

First Thoughts...

In the 1993 movie *Groundhog Day*, Bill Murray plays reporter Phil Connors who gets stuck in Punxsutawney, PA while reporting on the town's celebration of Groundhog Day.

Phil lives the thru same events day after day after day. He gradually becomes desperate for a way to escape the loop and attempts several attempts on his life—he even kidnaps Punxsutawney Phil and drives them both off a cliff. But, even after this and numerous other attempts, he reawakens on February 2 to his alarm clock blaring "I Got You Babe" by Sonny and Cher.

He eventually decides to use his detailed knowledge to accurately predict events and to use them as a blessing rather than a curse. Phil decides to use his knowledge of these repeated events to improve himself and help others. So, he rescues people from accidents and learns how to play piano, sculpt ice, and speak French. In short, he makes life better for others.

Some people live their lives like that, seemingly each day is the same as the one before it. We're all creatures of habit, and routine has its place to keep us on schedule, do our jobs, and raise our families. But, despite our differences, what brings us together as a church is our shared faith in Christ and desire to love others and make the world a better place for those around us.

The weather has thrown us off schedule a bit, and there are a few items I want to touch on. First, **deacon nominations** are due and it's important to get those in ASAP! Like Phil in the movie, deacons are men and women who are called to serve and make the church a better fellowship for us all. Please review the qualifications for deacons and thanks in advance for those who agree to serve!

Second, I'm starting a new Bible Study on "**The Seven Last Words of Jesus**" from the cross. There's a book of meditations available that I'll refer to in the study; I'd encourage you to pick up a book and read along as we make our way through the season of Lent.

Finally, the last several years have brought about a Sunday in January that we've had to call off meeting in person. This year was no exception. And, anytime we miss a Sunday, that impacts us financially. We were already on a slow start giving wise last month, so I need to **encourage us to remember the Lord's tithe and our offerings** over these next weeks. You can drop those in the offering plates on Sunday morning, mail them in, or use the website and make an online contribution.

Let's keep praying, giving, and serving the Lord with gladness. In so doing, we'll make life better for the people around us.



Pastor Danny has a podcast called "**Elisha's Bears.**" It's about life, faith, and the Bible, and the church in general. He'll have conversations with guests about various topics from time to time, too. You can follow the podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcast and Amazon Music. His most recent conversation was with Rev. Dr. Meredith Stone, Executive Director of Baptist Women in Ministry.

Youth Ignite

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



College & Career LifeGroup

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
FLC, Level 2
Teacher: Kris Hicks



Youth Beach Trip Spring Break

Emerald Isle, NC
March 15 - 21
\$50 per youth
Call Kris to sign up by Feb. 14.

Women's Event: Galentine's Night

Tuesday, February 10
6:30 p.m.
Main Building, Fellowship Hall (lvl B)
All the Gals are invited to join us for making Cards & Crafts and enjoy Food & Fellowship! RSVP to the Church Office by Feb. 9.

Women's Book Club

Book of the Month:
Broken Country
by Claire Leslie Hall
3rd Tuesday, Monthly
11:00 a.m.
FLC, Hearth Room
Please contact Kay Hannah if you would like to attend.



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.



Kids Church

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



Basketball & Cheer

Last games are March 7, 2026.
Upward Celebration is Monday, March 9, 2026 at Second Baptist.

SAVE THE DATES:



FBC Spring Banquet

Honoring our Widows/Widowers
Sponsored by the Deacons
Sunday, March 22
5:00 p.m.
FLC, Gym
Watch for more details.

Deacon Workshop Walking With Others Through the Valley: A Deacon's Role in Times of Loss

Led by Dr. Rick Bennett
Saturday, March 28
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Breakfast will be catered by Apple Blossom
All ordained deacons are invited to attend. Please call the Church Office to RSVP by noon on March 18.
Watch for more information.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



David Vick



David & Jean Helbig



David & Angela Whipple



Wednesday, February 18
6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary

Combined Worship Service

Sunday, March 22
10:40 a.m.
Sanctuary
Life Groups meet at 9:30 a.m.
There will be no 8:30 service.

Encore Event Lunch & Learn

Thursday, February 26
10:30 a.m.

FLC, Hearth Room

Guest Speaker:

Madi Moore,
Public Health
Educator from
the AC Health
Department.

Lunch following at the Museum

of Appalachia. Everyone pays for their own lunch. RSVP to the Church Office by February 25. Let us know if you will need transportation to lunch.



