

# First Thoughts...

"Let it SNOW, Let it SNOW, let it SNOW!"

The weather outside for a few weeks last month was frightful; maybe it was a consolation prize for not getting that white Christmas we usually sing about in December.

Here's a verse that came to my mind: "God says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth, and to the rain shower, 'Be a mighty downpour' (Job 31.6). I hope you all managed to stay warm and safe during the interruption of weather we all experienced.

There's a lot going on in our lives, and some of them (including the weather) are beyond our control. It can create anxiety and spill over into our relationships. Our lack of control exposes our weaknesses and can make us feel vulnerable and stressful.

C. S. Lewis wrote, "In one sense, the road back to God is a road of moral effort, of trying harder and harder. But in another sense, it is not trying that is ever going to bring us home. All this trying leads up to the vital moment at which you turn to God and say, 'You must do this. I can't.'"

February is a month in which many of us think about our loved ones. Let's spend time giving thanks for those in our families who pour love and support into our lives. May we realize that "life is a gift" by not taking each other and our time together for granted.

It's also a good time to be reminded of the importance of our church family. Each one of us has a place in the life of this fellowship, and our presence and participation is vital for our health as a congregation. How we treat each other is a witness to our community and world. Our treatment of each other gives witness to our fidelity to Jesus Christ and his teachings.

Jesus said, "A new command I give you: 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another'" (John 13.34-35).

What's new about this command? It is that the criterion for our love must be that of how Christ loved us. This is a high standard, one that we must continue in our struggle to meet each and every day.

There's a number of great ministry and worship opportunities coming up this month. Among the most important events this month is the ordination of Kris Hicks to the gospel ministry.

Kris has gone through a process of prayer and questioning, and our church has given approval to his request for ordination. We have seen evidence of the Lord's work in his life and give support to his calling to Christian ministry.

Our church is blessed to be the first full-time ministry position for Kris, and he will always remember FBC Clinton for this reason and that he was ordained by this family of faith.

I hope you'll make plans to be present for this happy and holy moment in his life and that of our church family.

Pastor Danny



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



## Youth Super Bowl Party

**Sunday, February 11**  
5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Family Life Center  
Flag Football, Super Bowl Game,  
and Food!

## Save the Date:

**Senior Sunday, May 5**  
Our High School Graduates will be recognized during both morning worship services. There will be a luncheon following the 10:40 service in the Family Life Center for the graduates and their families. Watch for more information.

## Savannah Bananas 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 March 24**  
Limited tickets available!



## Encore Singing

Encore will be singing on Sunday, **February 25** during the **10:40 a.m.** Worship Service.

There will be an **Encore Rehearsal** on **Tuesday, February 20**. We will have a light lunch (no cost) at 12:00 p.m. in the Lower Auditorium and then rehearse at 1:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. This is open to everyone who would like to come sing. Please contact to the church office at 865-457-9353 to **RSVP for lunch!**



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

## Kids Church

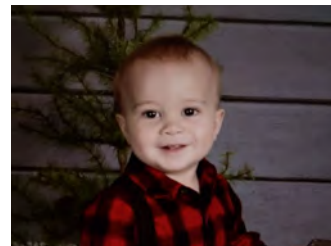
Sundays during the 10:40 a.m.  
Service in the Church Library.

## Save the Date:



**Vacation Bible School**  
June 10 - June 14

## Baby Presentation & Parent Dedication



Amanda and Jason Taylor will present Mica Taylor to the Lord on Sunday, **February 18** at **10:40 a.m.** in the Sanctuary.



## FBC History:

The First Baptist Church of 1840, as drawn by Elmer Turnbull from an oral description of the church by C.C. Bowling and others.

The church was located on "Terrapin Hill" not far from the Baptist cemetery.

## Congratulations, Jeana Partin!



As of January 2, 2024, Jeana became the Carson Newman University's Dean of Student Success and Associate Professor of Education. The Student Success Center provides academic support and career counseling for all Carson Newman undergraduate students.

This coming May, she will graduate from the University of Tennessee with a Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

## Christian Service Center December Report:

48 Children, 108 Adults, 52 Seniors **Total:** 208 individuals  
5,139 food items were distributed. 653 clothing items. 37 miscellaneous items such as sheets, diapers, toilet paper, etc.

The CSC accepts clean winter clothes in good repair, shoes other than sandals. Coats are in high demand. Please do not bring items that require dry cleaning. Socks, gloves, and children's and men's items are also needed. We also accept bed pads, Depends, etc.

253 Christmas boxes were distributed on Monday, Dec. 18. The boxes contained a meal to feed a family of 5 or more including a spiral ham, 1 pound of sausage, and the trimmings. CSC volunteers greatly appreciate your continued support of this ministry. Your donations are generous and a blessing to so many. Your prayers are greatly appreciated as well.

