

# First Thoughts...

An elderly woman showed up for church one Sunday. An usher wanted to help her and asked, "where would you like to sit?" The woman responded, "I'd like to sit up front." The usher tried to discourage her but she insisted.

On the way down the aisle with her, the usher replied, "ma'am, I hate to say this, but our preacher is really bad, in fact he's pretty boring. We're trying to tolerate him and I'm afraid that if you sit at the front, you'll fall asleep and everyone will see you."

The woman, who at this point was visibly upset, responded, "Young man, do you know who I am?" He said, "no, ma'am." She said, "I am the pastor's mother, and I am very offended at what you've just said. I'm going to tell my son after the worship service!"

The young usher was silent for a moment and when they arrived at the front pew, said, "Ma'am, do you know who I am?" She said, "No, I don't." And he said, "Good!"

Knowledge is important. I'm very much supportive of our public schools and education in general. It's important to know what we know, but also what we don't know. Humility is an important part of learning. This is a truth I've had to accept during my educational process.

During this time of year, it is also important to know what we *believe*. The reason our church exists is because of the testimony of those first witnesses to the life, death, AND resurrection of Jesus Christ. This month we'll once again see the resurrected Jesus through the eyes of Mary Magdalene who went to the disciples and said, "I have seen the Lord!" (John 20:18).

I hope you'll join me in participating in the life of our church this month, and may together we proclaim, "we have seen the Lord!"

This month, Carl Morrison is retiring as our Building and Maintenance Supervisor, a position he has held for an incredible 40 years. I'm extremely grateful for his devoting his life and energies to this work. He has served faithfully and well, and I know you'll join me in expressing gratitude for his service to our Lord and our church.

Since December 31, our church has relied upon individuals to lead our choir and congregation. I wanted to thank Jim Tomlinson and Nancy Fay, in particular, for their leadership these last several weeks. Please keep our Music Minister Search Committee in your prayers as we all seek the Lord's direction to fill this important ministry position.

Pastor Danny

## New Deacons

The following deacons will be serving a 3 year term  
**beginning April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2028:**

**Mike Aiken, Kevin Barber, Jackie Champion, Ann Gann, Mark Halcomb, Tommy Meredith, Page Scarborough**

**Other Deacons Currently Serving:** Leah Barber, Al Coleman, Larry Gann, Beth Green, Susan Hammons, Pat Marshall, Tom Marshall, Rick Meredith, Mary Haven Merkle, Ben Neal, Scott Page, Teresa Schlandt, Wimp Shoopman, John Stair, Sr., Jill Whitaker, Sam Zachary



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

## Youth Movie Day

**Sunday, April 13**  
We will watch a movie and have lunch following LifeGroups in the Youth Room.



**Youth Event**  
**Wednesday, April 16**  
**Leaving FLC at 5:30 p.m.**  
Free Dinner at Chick-fil-a & Hide Easter Eggs



**Senior Recognition**  
**Sunday, May 4**  
**8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.**  
Contact the Church Office if your high school graduate wants to participate.

## College Graduates

If you are graduating from College this year, please contact the church office with your information so it can be listed in the front of the Senior Booklet and Friendly Guide.

## Scholarship Applications

Scholarship applications are available in the Church Office and are due back by **5 p.m. Monday, April 21**. See insert for details.



## Youth Summer Kick Off

**Wednesday, May 14**  
**5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**  
Video Game Truck & Pizza



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

## Kids Church

Sundays during the 10:40 a.m. Service in the Church Library (next to the nursery) for Age 3 - Grade 5.

## Easter Egg Hunt

**Sunday, April 20**  
**12:00 p.m.**  
At First Baptist Church following the 10:40 a.m. Worship Service.



## Kids Sing in Worship

**Sunday, April 27**  
**10:40 a.m.**  
Sanctuary

## FBC Kids Spring Musical

**Wednesday, April 30**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
Sanctuary



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Monday - Friday, June 9-13**  
**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
Family Life Center  
Scan the **QR Codes** to give access our gift registry to help fund our VBS Supplies for 2025.



