturday, June 3**  
All tickets have been claimed.

## Deacons Meeting

**Tuesday, June 13**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

## Business Meeting

**Wednesday, June 21**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

## 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.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Tuesdays**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
Family Life Center - Level 2

## Online & On the Air

Sunday Services are online via the First Baptist Clinton, TN Facebook page or YouTube channel. The Traditional Service is aired on WYSH AM 1380 and WYSH FM 101.1 at 11:00 a.m., Sundays, and is on a 1 week delay.

## April Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 72,300
2023 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 14,478
2023 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 17,786
Budget Expense	\$ 78,988
April Deficit/Income	(\$ 6,688)
2023 Deficit/Income	(\$ 36,255)
TOTAL April 30	(\$ 42,943)

## Business Meeting Report

The April Financials and Minutes were approved.

The following recommendations from Trustees were approved: That we purchase 14 new cameras, a new folding machine for the church office, and a new power washer. That we replace the timer on the steeple lights and the fascia wrap that blew off the FLC. That we pay TK Elevator for a weekend elevator repair. That we replace Danny's computer.

**Michael & Marlita Parravano & Isaac Benton** were added to the church roll by statement (5/7/23). **George Smith's** church letter was moved to First Baptist Church, Oak Ridge.

## New Deacon: Mary Haven Merkle, MD

I was born on Feb 19, 1962 to Charles and Ann Stallings and was raised with my beloved younger sister Garland in San Antonio, Texas. My home church was Shearer Hills Baptist, where my mother served as the church pianist. I made my profession of faith there in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

I received a degree in English Literature from Princeton University in 1984, Doctor of Medicine from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston in 1988, and did specialty training in Internal Medicine at Georgetown in Washington, DC. I did my residency training before work hours were regulated. I started work, got my first day off 6 weeks later, and used it to join the First Baptist Church of Falls Church Virginia, not out of virtue but as a life-line!

My first job as a doctor was in the service of the US Air Force in Minot, North Dakota. There Scott and I met and married and had our two sons, John and Alec. We attended the base chapel and I taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Sunday school there, not for the last time. We moved to Houston and were members of a wonderful church – South Main Baptist – before moving to The Woodlands, TX where we were members of Woodlands First Baptist for many years.

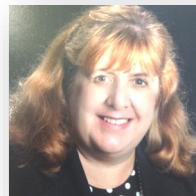
When our youngest headed off to college we moved to Clinton and joined Clinton FBC on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Scott's birthday! It has been a joy to be part of this body and I look forward to serving my fellow church members as a deacon for as many years as God allows. Though a transplant, I have grown to admire and love so many people in this church and I consider it home.

Of the many ways God reaches out to us, I have particularly been blessed through prayer. I am looking forward to praying with and for FBC, hopefully for many years to come.

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ONLINE  
GIVING



**STELLAR**  
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

"Let your good deeds shine...  
so that everyone will  
praise your heavenly Father."  
(Matthew 5:16)

**VACATION  
BIBLE  
SCHOOL**

**June 12-16**  
**9 AM-12 PM**

**vOLUNEERS NEEDED**

Lauren@fbclinton.org