## Celebration Team Volunteers Needed

This FBC team sends out birthday and anniversary cards to our church members. If you are interested in taking one month out of the year to help with this, please contact the church office or John Stair.

The church office provides the birthday/anniversary cards, postage stamps, and address labels for your month.

## Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, February 4 are in loving memory of **William Berry Pace**, whose birthday was February 1, given by Bill and Joanna Pace.

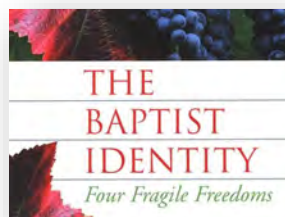
The flowers in the Sanctuary Sunday, February 11 are in loving memory of **Herbert & Chloe Ann Ward**, given by Joanna & family.

## Sunday Worship Services

**8:30 a.m.** Family Life Center  
**10:40 a.m.** Sanctuary  
**February**  
04 Matthew 11:1-6  
11 Hebrews 10:19-25  
18 Mark 7:1-8  
25 Acts 6:1-6

## LifeGroups

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



Pastor Danny will be leading a study on "The Baptist Identity - Four Fragile Freedoms" by Walter B. Shurden on **Wednesdays**.  
February 7, 28  
March 6, 27  
↓  
**TWO TIMES TO CHOOSE FROM:**  
**10:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.** in the Lower Auditorium.  
Book Cost: \$10.00  
Please contact the Church Office at 865-457-9353 if you want to order the book.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

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



## Baby Shower

For James and Anystin Bigler and baby girl, Chloe

**\*Sunday, February 25**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Family Life Center, Hearth Room  
Registered at Amazon.com

\*Notice date change

## Adult Bible Study

**Wednesdays in February**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

07 The Baptist Identity

14 Ash Wednesday Service

21 Business Meeting

28 The Baptist Identity

## Ash Wednesday Service

**Wednesday, February 14**

**6:30 p.m.**

Sanctuary



## NEW LIFEGROUP

### The Bridge

This LifeGroup is for Young Adults in their 20s who are Single or Married and will be taught by Lori Chisholm.

**Sundays**

**9:30 a.m.**

In Room B303 - Level 3

## First Baptist Church

**Al Rodd Prints** are available in the FLC during the 8:30 service and in the Garden Room, before LifeGroups and following the 10:40 service for a \$10 recommended donation.

## Remote Area Medical

**Coming to First Baptist Church, Clinton in November, 2024.**

Please be praying about your involvement with this RAM Clinic. If you want to volunteer, please contact Amanda or the Church Office.

## December Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$115,164
2023 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 17,575
2023 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 17,787
Budget Expense	\$ 91,800
December Deficit/Income	\$ 23,364
2023 Deficit/Income	(\$45,773)
TOTAL December 31	(\$22,409)

## FBC Missions Offering

**Goal: \$8,000**

**Received to date: \$5,776**

CBF: \$2,305 SBC: \$3,471

## Business Meeting Report

Due to inclement weather the January Business Meeting was moved to January 31. The January Business Meeting report will be in the March Newsletter.

## Business Meeting

**Wednesday, February 21**

**6:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

## Deacons Meeting

**Tuesday, February 13**

**5:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

## 2024 Deacon Nominations

The Deacon Eligibility List was mailed out to church members on Thursday. **Please return your nominations to the church by Wednesday, February 14.** Drop off boxes are located in the Family Life Center and in the Garden Room and front foyer of the main church building. If your name was inadvertently left off the list or if you wish to have your name removed, please contact the church office.

\*\*Due to inclement weather we were unable to meet to make changes this year to the Church Adopted Standards.\*\*

## Clinton Upward

March 2, 2024 – Last Games

March 4, 2024 – Upward Celebration at Second Baptist Church.

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**

## Combined Service

**Sunday, March 10**

**10:40 a.m.**

Sanctuary

## Towers Craft

**Third Thursday, Monthly**  
**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Led by Julia Spradling

At the Towers

Volunteers Needed

## Spirit Sisters Meeting

(Widows Support Group)

**1st Monday, Monthly**

**6:00 p.m.**

FLC - Hearth Room

## 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. Services can also be viewed live on our Facebook Page.

# IN THE *Heart* OF **CLINTON** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIENDLY GUIDE

FEBRUARY 2024



## Grand & Glorious!

**A Concert for 4 Pianos**

**March 3, 2024**

**3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

First Baptist Clinton Sanctuary

Tickets are available on Sundays during LifeGroups and following the 10:40 service in the Garden Room.

Tickets are free, but required.

**8 PIANISTS 4 PIANOS**

You are invited to the  
*Ordination*  
of *Kris Hicks* to the  
*Gospel Ministry*

**Sunday, February 18**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Sanctuary**

Reception to follow in the  
Lower Auditorium