Save the Date: Encore Trip

Friday, March 27

Tennessee Museum of Aviation and Applewood Farm House Grill in Sevierville, TN. Watch for more details.

Encore Trip to Niagara Falls & Toronto

7 Days 6 Nights

May 24 - May 30

Cost: \$950*

*Per Person Double Occupancy

Add \$254 for single occupancy.

\$75.00 DUE UPON SIGNING UP

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP

Final Payment Due: March 17

Checks should be payable to DIAMOND TOURS.

You must have a valid U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card for this trip.

If you want to purchase TRAVELERS INSURANCE, which is recommended, it should be purchased within 14 DAYS from the date on the deposit check.

Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, February 1, are in loving memory of **William Berry Pace**, whose birthday was February 1, given by Joanna Hudson & the Pace Family.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, February 8 are in loving memory of **Herbert Ward**, given by the Ward Family.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, February 15 are in loving memory of **Nyta Wall**, David Wall’s mother, given by Charlie Abner.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar on Sunday, February 22, are in loving memory of **Elizabeth Cobb**, given by Beth & Connie.

From the Pulpit in February

8:30 a.m. Family Life Center
9:30 a.m. LifeGroups
10:40 a.m. Sanctuary
01 Acts 6.1-6
08 Eccl 1.12-18
15 Eccl 5.1-7
22 Eccl 12.8-14

Wednesdays in February

6:30 p.m.
04 Seven Last Words of Jesus
11 Seven Last Words of Jesus
18 Ash Wednesday Service
25 Business Meeting



The Chosen Season 3
Sunday Bible Study
Sundays, February 1, 15, 22
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
Led by Amanda & Jason Taylor

In Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Bobbie Williams, whose grandson, **Gary Chadwick**, passed away(12/28), to the family of **Betty Darnell** (1/6) and to David Wall, whose mother, **Nyta Wall**, passed away (1/7).

The Seven Last Words of Jesus “Cross–Shattered Christ”

by Stanley Hauerwas
Adult Bible Study
Wednesdays, beginning February 4 6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
Led by Pastor Danny
Books available for \$10 in the church office.



Towers Movie Night

Saturday, February 7
Movie: The Help
Popcorn & Drinks will be served.

Deacons’ Meeting

Tuesday, February 10
5:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesdays
5:30 p.m.
FLC - Level 2

Spirit Sisters

(Widows Support Group)
1st Monday/monthly
6:00 p.m.
FLC/Hearth Room
Social outings will be on the 3rd Monday monthly

Photography Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays, Monthly
6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.
FLC - Hearth Room

Towers Craft

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

December Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$130,598
2025 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$16,712
2025 Weekly Budget Req.	\$18,542
Budget Expense	\$86,011
December (Deficit)/Income	\$44,587
2025 Deficit (Deficit)/Income	(\$144,374)
TOTAL December 31	(\$99,787)



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.

Offering Envelopes

are available for pick up in the hallway behind the sanctuary and in the FLC.

Business Meeting

***Wednesday, February 25**
6:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium
*notice date change due to Ash Wednesday Service

January Business Meeting Report

December Minutes and Financials were approved. The **February Business Meeting** was moved to February 25 and the **March Business Meeting** was moved to March 25. The next **Combined Worship Service** will be March 22 at 10:40 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We removed the names of **Kevin, Debra and Lucas Heaton**. We added **David Vick, David and Angela Whipple, and David and Jean Helbig** to the church roll.

Church Council Meeting

Monday, February 9
5:30 p.m.
Lower Auditorium

CSC Report for December 2025

163 individuals served (72 families)
40 Children
73 Adults
50 Seniors
(only 2 weeks of distribution)
200 Christmas Boxes

CSC Report for End of Year 2025

890 individuals served (405 families)
215 Children
429 Adults
246 Seniors
63,826 pieces of food or 72 pieces per person
Including: 425 Thanksgiving/ Christmas boxes (15 items per box)
7387 items of clothing
Including: 94 Coats given out by the Clothing Closet
1832 Miscellaneous items
Expenses were \$41,753.56 for the year (\$3479.46/month)
The CSC volunteers deeply appreciate all your support.
If you would like to volunteer or sub in the Clothing Closet on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 3 p.m. - 5 p.m., please call or text K.K. at 865-805-1752.

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IN THE Heart OF CLINTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIENDLY GUIDE

FEBRUARY 2026

EVERYTHING IS MEANINGLESS (UNDER THE SUN)

Pastor Danny’s February Sermon Series is on Life Lessons from Ecclesiastes

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