

First Thoughts...

Over the last several months, our church has ordained Lauren Neal, Vicki Violette, and Kris Hicks to the gospel ministry. This is a weighty responsibility and privilege to recognize God's calling upon their lives.

Deacons are also ordained for their ministry office as well. They are also "set apart" for the work that God has selected them, and church elected them to do.

In Acts 6, the early church was experiencing numerical growth. Interestingly, the church had already survived the dangers of persecution and corruption (Acts 5) by the power of the Spirit. Now the church was facing a more subtle threat--distraction.

There was a murmuring in the church because as the number of followers increased, the level of attention to the widows decreased. One group began complaining about another group in the church. In short, the apostles were faced with the critical issue of how to spend their time. Should they continue focusing on preaching and spreading the Word, or should they turn their focus toward social and benevolent ministries?

They called the church together and responded: "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the Word of God to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the Word (Acts 6.2-4)

The church agreed with this proposal and elected their own deacons (from the group who had been complaining), and the apostles supported this decision. They laid hands of them and "the word of God spread."

Deacons were created out of a problem to resolve a problem in the church. Ideally, that's what they continue to do today. They are the "shock-absorbers" in the congregation to help move us toward love, witness, and cooperation. They should always be a catalyst for unity rather than cause disruption in the church.

We recently had deacon elections. It's a great distinction for our church to affirm both women and men to serve as deacons (Galatians 3.28, Romans 16.1). I'm hopeful that our deacons will continue recognizing the importance of their role in the church. I pray they will be fully present through their prayers, financial support, participation, and involvement in the deacon family ministry plan.

Pastors and deacons are partners in ministry. May God help us continue this practice in and through the life of our church.

Pastor Danny

Historical Moment:

Our church was organized on November 7, 1840, with ten people who were "released in good standing" from Bethel Baptist Church. These individuals saw a need for a church in the new town of Clinton. The original church was named the "United Baptist Church of Christ" and the first pastor was J.S. Corum. (*One Hundred Years – A Story of First Baptist Church by Mary Weaver*)



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



Youth Event
Free Dinner at
Chick-fil-a & Hide Eggs
Wednesday, March 27
Leaving FLC at 5:30 p.m.

Senior Sunday
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.

Youth Cabin Trip
Wed., May 22 - Fri., May 24
Pigeon Forge, TN
\$75 per student
Signed Permission Slip required.
See Kris for more details.

Kris Hicks was ordained to the Gospel Ministry, Sunday, February 18.



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!



fbc kids
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.

Palm Sunday
Our children will be participating in worship in both services. Please meet Ms. Lauren in the lobby of the FLC before the 8:30 service & in the back of the Sanctuary before the 10:40 service.



Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 31
Noon
FBC Front Lawn
We need candy (small size, individually wrapped) donations and prefilled Eggs with candy. Donations can be dropped off in the Garden Room or in the Family Life Center.



Vacation Bible School
STUBA
diving into friendship with God

Monday, June 10 - Friday, June 14
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Family Life Center
We need volunteers and beach theme decorations. Contact Lauren Neal if you can help.

Photography Interest Meeting
Thursday, March 21
6:30 p.m.

Family Life Center
Do you enjoy taking photos? Do you wish you knew more about photography? Would you like to see more visual arts, like photography, incorporated in the life of our congregation? If so, come to a Photography Group interest meeting! If you are interested but can't attend the meeting, you can contact, Albert Earle at 865-719-3822 or Amanda Taylor at 865-924-0420 to share your interest and for more info.

Painting Class
Sunday, March 24
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
FLC Gym

Led by Jessica Temple
Cost: \$20 per person
Ages 12 and under should be accompanied by an adult.
RSVP by March 19.
Limited spaces! Painting subject coming soon.

Creative Arts Ministry

The Creative Arts Ministry will be doing a slow, easy creative movement with sticks (dowel rods) in both services Easter Sunday to the song: "Arise, My Love" by Newsong. This musical drama is appropriate for all ages, male and female. If you're interested in participating, please contact Amanda Taylor or the church office.

Planning & Crochet Demonstration

Tuesday, April 2
5:00 p.m. Refreshments
5:30 p.m. Demonstration
FLC Level 2
RSVP by March 28.
Please see newsletter insert for more details.



Encore Seminar
Crime and Crime Prevention in Clinton
Led by Detective Lt. Bailey, Detective Sgt. Gregory, & Detective Sgt. Miller
Thursday, March 21
12:00 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
Lunch Catered by Apple Blossom
Cost: \$10 per person
Call the Church Office to RSVP.

C.S.C. January Report:

Total: 249 individuals in 3 wks.
Closed 2 of the 5 Tuesdays.
4219 food items
758 clothing items
360 miscellaneous items such as sheets, diapers, toilet paper, toiletries, etc.

The CSC accepts clean winter clothes in good repair, shoes other than sandals. Coats are in high demand. Socks, gloves, and children's and men's items are also needed.

Annie Armstrong & Global Missions Offering Goal: \$3,500 (SBC & CBF Combined) *Pending approval at March Business Meeting.*

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

Towers Movie Night
Saturday, March 16
6:00 p.m.

