

# First Thoughts...

Labor Day is a national holiday and is the unofficial ending of summer. It's usually the last chance before school gets underway to take trips and long weekends together. I can't believe that we're already in the month of September and gearing up for classes (and football games). I'm already eager for some cooler temperatures!

I completed a Wednesday night series on Psalm 23 a few weeks ago. In the last session, I dealt with the section, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever" (the KJV has a way with the Psalms).

It doesn't always feel like "goodness and mercy are following me." The word for "following" can be translated "pursued." When we look in the rear-view mirror of our lives, it can appear that worry and difficulty are coming after us instead. Our feelings can get the better of us, and soon we stop living by faith.

I think most of us can relate to this sentiment. Despite all the good things God is doing around us, we can become distracted and distant from God's purpose for us. Remember, the "testing of our faith" produces perseverance. This sentiment is true on a personal level but also on a church level.

You should have received (or will receive) a quarterly report of our finances from Tommy Meredith, chair of Finance Committee. Please give careful consideration to the contents of the letter and prayerfully consider how you can help us catch up on our budget giving. Our spending is where it needs to be, but our giving is lagging behind. Each one of us should support the work of our church financially.

We're heading into the 4th quarter of our fiscal year. I'd like us to finish on a strong financial note. Keep in mind that our giving also influences how we budget for the upcoming year too. So, may all of us do our best and we'll trust the Lord with the results and respond accordingly. These last few months of 2024 offer very meaningful worship and fellowship moments for us; let's lean into the opportunities and continue our outward focus to reach people for Christ.

Pastor Danny

## Happy 10 Year Staff Anniversary!

On Sunday, September 8, we will recognize the 10 Year Staff Anniversary of **Joanna Pace**, Church Administrator and **Rev. Jason Taylor**, Minister of Young Adults & FLC Ministries. Please take time to thank them for their dedication to our church.



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



**Sunday, September 15**  
The Youth will leave following LifeGroup for Tinseltown to see the movie "**God's Not Dead**" and then lunch at Pizza inn. Movie and Pizza is on the church. Please bring money for concessions if you wish.



**Sunday, September 29**  
The Youth will leave following LifeGroups for **Oakes Farm** in Corryton. The cost is \$10.00 per person for Corn Maze and a Pumpkin. Also, bring extra money for food.

## Baptism Day

Rev. Kris Hicks baptized **Dallas Beets, Isaac Benton, Garrett Lee and Abby Phillips** on Sunday, July 28.



## Kids Church

Sundays during the 10:40 a.m. Service in the Church Library.

## FBC Kids

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

## Bible Presentation



Kit was presented a Bible on Sunday, August 4th for moving up to 1st Grade!

## Baptism Day



Rev. Lauren Neal baptized **Pressley Floyd** and **Marlee Holbrook** on Sunday, July 28.

## FBC Kids Sing

**Sunday, September 29**  
During the **8:30 a.m.**  
and **10:40 a.m.** Services

**TRICK OR TREAT**  
On Sunday,  
October 27  
5:00 p.m. -  
7:00 p.m.  
FLC Gym

## WANT TO VOLUNTEER FOR RAM?



If you want to help at our Remote Area Medical Clinic, November 2-3, 2024, you **MUST** be registered through the RAM website: **1)** <https://www.ramusa.org/volunteer/> **2)** Click "Register Here" **3)** Under "Profession or Volunteer Classification": If you're a professional, choose the category that applies & follow the instructions from there. If you're a nonprofessional volunteer that has been assigned by our FBC RAM team to a specific area, choose "General Support" in the first drop-down menu and "Community Host Group" in the second drop-down menu. If you haven't been assigned to a specific area by our FBC RAM team, choose "General Support" in the first drop-down menu and "General Support" in the second drop-down menu, and RAM will assign you an area to serve on the day of the clinic when you check in at Volunteer Registration. **4)** Events & Assignments: Choose "USA: Tennessee" in the first drop-down menu, "clinics" in the second drop-down menu, and "Clinton, TN 2024" in the third drop-down menu. **5)** Add your digital signature to the liability waiver & click "save signature". **6)** click "save & submit" at the bottom of the page.

If you have trouble with this process, Kevin & Amanda will be available to help you register after church services (in the FLC lobby after the 8:30 service & in the Garden Room after the 10:40 service) on the following Sundays: Aug. 25, Sept. 1 (combined 8:30 service—FLC lobby only), & Sept. 29. If you are a dental professional or volunteer over the age of 18 and wish to serve on the dental floor, you must complete your blood-borne pathogen certification. Children under the age of 14 can't register to volunteer. Guardians of volunteers ages 14-18 must either be on site or give permission to an assigned FBC volunteer to act as guardian.

## PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The Photography Group of the Creative Arts Ministry will begin meeting again starting in **September**. Meetings will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 6:00-7:00pm in the Hearth Room of the FLC. Content of these meetings will vary: lessons on a variety of topics, instructional videos, guest speakers, fun assignments, and field trips to take pictures. All are welcome! Albert Earle, Todd Temple, and John Cuffman will be leading this group moving forward. Stay tuned to announcements for more information. If you're interested in this Photography Group and would like to be added to the texting group to receive the most up-to-date info, please let Amanda know.

