

First Thoughts...

"Realizing the need for a Baptist church in the new town of Clinton, a group of early settlers from the Bethel Baptist Church asked to be released from their church to form themselves into a church. They met and on November 7, 1840, organized Clinton's first Baptist Church" (A Story of the FBC Clinton, TN by Mary Weaver).

This month, FBC Clinton completes 185 years of service to our Lord. Let's offer thanks for God's faithfulness and to those who have gone before us. I'm grateful for this church's history, ministry presence, and commitment to our Baptist distinctives and values. We have an important work and witness in this area.

It's budget time. The Finance Committee is receiving budget requests for 2026 from our ministry and committee leaders, so please be in prayer for this process.

On a related note, this year's budget giving is behind our budget spending. This is not "breaking news" as our church has followed this pattern in previous years too. As of this month, spending is at budgeted levels but our giving is not meeting expenses. Not too long ago, quarterly giving contribution records were mailed out along with an update from our Finance Committee showing this differential and providing more specific information.

This church has a strong track record of being "a fourth quarter team." So, let all to do our best to "catch up" on our giving of the Lord's tithes and our offerings and give a little more as we are able.

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. Let's practice gratitude and lean into opportunities for worship and fellowship during these remaining months of the year, especially as we follow the Lord to be "in the Heart of Clinton."

Keep in mind that November is a time for service, giving, and gratitude. We'll do "Turkey Time" this month to help needy families in our community have a meaningful Thanksgiving. And, I'm grateful to our choir for their additional preparation leading up to the Christmas program next month.

Finally, and as we think about those who have been so faithful through the years, **let me say "Happy Birthday" to Ethel Taylor.** She was born on November 7, 1918 and celebrates her 107th (!) birthday this month. This is an incredible milestone and worthy of recognition as Ethel is our church's oldest living member. May God bless her and others like her who have been so faithful to the Lord and this church.

Pastor Danny

Thankful Giving

At this time of year we pause to consider all the things we are thankful for. We encourage you to be thankful for all the blessings we have received as First Baptist Church and all the many ways that our church is a blessing in this community. We are currently behind in our budget giving this year and would like to **challenge each person in the congregation to prayerfully consider making a contribution to the budget during the month of November.** If everyone will take the challenge, what a difference it would make! If you already give on a regular basis, we want to thank you and ask you to consider giving a little extra. If you are not a regular contributor, we ask that you help out by making a contribution this month. *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."* (Malachi 3:10 NIV)



Youth Ignite

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

Friendsgiving

Wednesday, November 19
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Youth Event in the FLC, Gym
Bring your favorite Thanksgiving
dish or dessert to share.

Youth Ugly Sweater Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 18
5:30 p.m.

Family Life Center, Youth Room
Ugly Sweater Christmas



Youth Beach Trip Fundraiser

Tidal Wave Car Wash Vouchers
\$15.00 (value \$30)

These make great Christmas Gifts
and can be used at any Tidal
Wave in the country. They have
a 1 year expiration date. Contact
Kris Hicks if you would like to
purchase.



Couples Wedding Shower

*honoring Luke Severs
and Andrea Rigney*

Saturday, November 22
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FLC Hearth Room
Registered at Amazon and
Williams Sonoma

FBC Kids

Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. -
7:15 p.m.

**Free Dinner,
Music, Bible Study**

Parents sign in children in the FLC
Lobby between 5:00 p.m. - 5:30
p.m. to eat dinner.



Basketball & Cheer

Online registration is open and will
be available until early November,
2025. Practices will begin the week
of January 5, 2026 and the first
game will be Saturday, January 17,
2026. Last games are March 7, 2026.
Upward Celebration is Monday,
March 9, 2026.

FBC KIDS CHRISTMAS CAROLS & COCOA

Wednesday, December 10
6:00 p.m.

Parents, please join us in the
Sanctuary for a short Christmas
Performance with cookies and
cocoa to follow.



Thursday, November 20
6:00 p.m.

Family Life Center, Hearth Room
Teresa Schlandt will demonstrate
for us how to make some of her
favorite appetizers. Please bring one
of your favorite appetizers to share
and your recipe for us to make
copies of for the group.
RSVP to the Church Office.

It's A Girl!



Congratulations to Augusta and
Mackenzie Ridley on the birth of
a baby girl, **Delia Simone Ridley**,
born, October 5. Also,
congratulations to big brother,
Landis.



Encore Trip

Cumberland County Playhouse
The Musical "Elf"

Tuesday, November 18

Meet at the church at 9:15 a.m.

Cost: \$53 (Lunch, Ticket, and
Transportation)

Hard deadline to RSVP is 11/4.
Call the Church Office to sign up

Gospel Fest

A Night of Worship

Sunday, November 16
5:30 p.m.

FBC Sanctuary

In addition to other choirs,
Gospel Fest this year will feature
a community choir which anyone
is welcome to join. **The final
rehearsal will be held on Thurs.,
November 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Mt.
Sinai.**



Photography Project Submit Fall Color Pictures

Please submit fall pictures to
Amanda@fbclinton.org by the
end of November. Photos will be
displayed in January.
The Photography Group meets
1st & 3rd Thursdays, Monthly
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
FLC - Hearth Room

2025 Advent Book

Theme: "Tidings of Joy" and will
consist of Christmas photos. If
you would like to submit a
photo for the book, please send
in a jpg format to Katrina at
Katrina@fbclinton.org by 11/3.

Welcome Jean Helbig

to our church staff as Pianist
for the 10:40 Service.