## FBC KIDS & Families Movie Day

**The King of Kings**  
**Friday, April 11**  
**7:05 p.m.**  
**Tinseltown, Oak Ridge**  
Ticket cost is \$7.50 (give to Lauren or church office)  
RSVP to the Church Office  
\*All children must be accompanied by an adult or teen family member and provide your own transportation. Limited spots available, first come first serve.

## FBC Christian Service Center Distributions for February 2025

**Total:** 136 Families served.  
(270 Individuals)  
5599 food items  
710 clothing items  
169 miscellaneous items  
**The CSC Clothing Closet is accepting clean, non dry clean, summer (no winter) clothing!**  
**Please drop items off in the CSC Bin located in Central Park - lvl 1.**

## Towers Movie Night

**Movie TBA**  
**Saturday, April 12**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
At the Towers  
Everyone is invited to join us for a movie, popcorn, cokes, hot chocolate, and treats!

## Towers Craft

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

## FBC Compassionate Acts Ministry Food Drive for MMC Hospitality Houses

**April 1 - 13**  
If you would like to donate any of the following items, drop off boxes are located in the Garden Room and FLC.  
Individual cold cereal cups  
Individual box of oatmeal, cream of wheat or grits  
Peanut butter and crackers.  
Cheese and crackers  
Pudding or Jello Cups, fruit cups  
Can soups (nothing spicy) ie., chicken noodle, beef vegetable , potato etc.  
Toilet paper  
Paper towels  
Kleenex tissue  
Laundry detergent (no scent)  
Snack bars, protein bars, fig bars, cookies , pretzels & chips individually wrapped.  
Macaroni cups  
Garbage bags 33 galloon  
Garbage bags tall kitchen size  
Handmade items: crocheted lap size blankets, chemo hats  
cotton, nylon or crocheted



## Hanna Hicks Mission Trip

**to South Africa (Cape Town) doing kid's clubs and mission studies with Carson-Newman**  
**May 24, 2025 - June 4, 2025**  
Please pray for Hanna! If you would like to give towards her trip, please make checks payable to First Baptist Church and mark the memo field "Hanna Hicks Mission Trip" and let us know whether you want to keep the donation confidential or if you would like us to let Hanna know of your sponsorship.

**From the Pulpit**  
8:30 a.m. Family Life Center  
9:30 a.m. LifeGroups

10:40 a.m. Sanctuary  
April 06 Luke 9.57-60  
April 13 Matt 21.1-11  
April 20 John 20.11-18  
April 27 Rev. Jason Taylor

**Wednesdays in April**

**Wednesdays**  
6:30 p.m.  
Lower Auditorium  
April 02 Daniel study  
April 09 Rev. Mike Aiken  
April 16 Business Meeting  
April 23 New Bible Study  
April 30 FBC Kids Musical

**Tracks of a Fellow Struggler**

**Living & Growing through Grief** By John R. Claypool  
**New Bible Study - Wednesdays**  
6:30 p.m.  
Led by Pastor Danny  
Book Cost: \$10.00  
This study will begin on April 23 and end on June 4.

**Palm Sunday**  
Sunday, April 13  
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.  
Kids process in with palm branches.

**Holy Week Service**  
Monday, April 14  
12:00 p.m.  
St. Mark Methodist Church  
Message by Dr. Chisholm

**Maundy Thursday**  
Thursday, April 17  
Service at 6:00 p.m.  
Sanctuary  
Observance of the Lord’s Supper

**Good Friday**  
Church Office, FLC, WEE Ministry, closed on Friday, April 18.

**Easter Sunday**  
Sunday, April 20  
8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.

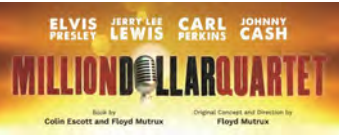
**In Christian Sympathy**  
Sympathy is extended to the family of **Onah Fox** (3/5).

