December 2021

APTIST CHURCH





NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

Dear First Baptist Family,

First Baptist Church has been blessing me and my family since I first came to Murray State as a student. This church has been part of our greatest joys and deepest sorrows. One of those unexpected joys has been the privilege to serve this congregation as Pastor, beginning as an Interim Pastor in 2012.

I sincerely believe the time has come for me to pass the baton of leadership as Senior Pastor via retirement. Carole has been my biggest source of support and prayed me through many challenges. We have discussed this decision extensively. I have discussed this with our Personnel Committee and indicated that my last day as your pastor will be March 31, 2022. During these remaining months, I will be working alongside our staff and other leadership to make this a good transition.

As you are aware, when I arrived I had never served as a Senior Pastor in any church. However, given the long history with this church and her members, God appointed me to serve here, with my friends and family.

My personal toolbox and skillset have brought me to this point. Now, I believe First Baptist needs someone with a bigger toolbox, a different toolbox, and a different skillset to continue the Great Commandment work for First Baptist Church.

Carole and I will remain in Murray, Ky. We anticipate eventually serving alongside you as FBC members.

After 28 years of serving in collegiate ministry, and now all these years with you as Pastor, it is hard to believe I am approaching retirement. But, my Medicare card is in hand and I have grandkids waiting for a visit from their papaw!

I love you and thank you.

Sincerely, Keith

Combined Worship Service

As we enter into the holiday season, we will only have one worship service at 11:00 am. In-Person and Online



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR JASON ELLERBROOK



Church Family,

Christmas is a wonderful reminder that God is with us. What an incredible promise. The prophecies and promises of "Immanuel" reverberate from cover to cover in the Bible. He is the reason we celebrate.

If you are reading this, my prayer is that you are with Him. He is passionately pursing a relationship with you. He went to the extreme to repair a relationship that was broken by us. He sent His Son to pay the price for our sin. And through the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we have hope.

God did not leave things there. His hope was made complete when Jesus ascended into heaven and was seated at the right hand of God. It was there that He was given full authority over the heavens and the earth. We have a conquering King interceding on our behalf with the God of the universe. He also gave us His Holy Spirit. When he physically left earth, His Spirit did not. As believers if we follow Christ, He will give us His Spirit to empower and guide us. If we are in Him, he will be in us! Wow!

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

Christmas is not about a holiday program or a seasonal preference. Christmas is about a person!

May God be with you, and you with Him!

Jason





NOTES FROM <u>MATURE ADULTS G</u>ROWING <u>IN</u> <u>CHRIST (SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY)</u> BOYD SMITH

M.A.G.I.C. Friends,

We hope you will join us for our last luncheon of the year! We have made reservations at Sirloin Stockade for December 13. We will meet at the FLC at 11:15 am. Please call the office by Wednesday, December 8 if you are going with us.

What a joy it is to enter into the Christmas season knowing the hope and peace that comes from Christ. As you celebrate Christmas, I hope you will find yourself returning to this scripture, "When the time came to completion, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." Galatians 4:4-5

Merry Christmas! Boyd

NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY

Hello Friends!

We are making final arrangements for **Sing, Christmas!**, which will be presented on December 12 at 11:00 am. This is a compilation of eight familiar Christmas Hymns which we will all sing together! Our choir is working very diligently and I think you are going to enjoy singing this with us!

We are also working on some instrumental songs which will enhance our worship services this coming Christmas season. I enjoy hearing from some of our instrumentalists during this time of year! It's so good to worship together and celebrate the coming of Christ. Be sure to join us for every Sunday in December!

This is a very busy time at First Baptist. Much is happening. Let's all work together to further the cause of Christ!

See you Sunday!

Blessings, Mike

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In the event of inclement weather, a decision regarding the cancellation of Sunday morning services will be made by 6:00 am. If services are cancelled, WPSD (Channel 6) and WAAJ-FM (89.7) will be notified by 6:15 am. We will announce via our website, social media, phone system, and church-wide email. A cancellation decision will be made by noon concerning Sunday and Wednesday evening activities and be reported in the same manner.



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NOTES FROM STUDENT MINISTRY

Text @fbcmky to 81010 to stay connected and up to date on all youth ministry things! 2021 YOUTH FALL RETREAT CONTENDING

Fall Retreat was a success! We gathered at The Hill in Hardin, KY for a weekend of Bible study, preaching, worship, games, and food! The Lord worked greatly in the lives of teenagers. We are thankful for the messages preached by Nathan Rogers from Trace Creek Baptist and the worship from Nolan and Abigail Case. Praise God!

NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY RACHEL RIQUELME



Families can pick up an Advent Calendar and Eli the Donkey Books on Sunday, November 28, to prepare for Advent. You will use these resources throughout the month of December.