## COMPASSIONATE ACTS MINISTRY

We have a new ministry starting at FBC Clinton! Compassionate Acts Ministry will coordinate congregational and community support for innumerable outreach programs of the Volunteer Services of Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge, including their hospitality houses and infusion centers. Consider making a meal for the hospitality houses, donating funds for patients needing a ride home after discharge, assembling goodie bags for children in waiting rooms, playing soothing music in the waiting areas, writing encouraging cards to patients or staff...the possibilities are endless! Contact Mary Williams for more info: (865) 705-0207.



## Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, September 8, are in loving memory of **Bill Howell's** birthday, September 6, given by Dot Howell.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, September 15, are in loving memory of **Steven Clark's** birthday, which was September 14, given by Herbie Clark and Robert Clark.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, September 22 are in loving memory **Andy Halcomb's** birthday, September 11 and **Anne Halcomb's** birthday, September 21, and in celebration of **Andrew Halcomb's** birthday, September 28 given by Mark and Jane.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, September 29 are in honor and celebration of **Elizabeth Tavenner's** Birthday (9/29) given, by her 3 sons - Tim, Sam, and Jim.

The flowers in the baptistry, Sunday, September 29 are loving memory of **Lyndsey Denton** given by Lynn, Whitney, and Clark.

## Christian Service Center Distributions - July 2024

**Total:** 168 Families served. (290 Individuals)  
6691 food items  
744 clothing items  
114 miscellaneous items  
CSC volunteers greatly appreciate your continued support of this ministry.

**FBC Kids Sing** in the Worship Services on **Sunday, September 29, at 8:30 a.m. and 10:40 a.m.**

## Hymn Sing at FBC

First Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir & Memorial Methodist Choir invite you to a Hymn sing on Sunday, **September 29 at 3:00 p.m.** in the First Baptist Church, Sanctuary Everyone is welcome to attend!

## From the Pulpit

**8:30 a.m.** Family Life Center  
**9:30 a.m.** LifeGroups  
**10:40 a.m.** Sanctuary  
September 1 Luke 18:9-14  
September 8 Joshua 24:14-21  
September 15 Romans 5:6-8  
September 22 Romans 8:1-8  
September 29 Psalm 31:9-15



## Adult Bible Study

**Wednesday Nights in September**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium  
Led by Rev. Jason Taylor

## Favorite Teams Sunday

**Combined Service**  
**Sunday, September 1**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Family Life Center**  
Communion will be observed.  
There will be no 10:40 a.m. service.  
LifeGroups meet at 9:30 a.m.

**WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM COLORS!**

## Then Sings My Soul



## GospelFest Night of Worship

**Sunday, September 22**  
**5:30 p.m.**

FBC Sanctuary  
**Reception to Follow in FLC**  
Including: Mt. Sinai Gospel Choir, Asbury United Methodist Church Choir, The Overflow, Bethel A.M.E. Choir, FBC Clinton Praise Team, The Caldwell Family, & Carolyn Wilkerson!

## July Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 58,431
2024 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 14,529
2024 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 18,362
Budget Expense	\$ 78,628
July Deficit/Income	\$ 20,197
2024 Deficit/Income	(\$ 100,010)
TOTAL July 31	(\$ 120,207)



## 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.

## August Business Meeting Report

July Minutes and Financials were approved. Epoxy will be put in the cracks of the steps going up to the Family Life Center building. We will consult with Asphalt Paving to confirm their bid and proceed with the parking lot sealing. The Library Committee updated their job description.

## Labor Day Closings

The Church Office, Family Life Center and WEE Ministry will be closed on **Monday, September 2** for Labor Day.

## Deacons Meeting

**Tuesday, September 10**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

## Business Meeting

**Wednesday, September 18**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Lower Auditorium

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The "Friendly Guide" (monthly newsletter) will be sent via email until further notice beginning in October. It can also be accessed on our church website. If you do not have access to email or the web, you may contact Katrina in the church office and request a copy to be mailed to you.

## Historical Moment



"Our new Church was completed in 1939 at a cost of \$65,000." (One Hundred Years – A Story of First Baptist

Church, Clinton, Tennessee by Mary Weaver)

## 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., on a one week delay. Services can also be viewed live on our Facebook Page.

## Encore Trip to Cumberland County Playhouse

If you signed up to see "Grease" at the Cumberland County Playhouse on **Thursday, September 5**, please plan to leave FBC at **10:00 a.m.**

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

## CHURCH PICNIC AT NORRIS DAM STATE PARK BUDDY'S bar-b-q

● \$10 PER PERSON OR \$25 MAX PER FAMILY ●  
BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE AND A LAWN CHAIR!

**SUNDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 15**

NORRIS DAM STATE PARK  
SHELTER #2

ARRIVE  
**4 PM**  
EAT  
**5 PM**

RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 6  
SPONSORED BY THE DEACONS



## TURKEY TIME!

FBC CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

We NEED monetary donations for Turkey Time!  
Please mark your envelope "Turkey Time!"  
\$25.00 will purchase one, complete, holiday meal!