

# First Thoughts...

“Christ is Risen!, Christ is Risen Indeed!”

The culmination of Holy Week brings to mind familiar songs about the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. One song aptly named “Were You There?” is an African-American spiritual which is traced to the Civil War period. Consider the questions that are brought to mind:

- Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*
- Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*
- Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?*
- Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?*

This month, a group of us will be participating in a “Dawnings” leadership retreat led by Dr. Rick Bennett. This leadership team will be trained to guide our church through a spiritual discernment process. This process will involve a series of conversations which will occur this Fall. This dialogue will deal with several ideas on a personal and communal level: “My Story, Our Church’s story, our Community’s story, and God’s story.

At the heart of the process, we will explore the issue of what God is calling us to be and to do as First Baptist Church. This will be a very important time in the life of our church, so please begin praying for God’s purpose to be accomplished.

Jesus was raised “on the first day of the week” and each Lord’s Day is a proclamation that we believe Christ is alive! Let’s rededicate ourselves to being part of the church through our attendance, giving, service, and prayers.

Let’s recall the refrain after each repeated question to that song: “Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.”

May we never get over the meaning of Easter, and let us never take it for granted. “Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!”

Pastor Danny

**Pastor Danny** has a podcast called “Elisha’s Bears.” It’s about faith, the Bible, and the church in general. You can follow the podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcast and Amazon Music. His most recent episodes include conversations with **Dr. Greg DeLoach, Dean of the Mercer University McAfee School of Theology in Atlanta, Ga.** (top picture) and with **Rev. Lee Fox, Senior Pastor of Ball Camp Baptist Church in Knoxville** (bottom picture).



## Youth Ignite

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



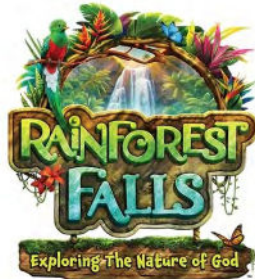
## College & Career LifeGroup

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



## Youth Fundraiser

Car Wash Tickets will go on sale soon for \$15.00 each. Contact Kris if you would like to go ahead and reserve your tickets now. Proceeds will benefit the Youth Designated Fund.



## VBS

**JUNE 8 - JUNE 12**  
**9:00 A.M. - 12 P.M.**  
**AGE 4 - GRADE 5**



## 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.



## Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 5  
12:00 p.m.  
At First Baptist Church following the 10:40 a.m. Worship Service.  
*Candy Donations needed for Eggs. Drop off in the FLC Lobby or in the Garden Room - Main Bldg., level 2).*



- PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
- VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION
- DONATE TO VBS



## Sitting in the ... Shadows of the Cross

A Meditative Journey with the 7 Last Phrases of Jesus  
Holy Week...  
Tues., March 31, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wed., April 1, 9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Thurs., April 2, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
FBC Sanctuary

## Walking in the... Light of the Cross

An Interactive Journey with the Joy of Resurrection  
Easter Week...  
Tues., April 7, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wed., April 8, 9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 9, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
FBC Sanctuary and surrounding areas



## Young Life Madrid

Host Families Needed for their Spanish teens June 24 to July 24  
Learn more at [younglife.org](http://younglife.org).  
looking for host families for our Spanish teenagers who will be participating in the Young Life Madrid 2026 USA Summer Program.

Would you prayerfully consider hosting a student, or recommend someone who might be interested? Opening your home is an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus, creating a space where a student can experience Christ’s love through your family in real and unforgettable ways.



The Creative Arts Ministry and Children’s Ministry will have a table set up at the Mosaic Arts Festival on **Saturday, April 18**. They will have face painting and crafts. Come visit our table!

## Encore Trip to Dogwood Arts Festival

Friday, April 24  
Watch for more details.

## Women’s Book Club

April Book of the Month: **Wait for Me** by Amy Jo Burns  
3rd Tues., Monthly 11:00 a.m.  
FLC, Hearth Room  
*Please contact Kay Hannah if you would like to attend.*



## New Deacons

The following deacons will serve a three year term beginning **April 1, 2026**:  
**Rebecca Aiken, Terry Barber** (to be ordained), **Alan Neal, Johnafred Thomas, Vicki Violette, Gene Widener**

**Other Deacons Currently Serving:** Mike Aiken, Kevin Barber, Leah Barber, Jackie Champion, Ann Gann, Larry Gann, Mark Halcomb, Patricia Marshall, Tom Marshall, Rick Meredith, Tommy Meredith, Ben Neal, Scott Page, Page Scarborough, Jill Whitaker, Sam Zachary

## In Christian Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Barbara Duncan** (3/7) and to the family of **Lynn Denton** (3/22).

## Memorial Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary, Sunday, April 12, 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 26, are in loving memory of **John Cobb's** birthday, May 3, given by Beth and Connie.