Join us for Christmas @ First with Main Street Merriement! We are so very excited to celebrate the birth of our Savior with the community on December 3 from 4:00-7:00 pm in the Family Life Center! We hope you will join us for chili, cookies, crafts, games, and live music. To help with the event, sign up at the table in the Welcome Center or contact Debbie Bell at dbell@murraystate.edu.

Our Pajama Party is Sunday, December 5. Kids of all ages are invited to wear their pajamas and stay on the children's floors from Sunday School through the 11:00 am worship service for our Christmas PJ Party! Parents, you will not need to pick your child up from the Kids1st floor until after the 11:00 am service.

We will have Family 1st Worship on Sunday, November 28, December 12 for the choir performance, and on December 26 for the Lord's Supper.

It is time to think about Crossings! The deposit is \$80 and is due on December 31. Cash or checks can be turned into the church office.



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

Stop by the library to see our display of books recommended by some of our library patrons. You will find many interesting fiction and non-fiction books, chosen because patrons found them to be enjoyable or helpful!

It's hard to believe Christmas time is almost here! Stop by the library beginning Sunday, November 28, to register for Christmas giveaways. We will be giving away two adult books and a DVD for children. The drawing will be on Sunday, December 19. Also, please bring your child by the library on that Sunday to get a special Christmas treat.

The author of the month for December is Ted Dekker. An award-winning author, Ted is a New York Times and international bestselling author of over 50 books, including suspense/thrillers, young adult novels, young reader book series (for ages 7 and up) and Christian devotionals. His books will be on display through December 31.



rightnow MEDIA

Our church's Bible study library is now digital...

AND GIGANTIC.

We have purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to everyone in our church.



Text RIGHTNOW FBCMURRAY to 41411 to sign up!

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BLESSING BOX



We have two Blessing Boxes! Help us keep them stuffed with nonperishable food items!

Located at Riviera Courts near the office and the FLC Parking Lot.



SIGN UP TO FILL THE BOX AT FBCMURRAY.ORG!

	2020	2021
WMO TOTAL GOAL	\$140,000	\$154,000
INTERNATIONAL		
LOTTIE MOON (INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS)	\$50,000 \$55,000	
GLOBAL HUNGER RELIEF (SEND RELIEF)	\$2,000 \$2,200	
BRAZIL MISSION TRIP	\$5,000	\$5,500
A.M.O.R.	\$5,000	\$5,500
GIDEONS	\$2,500	\$2,750
SEND RELIEF (FORMERLY BAPTIST GLOBAL RESPONSE)	\$4,000 \$4,400	
ZIMBABWE MISSION TRIP	\$1,500	\$1,650
GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP	\$3,000	\$3,300
ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE/MOROCCO	\$3,000	\$3,300
ZIMBABWE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY	\$3,000	\$3,300
TOTAL INTERNATIONAL	\$79,000	\$86,900
NORTH AMERICA		
ANNIE ARMSTRONG (NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS)	\$14,000	\$15,400
CHRYSALIS INTERVENTIONS	\$1,500	\$1,650
STEVE HALE MINISTRIES	\$1,000	\$1,100
NAVIGATORS	\$3,000	\$3,300
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TOTAL NORTH AMERICA	\$19,500	\$21,450
STATE AND LOCAL		
ELIZA BROADUS (KENTUCKY MISSIONS)	\$7,000	\$7,700
MAIN STREET YOUTH CENTER	\$2,000	\$2,200
SOUP FOR THE SOUL	\$2,000	\$2,200
BAPTIST CAMPUS MINISTRIES	\$9,000	\$9,900
SUNRISE CHILDREN SERVICES	\$7,000	\$7,700
LIFE HOUSE	\$3,000	\$3,300
KENTUCKY DISASTER RELIEF	\$1,000	\$1,100
NEARTOWN RECOVERY	\$1,000	\$1,100
SUMMER IMPACT	\$1,500	\$1,650
TOTAL STATE AND LOCAL	\$33,500	\$36,850
SPECIAL NEEDS	\$8,000	\$8,800
	+-,	+-,
GRAND TOTAL	\$140,000	\$154,000

MEET THE CHURCH MEMBERS Steve and Casey Springer





"We've been a part of the FBC family since 2013. During our time, we have gotten to watch our kids grow up and move from preschool to graduating out of youth group. Our kids have gotten to serve and, on a few occasions, be served as a part of our church body. One of our favorite memories is our family sitting across a few different tables during a combined meal with international students and domestic students. As parents, we were grateful that they thought it was completely normal to sit with someone from Korea, China, France, and Nigeria at one time during a meal. I love that our kids have a global perspective and love that our church builds that way of thinking. We have grown to love the body of FBC and have depended on them in hard times. That has enabled us to go into our community and across the world to be that for others. We treasure our time with

