

First Thoughts...

Henry David Thoreau once wrote, "I make myself rich by making my wants few." These words written so long ago remain an apt description of how to find happiness and contentment these days.

November brings with it thoughts of family, blessings, falling leaves and beautiful colors on the trees (take a look at the one by the FLC!). The danger is to miss out on these simple things and be swept away in a current of busyness, stress, and anxiety. Indeed, this Thanksgiving season is providing its share of uncertainty and unrest.

I'm writing this the day after the shooting in Lewiston, Maine. The number of those killed and injured would impact any community but has an even more devastating effect on a small town. Families are entering the holidays with intense grief without that loved one in their lives--there's an empty place around the table.

The Hamas terrorist attack and ongoing conflict in Israel and Palestine has brought the attention of the world upon the Middle East. There are Christians and churches in that region who are trying to be the presence of Christ in extremely difficult circumstances.

Grace Al-Zoughbi, a Palestinian theological educator said, "The church is trying to cling to any glimmers of hope it can find. The situation is deeply disturbing, the atrocities appalling."

The holidays are an opportunity to bring our families together. We enjoy food, football, and time around the table with those whom we know and love. For some people, however, this time of year is not a pleasant experience.

I spoke with someone recently who was dreading Thanksgiving. He said his brother and sister-in-law were coming in for the holiday, but all they wanted to do was talk politics and be combative about it. Civil discourse or discussing other topics had proven to be almost impossible, and now having them under his roof would be emotionally draining and a miserable experience.

Thanksgiving is supposed to be about gratitude and counting our blessings. I'm hoping your Thanksgiving is much more pleasant than the one my friend anticipated. Each one of us has within us the capacity to set a positive and grateful tone.

I'm looking forward to being with you all for another holiday season and am thankful that we can share life together. Let's make our wants few and be grateful for what the Lord has given us.

Pastor Danny

The Church Office, Family Life Center and WEE Ministry will be closed on November 23 & 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The CSC will be closed on Tuesday, November 21. There will be no Wednesday night activities on November 22.



Youth Ignite
Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
FLC Youth Room
Grades 6-12
Free Dinner, Games,
& Bible Study



Winners of the Youth Tailgate Party Swag Contest: Ceci Brooks & Ella Duggins



Wednesday, November 15
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Youth Event in the Family Life Center - Youth Room
Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish or dessert to share.

CHRISTMAS PARTY "DIRTY SANTA"

Wednesday, December 13
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Youth Event
Family Life Center - Youth Room
Food, Gifts, and Games



Church Trip

Friday, June 14
7:00 p.m. CST
First Horizon Park
Nashville, TN
Ticket Cost: \$35 per person
Must be paid in full to reserve your ticket by January 8.
We have 50 tickets available!
Contact Kris at 865-454-3484 if you need transportation or if you have any questions.



Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
Free Dinner, Music, Games & Bible Study

Kids Church

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

The Tale of the Drowsy Shepherd

FBC Kids Christmas Program
Wednesday, December 6
6:00 p.m.
In the Sanctuary

New FBC Member



Lillian Osborne was Baptized Sunday, October 29.

Parent and Child Dedication



Jeremy and Tiffany Osborne dedicated themselves and Lilian to the Lord, Sunday, October 29.



Encore Event Visual Presentation of Holy Land Trip

Soup & Sandwiches from the Soup Kitchen
Monday, November 13
12:00 p.m.
Family Life Center
Lunch Cost: \$10 per person
RSVP to vicki@fbclinton.org or call 865-457-9353.



Encore Trip Cumberland County Playhouse

White Christmas and Lunch at the Cumberland County State Park
Tuesday, December 12
Leave FBC at 10:00 a.m. EST
Buffet Lunch at 11:00 a.m. CST
White Christmas 1:00 p.m. CST
Buc-ees on the way back home
Arrive in Clinton around 6:00 p.m.

Total cost of the trip (lunch, ticket, & transportation) if riding on a van will be \$50, and if driving your own vehicle, the cost will be \$45.

RSVP to the vicki@fbclinton.org or call 865-457-9353. Please let us know if you are riding the van when you RSVP.

C.S.C. September Report:

We served 216 individuals in September.
35 children 110 adults 71 seniors
6,485 food items were distributed in September.

1,058 clothing items were distributed and 39 miscellaneous items such as toiletries, tissue paper, diapers, Depends, etc.

We are now accepting clean, washable fall and winter clothes. Please do not bring any more summer clothes other than T shirts. **No dry clean items please.**

Hospitality Snack Bag Assembly

If you'd like to help us assemble 475 Hospitality Snack Bags for our CSC Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Box Distributions, please join us in the Family Life Center Gym on **Monday, November 13 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Towers Craft

Third Thursday, Monthly
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Led by Julia Spradling
At the Towers
Volunteers Needed

Creative Arts Ministry

Please call the church office, if you are interested in the church doing more of the following: Painting Classes, Crafts, Pottery, Drama, Dance, Sign Language, Mime, Puppetry, Black Light Theater, Shadow Theater, Photography.