**Memorial Flowers**  
The flowers in the sanctuary on April 6 are in loving memory of **Bessie May Wallace**, whose birthdate is April 2, given by Dorothy Howell.

The flowers in the Sanctuary April 13, are in loving memory of **Ray C. Cate, Mary F. Cate, and Minnie F. Miller**, given by Jane and Mark Halcomb.

The flowers on the altar Sunday, April 27, are in loving memory of, **John Cobb’s** birthday, May 3, given by Beth and Connie.

**Donuts with Your Deacon**  
Sunday, May 4  
Drop In 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Central Park - level 1  
LifeGroups will meet but may start late or end a little early.



**Encore Trip to Barter Theater**  
Abington, Virginia  
Tuesday, April 29  
Leave FBC at 9:30 a.m.  
Return to FBC at 6:30 p.m.  
Group Ticket Cost: \$44 per person  
Call the Church Office to RSVP by April 15.  
Lunch will be on your own at your choice of several small cafes near the Theatre before the 2:00 p.m. show.

**Men’s Prayer & Coffee**  
Thursday, May 1  
8:00 a.m.  
Family Life Center, Lobby  
Led by Pastor Danny

**Feb. Financial Summary**  
Budget Receipts \$ 55,580  
2025 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$ 13,855  
2025 Weekly Budget Req. \$ 18,542  
Budget Expense \$ 79,883  
February Deficit/Income (\$ 24,303)  
2025 Deficit/Income (\$ 22,556)  
TOTAL February 28 (\$ 46,859)

**February Business Meeting Report**  
February Minutes and Financials were approved.

The church approved the resignations of Johanna Whitley and Garry Whitley, Jr. from the Technology Committee. The church approved adding Ben Neal and Jamie Phillips to the Technology Committee and Phil Harber to the Missions Committee.

The following deacons were approved to serve a three year term: Mike Aiken, Kevin Barber, Jacki Champion, Ann Gann, Mark Halcomb, Tommy Meredith, Page Scarborough.

The Technology Committee recommended that the church update the Committee job description by removing #3—Shall be responsible for recruiting and training an adequate number of person to operate the technology across the entire campus. The Technology Committee gave a statement: We encourage the church to consult the Technology Committee on all technology purchases and upgrades for the church campus not to limit purchases, but to support all purchases and to check for compatibility of hardware, software and applications.

The FBC Missions Offering Goal for Annie Armstrong and Global Missions combined was set at \$3,000.

The church approved the Youth Committee to purchase a pool table from Academy Sports for \$600.

**WEE Graduation**  
Thursday, April 24  
11:30 a.m.  
Sanctuary

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**ONLINE GIVING**

Giving options to FBC Clinton include the offering envelope system (checks and cash), scanning the QR code (digital giving), or by setting up a recurring bank draft through the church office.

**Annie Armstrong & Global Missions**  
Goal: \$3,000 (combined)

**Deacons’ Meeting**  
Tuesday, April 8  
5:30 p.m.  
Lower Auditorium

**Business Meeting**  
Wednesday, April 16  
6:30 p.m.  
Lower Auditorium

**FBC Is On The Air:**  
The broadcast is heard on WYSH which is on AM 1380, FM 101.1, FM 99.5 and World Wide on wyshradio.com.  
It is on a one week delay and airs from 11am -12 noon each Sunday.



**FRIENDLY GUIDE** **APRIL 2025**

**Palm Sunday Services**  
Sunday, April 13

**Holy Week Service**  
Monday, April 14

**Maundy Thursday Service**  
Thursday, April 17

**Good Friday**  
Friday, April 18  
Church Office, Family Life Center & WEE Ministry - Closed

**Easter Sunday Services**  
Sunday, April 20

*See inside FG for more details!*

*Spring Banquet*

Sponsored by the Deacons  
Honoring our Widows and Widowers  
Sunday, April 6  
5:00 p.m.  
Family Life Center, Gym  
Entertainment by: **Meredith Cabe Trio**  
Catered by: **Apple Blossom**