FBC and recall that when we first attended, we were planning to check out a few churches and after attending one service we didn't leave because we felt so at home. We knew some familiar faces and Pastor Keith worked hard to let us know he appreciated us in the congregation. We landed in a Sunday school class that was a class just for the day and we spent many hours with teachers that have moved to a different state, but still keep in touch. FBC does a great job of building people up to go back out and disciple. We attempt to be the church wherever we go. That has looked like Missioncation in St. Louis, VBS, rec camps, Upward, and various ways of feeding people. A personal family favorite was helping a group build their own church using our former college building and having services and feeding them each Sunday. We have developed community and friendships that we will have for life. That shows up in helping a friend move farm animals or dropping meals off at each other's homes when life feels like it's falling apart. It's having small groups with each other's kids, being the snack person at Fuge, and getting to watch relationships come full circle as we've watched our kids grow up and begin their own communities in and outside of our church. I'm so proud of how FBC takes it outside the church doors, across the street, country, ocean and beyond." -Casey Springer

First Baptist Church, Murray 2022 Operating Budget

	2021	2022
INCOME	Budget	Budget
Budget Receipts (weekly need-\$27,563)	\$1,391,044	\$1,433,246
Mother's Day Out	\$128,268	\$151,432
Total Income	\$1,519,312	\$1,584,678
EVDENCES		
EXPENSES	¢04 521	¢01 422
Cooperative Program	\$84,531 \$81,432	
Pastoral Ministry	\$4,850	\$4,850
Music/Worship Ministry	\$10,079	\$10,164
Student Ministry	\$19,505	\$18,215
International Ministry	\$7,485	\$7,465
College Ministry	\$12,115	\$11,045
Kids First Ministry	\$25,533	\$28,922
Mother's Day Out	\$134,309	\$146,044
Family Life Center	\$3,900	\$3,900
Prayer & Care Ministry	\$2,355	\$1,827
Communications & Outreach	\$20,505	\$9,255
Women @ First (to Adult Discipleship)	\$3,030	\$0
Adult Discipleship	\$0	\$17,055
Church Programs	\$27,682	\$23,746
Staff Salaries, Benefits, Expenses	\$831,299	\$861,417
Office Support	\$40,824	\$52,003
Facilities, Utilities, & Insurance	\$291,310	\$307,338
Total Expense	\$1,519,312	\$1,584,678
World Mission Offering Cool	\$154,000	\$161.702
World Mission Offering Goal	\$154,000	\$161,702

Detailed copies of the 2022 budget will be available in the church office, in the Welcome Center, and at the December 5 Business Meeting. The budget will be voted on at the December 12 morning service.



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 27-30 IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S.

YEAR-END GIVING

We need your help to reach our 2021 budget and World Mission Offering goal! Please make sure all 2021 contributions are placed in the offering box by December 26 or postmarked by December 31 to count towards your 2021 tax return.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

Alayna Barrett joined by Profession of Faith/Baptism on Sunday, November 21. Tyler DeLaney joined by Letter on Sunday, November 21.

THANK YOU NOTES

Jonathan Clark thanks FBC for loaning the church buses for the international conference.

RADIO/TV

Our 11:00 am worship service is aired at 11:00 am on WAAJ-FM 89.7. Our services are also broadcast on Thursday at 8:00 pm on Murray Electric System's channel 15.

CHURCH INFORMATION

FINANCES (AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2021)

- \$1,177,037.00 Budgeted as of 10/31/2021
- \$1,010,727.66 Budget Receipts as of 10/31/2021
- \$1,068,351.94 Budget Expenditures as of 10/31/2021
- \$ 154,000.00 WMO 2021 Goal
- \$ 81,494.59 WMO Receipts as of 10/31/2021

\$3,648,995.56 Family Life Center Receipts as of 10/31/2021

\$ 145,396.95 Family Life Center Borrowed as of 10/31/2021

MEMORIALS

Library

The book, *Prayers from the Heart,* by Richard J. Foster has been given to the FBC Library in memory of Mrs. Cathryn Garrott.

The book, *Building a Discipling Culture*, by Mike Breen has been given to the FBC Library in memory of Mrs. Larue Mitchell.

Financial

Contributions to the 2021 World Mission Offering have been received in memory of Edna McKinney, Betty Sue Vinson, and Betty Stewart and in honor of the marriage of Lynn Luo and David Murphy.

Contributions to the Family Life Center Building Fund have been received in memory of Edna McKinney and Betty Sue Vinson.

VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of December is David McDowell. If you would like a ride to Sunday School (9:45 am) or the worship service (11:00 am), contact David at 270-227-3109.

ATTENDANCE

	8:30 am Service	11:00 am Service	
October 31	130	239	
November 7	157	193	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
November 14	143	222	CHURCH
November 21	127	229	MURRAY, KENTUCKY

203 S. 4th St., Murray, KY 42071 | fbcmurray.org | 270-753-1854