I'm in my 33rd year as Assistant
Choral Director, Accompanist,
and Fine Arts Chair at The Webb
School of Knoxville. I also teach
private piano and accompany
the Knoxville Symphony Youth
Choir. I'm originally from
Melbourne, Florida, and earned
my degree in Music Education
from the University of Central
Florida. I'm married to tennis
pro David, and have three sons
and nine wonderful
grandchildren. The beach with a
book will always be my happy
place—I never quite got the
sand out of my shoes!

Free Mobile Telehealth

Tuesday, November 18
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FBC Clinton Parking Lot
Remote Area Medical provides
free, quality healthcare to those
in need. First-Come, First-Served
until capacity is reached.
No ID or Insurance required!

Angel Tree

The Angel Tree will be in the
Main Church Building, Garden
Room (level 2) beginning
Sunday, November 9.



From the Pulpit in November

8:30 a.m. Family Life Center

9:30 a.m. LifeGroups

10:40 a.m. Sanctuary

02 Psalm 100

09 1 Timothy 6:6-10

16 Acts 20:32-35

23 Matthew 26:6-13

30 Advent - Rev. Amanda Taylor

Veteran's Day Recognition Service

Sunday, November 9

8:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.

LifeGroups 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays in November

05 Did I Do That?

12 Did I Do That?

19 2026 Budget Discussion

26 No Church Activities

Did I Do That?

NEW Bible Study

Wednesday nights

6:30 p.m.

Lower Auditorium

Led by Jason Taylor

Pastor's Book Club Mondays

10:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.

Family Life Center, Hearth Room

The Gospel of John

by Amy-Jill Levine

6 Sessions led by Pastor Danny

Book Cost: \$10.00

Business Meeting 2026 Budget Discussion

Wednesday, November 19

6:30 p.m.

Lower Auditorium

Lottie Moon and Global Missions FBC Offering Goal: \$7,000 (combined)

Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Jack Jones** (9/19), to the family of **Ronnie Phillips** (9/25), and to the family of **Betty Smith** (10/1).

Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the altar on Sunday, November 2, are in loving memory of **Jim White**, given by his wife, Glenda and their daughters Beth and Connie.

The flowers on the altar on Sunday, November 9, are in honor of all **Veterans**, given by Mike & Carolyn Cook.

The flowers in the baptistry on Sunday, November 9 are in loving memory of **Wanda Abner**, given by her family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 16 are given by **Paul Smith's** children in loving memory of his 97th birthday, which would have been November 14.

The flowers in the baptistry on November 16 are in loving memory of **Jim Hannah's** birthday which is November 15, given by Kay and family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 23 are in loving memory of **Larry Pierce**, whose birthday was November 22, given by Betty Kay Pierce and Lydia Thorpe.

The flowers on the piano side of the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 30, are in loving memory of **Claude Ownby, Jr.'s** birthday, November 26, given by Terri King, Melissa Flanagan, and Anne Marie Ivey.

The flowers on the organ side of the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 30 are in loving memory of **Jennings Meredith's** Birthday, November 29, given by Phyllis, Ashley, Emma Kate, and Jackson.

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, November 11

5:30 p.m.

Lower Auditorium

Sept. Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 56,486
2025 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 15,525
2025 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 18,542
Budget Expense	\$ 87,416
September Deficit/Income	(\$ 30,930)
2025 Deficit/Income	(\$ 80,863)
TOTAL September 30	(\$ 111,793)



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.

October Business Meeting Report

September Minutes and Financials were approved. **Johanna Whitley** was added as a check signer. Todd Temple will be hired for website updates for a cost up to \$2,000. The **Lottie Moon & Global Missions** Offering Goal was set at \$7,000 (combined). FBC will enter a formal agreement with **Regions**

Investment Solutions to maintain its funds within FDIC coverage limits through its contractual agreement with Cetera Investments such that all funds are insured to the maximum amount. The church approved the procedure of advance publication of the agenda for business meetings. Committees must have their reports, recommendations, and motions provided to the church office by noon the Tuesday before Business Meeting. The Business Meeting agenda modeled on Robert's Rules of Order be included in the Midweek Memo for each regular business meeting. We added **Gary Bowers, Gary Cooper, Rick Meredith, Scott Merkle** and **Sam Zachary** to Collection Takers/Ushers for Sanctuary. We approved the hiring of **Jean Helbig** as pianist for the traditional service in the amount of \$12,500 annually.

CSC Distributions for September 2025

Total: 122 Families served.

(227 Individuals)

4845 food items

794 clothing items

125 miscellaneous items

CSC volunteers greatly appreciate your continued support of this ministry through prayers, donation items, and financial support.

C.S.C News

We are thankful to **K.K. Meredith** for taking on the role as Volunteer CSC Clothing Coordinator. The CSC is now collecting fall/winter clothing, coat donations, and plastic grocery bags. The CSC drop off bin is located in the Main Church Building, level 1.

It's Turkey Time!

The CSC is preparing for holiday food boxes. Each box costs \$25 to assemble. Please be sure to mark your envelope "Turkey Time".

Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution

Monday, November 24

Begins at 9:00 a.m.

First Come, First Served Basis

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

IN THE Heart OF CLINTON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIENDLY GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2025



11/2 The Motivation for Giving
Psalm 100

11/9 The Hesitation for Giving
1 Timothy 6:6-10

11/16 The Blessings of Giving
Acts 20:32-35

11/23 The Inspiration for Giving
Matthew 26:6-13

TIME CHANGE - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

The Church Office, FLC and WEE will be closed on November 27 & 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. CSC closed on Tuesday, November 25. There will be no Wednesday night activities on November 26.