FBC MISSIONS OFFERING GOAL

The FBC Missions Goal for Global Missions and Lottie Moon goal is **\$8,000 (combined).**

Memorial Flowers

The altar flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 5 are in honor of all **Veterans**, given by Mike & Carolyn Cook.

The baptistry flowers on Sunday, November 5 are in loving memory of **Wanda Abner**, given by her family.

The altar flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 12 are in loving memory of **Paul Smith's** 99th birthday, November 14, given by his wife, Betty Smith.

The baptistry flowers on Sunday, November 12 are in loving memory of **Jim Hannah's** birthday, November 15, given by Kay and family.

The altar flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 19 are in loving memory of **Larry Pierce**, whose birthday was November 22, given by Betty Kay Pierce and Lydia Thorpe.

The altar flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 26, are in loving memory of **Claude Ownby, Jr.'s** birthday, November 26, given by Terri King, Melissa Flanagan, and Anne Marie Ivey.

The baptistry flowers on Sunday, November 26 are in loving memory of **Jennings Meredith's** birthday, November 29, given by Phyllis, Ashley, Emma Kate, and Jackson.

Christian Sympathy

Is extended to Jamie Fox, in the death of her father, **Rev. Ronald Guthrie**, 10/9.

Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, November 14
5:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays in November
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
01 Jason Taylor
08 Pastor Danny
15 Business Meeting
22 No Activities
29 Pastor Danny

Christmas Memorials
Poinsettias \$10
Wreaths \$25



Memorial for: _____

Given by: _____

Amount Given: _____

Mail to FBC, P.O. Box 268
Clinton, TN 37717

From the Pulpit

Sundays in November
8:30 a.m. Family Life Center
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
05 Matthew 26:6-13
Lord's Supper
12 Psalm 100
19 Luke 17:11-19
26 Rev. Ben Neal

LifeGroups

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Veteran's Day Recognition Service

Sunday, November 12
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.

Spirit Sisters Meeting

(Widows Support Group)
1st Monday, Monthly
6:00 p.m.
Family Life Center - Hearth Room

September Financial Summary

Budget Receipts \$ 53,804
2023 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$ 16,919
2023 Weekly Budget Req. \$ 17,315
Budget Expense \$ 82,971
September Deficit/Income (\$29,167)
2023 Deficit/Income \$ 1,138
TOTAL September 30 (\$28,029)

Business Meeting Report

The **September** Financials and Minutes were approved. The additional elevator changes were approved. The Trustees recommendation was presented to add the following paragraph to the Bylaws of First Baptist Church under Article III — Standing Committees: **Meeting Attendance and Provision for Virtual Meetings** – *Committee members are encouraged to be in regular attendance at all meetings convened on behalf of their respective committee. It is understood and agreed that, unless specifically noted otherwise by the committee chairperson or as otherwise expressly provided for in this paragraph, all committee meetings will take place in person. Committee members who are unable to attend in person may be counted as present and fully participate in the meeting via telephone or other suitable electronic means, including but not limited to internet-based audio / video technology. During pandemics, natural disasters, or other unusual circumstances, in order to conduct the business of the Church, any committee may meet virtually and, in such event, the actions taken and decisions rendered by the committee shall have the same force and effect as if the meeting had been held in person.*

The Personnel Recommendation to change Dr. Vicki Violette's job description to "Minister of Education and Adults" was approved. The following names were added to the church roll: **Mike and Carolyn Jones**, and **Beverly Taylor** by statement and **Louise McGaha** by letter.

2024 Budget Discussion Business Meeting

Wednesday, November 15
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

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



ONLINE
GIVING



You are invited to a

Combined Choir Concert

The Adult Choirs of
First Baptist Church & Memorial Methodist

Sunday, November 5
3:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Sanctuary
It will be a wonderful service of hymns and anthems as the two choirs combine for an hour of worship and praise!
Directed by Terri King and Josh Allen

IN THE Heart OF CLINTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIENDLY GUIDE

November 2023



for the FBC Christian Service Center

If you would like to donate a Holiday Food Box for a family in need at Thanksgiving and Christmas, they are **\$25.00** each.
Please mark your envelope Turkey Time!

Christian Service Center Holiday Food Box Distribution

Monday, November 20 & Monday, December 18
Drive-Thru beginning at 9:00 a.m.

First Come, First Serve

Bring Photo ID and/or CSC Punchcard

(The C.S.C. will be closed on Tuesdays, Nov. 21 & Dec. 19)

Clinton Upward Basketball & Cheerleading



Online Registration is Open
(early registration fee is \$85,
after November 5, fee is \$95)

January 1, 2024 – Practices Begin
January 13, 2024 – Games Begin
March 2, 2024 – Last Games
March 4, 2024 – Upward Celebration
at Second Baptist Church.



Daylight Savings Time Ends November 5th!