

First Thoughts...

It's time for March Madness!

This is THE favorite time of year for college basketball fans, as 68 teams make their way into the NCAA tournament "on the road to the final four" (and please don't add any more teams to the tournament, it's close to perfect the way it is). A lot of people "fill out their brackets" in the hopes of predicting correctly the outcome of all these games.

I've become a more interested basketball fan recently, mainly due to how good the Southeastern Conference is this year. There are two teams I'm particularly supportive of ("War Eagle!" and "Let's Go Vols!") throughout basketball season. But, there's an added energy and excitement about the NCAA basketball tournament. One of the great thrills to this event is the possibility of an unknown team (aka Cinderella) defeating some higher ranked team resulting in busted tournament brackets and "madness" in the basketball world.

In addition to this sporting event, and more importantly, the Church is entering its own spiritual season known as Lent. Lent is a 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and reflection on the life, suffering, and death of Jesus Christ. Many Christians "give up" something for Lent to identify with what Jesus endured during the 40-day period of testing he endured while in the wilderness.

Perhaps you also will give thought to giving something up during this period of time. And, some folks will use each Sunday as a "feast day" to take a break from whatever it is from which they are fasting.

I'm very grateful our church acknowledges Ash Wednesday, the beginning of this 40-day season. This worship service is a deeply personal and communal spiritual experience. I encourage you be part of it as we are reminded "from dust you are, and from dust you will return."

One of the biggest takeaways from the Lenten season is the realization of our sinfulness and need of a Savior. John Pierce put it this way, "Perhaps in addition to our accountability groups we need grace groups to remind one another that we are loved and affirmed in our failures, differences, and imperfections—keeping in the forefront that none of us has it all figured out."

It's easy to look around and notice a lot of non-basketball related madness going around. However, it's important to realize there's a lot of good to enjoy and part of that goodness is sharing life together. It's worth mentioning that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13.8).

Make sure you're part of what's going on with our church these next several weeks. God has been good to us. Let's remain faithful in our witness, prayers, giving, and service to our Lord.

Pastor Danny



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, March 27

Leaving FLC at 5:30 p.m.

**Free Dinner at Chick-fil-a
& Hide Easter Eggs**

Youth Baptism



We celebrated the Baptisms of **Noah McGeorge** and **Caleb Harold** on Sunday, February 25.

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.



Youth Summer Kick Off

(grades 6 - 12)

Wednesday, May 14

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



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.

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.



March 1 - Last Games

March 3 - Upward Celebration at Second Baptist Church.

Christian Service Center Report January 2025

Total: 139 Families served.

(267 Individuals)

6053 food items

3479 clothing items

133 miscellaneous items

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



Towers

Movie Night

"Horton Hears A Who"

Saturday, March 8

6:00 p.m.

At the Towers

Everyone is invited to join us for a movie, popcorn, cokes, hot chocolate, and treats!



Towers Craft

Third Thursday, Monthly

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

At the Towers

Led by Julia Spradling



ENCORE TRIP Tennessee RIVERBOAT CRUISE & LUNCH

Wednesday, March 26

Leave FBC at 10:00 a.m.

Return to FBC by 3:00 p.m.

RSVP by March 19

Cost: \$37 per person

Included Cruise & Lunch

Lunch: herb-seasoned chicken, special vegetable, pasta salad, homemade biscuits and a fresh baked cobbler.

We will be sailing rain or shine as we view Knoxville from the Tennessee River!



Encore Trip to Barter Theater

"Million Dollar Quartet"
and Lunch

Tuesday, April 29

Watch 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**

From the Pulpit

8:30 a.m. Family Life Center

9:30 a.m. LifeGroups

10:40 a.m. Sanctuary

March 2 Luke 10:38-42

March 9 Combined Service

10:40 Sanctuary

Esther 4:9-14

March 16 Rev. Kris Hicks

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

March 23 John 4:16-24

March 30 Luke 17:30-37

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, March 5

6:30 p.m.

Sanctuary



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13

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

Kids will 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. FLC

10:40 a.m. Sanctuary

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 20

12:00 p.m.

At First Baptist Church following the 10:40 a.m. Worship Service.

Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, March 2, are in loving memory of **Terry Carpenter's** birthday, March 3 and in memory of **Von and Toni Carpenter**, given by Carol Carpenter.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, March 9, are in loving memory of **Frank Boggs'** birthday, March 11, given by Sue and family.

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar, Sunday, March 23, are in loving memory of **Helen Bowling's** birthday which was March 23, given by Billie Sue Hammer, Will, Whitney, Morgan and Millie Hammer, Clay, Ashley, Gabriella, Adaiah and C.J. Hammer and Carolyn Wilson.

Wednesdays in March

March 5 10:30 a.m. Daniel Study

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday

March 12 No Activities

Spring Break

March 19 6:30 p.m. Business

Meeting

March 26 6:30 p.m. Daniel Study

Lower Auditorium

Photography Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays, Monthly

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

FLC - Hearth Room

Spirit Sisters

(Widows Support Group)

1st Monday, Monthly

6:00 p.m.

FLC - Hearth Room



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesdays

5:30 p.m.

FLC - Level 2

Jan. Financial Summary

Budget Receipts	\$ 55,257
2025 Receipts/Wkly Avg.	\$ 13,814
2025 Weekly Budget Req.	\$ 18,542
Budget Expense	\$ 77,813
January Deficit/Income	(\$ 22,556)
2025 Deficit/Income	(\$ 22,556)
TOTAL January 31	(\$ 22,556)

Congratulations FBC!

We met our \$7,000 Lottie Moon and Global Missions Goal!

February Business Meeting Report

January Minutes and Financials were approved.

The church approved the **Keyboards at Christmas** to be held on Sunday, December 21, 2025.

Anne Worthington and **Shelley Phillips** were added to the Missions Committee. **David Worthington** was added to the Finance Committee. Karen Eslinger resigned from the Missions Committee.

The church will donate \$1,500 from Missions towards **Hanna Hicks'** \$3,800 goal for her mission trip to South Africa with Carson-Newman. If anyone would like to help with her goal, please contact Hanna for more information.

The church will donate \$900 to the **Education Foundation Teacher Depot** from School Supplies.

The church will transfer money from RAM that was moved from ReNew (\$10,860.66) to the **Christian Service Center**.

The church will use \$1,000 of the Memorial Fund to go towards **Hanna Hick's** trip to South Africa.

The church will use Memorial Fund money to purchase 3 smart TV's for the **Children's Ministry** areas.

The church will sale the **Youth Trailer** to Clinton High School Cheer Team for a price of \$500.

Offering Envelopes

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

THE FRIENDLY GUIDE - PO BOX 268 - CLINTON, TN - (865) 457-9353

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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.

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, March 11

5:30 p.m.

Lower Auditorium

Business Meeting

Wednesday, March 19

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.

IN THE Heart OF CLINTON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIENDLY GUIDE

MARCH 2025



COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

10:40 A.M.

SANCTUARY

There will be no 8:30 a.m. service on this day. LifeGroups will meet at 9:30 a.m.

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday, March 9

Remember to move your clocks forward 1 hour!