Join us for popcorn and a movie.

Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the baptistry on Sunday, March 3 are in loving memory of **Terry Carpenter's** birthday, March 3 and in memory of **Von and Toni Carpenter**, given by Carol Carpenter.

The flowers on the altar, Sunday, March 10 are in loving memory of **Frank Boggs'** birthday, March 11, given by Sue and family.

The flowers on the altar Sunday, March 24 are in loving memory of **Helen Bowling's** birthday which was March 23, given by Billie Sue Hammer, Will, Whitney, Morgan and Millie Hammer, Clay, Ashley, Gabriella, Adaiah and C.J. Hammer and Carolyn Wilson.

From the Pulpit

8:30 a.m. Family Life Center
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
March 3 Dr. Rick Bennett
March 10 Rev. Jason Taylor
March 17 Rev. Kris Hicks
March 24 John 12.12-19
March 31 Matthew 28.1-10



Dr. Rick Bennett will be preaching on Sunday, March 3, during the 8:30 a.m. and 10:40 a.m. services.

LifeGroups

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

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays in March
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
06 The Baptist Identity
13 No Service or Activities
(Choir will meet at 7:15 p.m.)
20 Business Meeting
27 The Baptist Identity

Remote Area Medical

Coming to First Baptist Church, Clinton in November 2-3, 2024.
Please be praying about your involvement with this RAM Clinic. If you want to volunteer, please contact Amanda or the Church Office.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.
Kids will process in with palm branches. See inside newsletter.

Holy Week Service

Monday, March 25
12:00 p.m.
St. Mark Methodist Church
Message by Dr. Chisholm

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28
Service at **6:00 p.m.**
Sanctuary
Observance of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

Church Office, FLC, WEE Ministry, closed on **March 29.**

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31
8:30 a.m. FLC
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
The Easter Egg Hunt is following the 10:40 a.m. service from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church.

Mica Taylor

was dedicated to the Lord on Sunday, February 18.



January Financial Summary

Budget Receipts \$ 55,054
2024 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$ 13,764
2024 Weekly Budget Req. \$ 18,362
Budget Expense \$ 73,593
January Deficit/Income (\$18,539)
2024 Deficit/Income - 0 -
TOTAL January 31 (\$18,539)

Congratulations, FBC!

We reached our **\$8,000** Missions Offering Goal for SBC and CBF combined.
Total Received: \$8,000

Business Meeting Report

January 31 report: The December Minutes and Financial Report were approved. Brogdon Roofing will be hired to repair FLC roof leaks. It was approved to make the first payment of \$10,000 to McKamey Electric for the elevator renovation. T K Elevator reported that the materials for the elevator are scheduled for April 12. Danny Chisholm and Jason Taylor's housing allowances for the 2024 Budget year were approved. The Youth Cabin retreat for May 22-24 was approved.
February 21 report: The January Minutes and Financial Report were approved.

Business Meeting

Wednesday, March 20
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

Combined Service

Sunday, March 10
10:40 a.m.
Sanctuary
Rev. Jason Taylor preaching.

Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, March 12
5:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

Widow & Widowers Banquet

Sponsored by FBC Deacons
Sunday, April 21
5:00 p.m.
Family Life Center

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

Daylight Savings Time Begins

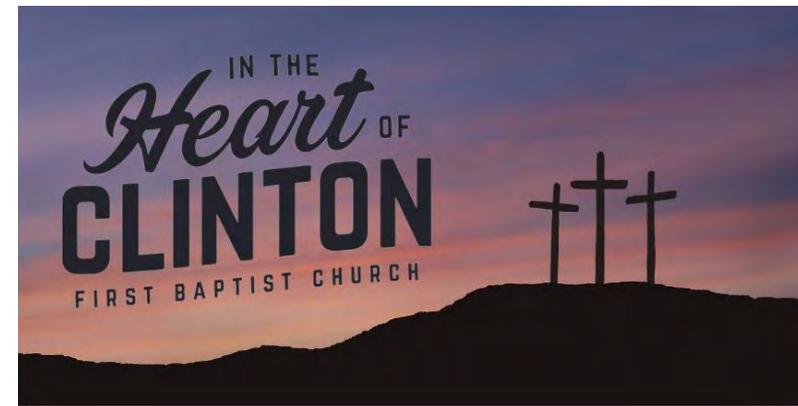
Sunday, March 10
Remember to set your clocks forward one hour!



You are invited to
the Wedding of
Katie Alderson
& **Scott Page**
Saturday, March 23
2:30 p.m.
Family Life Center
There will be a
reception to follow.

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.



FRIENDLY GUIDE

MARCH 2024

Grand & Glorious!

A Concert for 4 Pianos

Sunday, March 3, 2024

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

First Baptist Church, 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

Combined Worship Service

Sunday, March 10

10:40 a.m.

Sanctuary

HE IS RISEN!

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Services

Sunday, March 24

Holy Week Service @ St. Mark

Monday, March 25

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, March 28

Good Friday

Friday, March 29

Church Office, WEE, FLC - Closed

Easter Sunday Services and Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 31