## From the Pulpit in April

**8:30 a.m.** Family Life Center

**9:30 a.m.** LifeGroups

**10:40 a.m.** Sanctuary

April 5 Matthew 28:1-10

April 12 Mark 1:14-20 (8:30);  
Esther 4:9-14 (10:40)

April 19 Isaiah 6:1-8

April 26 Jason Taylor

## The Seven Last Words of Jesus

*"Cross-Shattered Christ"*

by Stanley Hauerwas

**Wednesdays, April 8, 22, 29**

**6:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

Led by Pastor Danny

## Wednesdays in April

**6:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

April 1 FBC Youth Beach  
Retreat Report

April 8 7 Last Words of Jesus

April 15 Business Meeting

April 22 7 Last Words of Jesus

April 29 7 Last Words of Jesus

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Tuesdays**

**5:30 p.m.**

FLC - Level 2

## Welcome New Member



Nathan Hudson

## Maundy Thursday Service

**Thursday, April 2**

**6:00 p.m.**

Sanctuary

Observance of the Lord's Supper

## Good Friday

The Church Office, FLC, and WEE Ministry will be closed.

## Easter Sunday Services

**Sunday, April 5**

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

**9:30 a.m. LifeGroups**

## Photography Group

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, Monthly**

**6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

FLC - Hearth Room



## Wildflower Photography

### Field Trip to Norris

**Sunday, April 12**

**Leave FBC at 2:00 p.m.**

**Return around 4:00 p.m.**

(photo by Albert Earle)

## Deacons' Meeting

**Tuesday, April 14**

**5:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

## February Financial Summary

Budget Receipts \$87,143

2026 Receipts/Wkly Avg. \$16,739

2026 Weekly Budget Req. \$18,495

Budget Expense \$76,102

February (Deficit)/Income \$11,041

2026 Deficit (Deficit)/Income (\$27,631)

TOTAL February 28 (\$16,590)

## Business Meeting

**Wednesday, April 15**

**6:30 p.m.**

Lower Auditorium

## Business Meeting Report

The February Minutes and Financials were approved. **Jo Anne Swann** resigned from Finance Committee and **Johanna Whitley** resigned from Stewardship Committee. **Debbie Long** was added to the Personnel

Committee, **Sandi Tomlinson** was added to the Finance Committee and **Dee Dee Swanner** was added to the Stewardship Committee. **New Deacons** were approved (see inside). The church approved paying **KH Commercial Roofing** for FLC Roof and **Busy Bee's Landscaping** for cleanup/mulching. We added **Nathan Hudson** by statement to the church roll and removed **Kacy Robinson** from the roll.

**Towers Movie Night**  
**Saturday, April 16**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
Movie: "Invictus"  
Popcorn & Drinks will be served.

## Towers Movie Night

**Saturday, April 16**

**6:00 p.m.**

Movie: "Invictus"

Popcorn & Drinks will be served.

## Sweet Treats Needed for Towers Movie Nights

If you would like to sign up to provide sweet treats for a Towers Movie Night, please contact Amanda Taylor.

## Towers Craft

**Third Thursday, Monthly**

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

At the Towers

Led by Julia Spradling



**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.

## CSC Distributions February 2026:

181 individuals served (108 families)

37 Children, 58 Adults, 86 Seniors

Food Items Total 4359

USDA Food 1181 (free),

Church Food 2548 (\$1332.57)

Clothes 426, Miscellaneous 124

## CSC Clothing Closet

The CSC is in need of 2-3 more volunteers to substitute on Tuesday afternoons from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. and sort through clothes on Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. If you can help, please contact K.K. Meredith.

## Spirit Sisters

**1st Monday/monthly, 6:00 p.m.**

FLC/Hearth Room

Social outings will be on the 3rd

Monday monthly

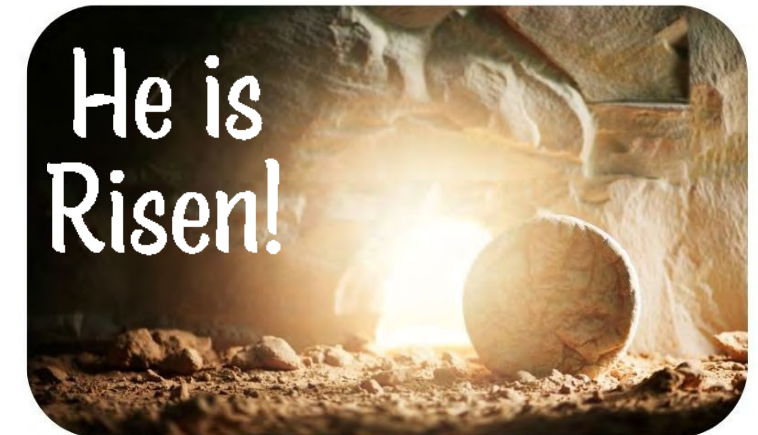
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IN THE  
*Heart* OF  
**CLINTON**  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIENDLY GUIDE

April 2026



## Easter Sunday, April 5

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

LifeGroups meet at 9:30 a.m.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt is April 5,  
and will begin promptly at 12:00 p.m.  
on the Front Lawn of the Church.