

# MANNA

## JANUARY 2021



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
MURRAY, KENTUCKY

Happy  
New Year





# NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

KEITH INMAN

You never truly know what a new day may bring. For Western Kentucky, a new day brought devastation, loss of property, loss of life, and loss of hope. And then, another day brought the body of Christ rallying together to remind people that God cares, God loves, and God remembers. God does not just sit on the sideline as people experience suffering. No. He mobilizes the presence of Christ through the body of Christ.

Even those who have not experienced the redemption of grace know it was not intended to be this way. The power of sin does not care who we are nor where we are. The fallen order of creation can be quite chaotic. The wonder of creation, in all God's glory and majesty, a wonder that catches our breath and gives us pause to realize there must be a Creator, can often express a demonstration of destruction. Yes, even creation groans for the day when things will be "made right".

I am so grateful for First Baptist Murray, who in foresight believed that an investment made "now" could make a difference "when". Word went out. FBC Murray is ready to assist "now". Four different disaster relief entities (maybe more) found their way to our church – a place to set up their "command centers", to launch relief efforts to a hurting Western Kentucky. **Kentucky Baptist Convention Disaster Relief** teams were the first to arrive, filling up our parking lot with trailers of supplies and equipment and our Family Life Center with people eager to help in a practical way and to express the love of Jesus. **Waterstep**, a world-wide water purification enterprise arrived next, setting up a purification unit at the Mayfield Community Health Center and now as I write, another unit being placed at a fire station in Marshall County. **Send Relief**, the Disaster Relief expression of the **North American Mission Board**, has now arrived and has integrated their efforts with ours.

Because of our ability to offer use of our Family Life Center, FBC Murray has become a central hub and distribution center of hope expressed to people in Graves, Marshall, Trigg, and Calloway counties, Dawson Springs, Princeton and who knows where! This morning, members of the FBC Murray family packed up and headed out to destinations that needed an expression of hope: 170 people touched at Kenlake State Park, in addition to others, receiving the message that they are not alone.

Behind the scenes, and vitally important, are Christ followers preparing thousands of meals, cleaning portable shower units, leading chain-saw teams, providing clothes for children, gift cards for the cashless, hugging those who hurt, and praying for those in pain. The Anchor holds.

Much of what is taking place right now is supported by our World Mission Offering. The Church is the hope of the world. I give to our church because I believe that Jesus plus nothing equals everything. When we give, we are strengthening the platform to present the Gospel. Some of those platform expressions are FBC Mayfield and FBC Benton. The churches in Mayfield are devastated structurally but their platform for the Gospel is sure: the light of the world! FBC Benton, our sister church where Jeremy Hudgin serves as pastor, is on the front lines ministering to people who have lost so much.

I am giving more this year because I believe it is what Jesus desires of me. I will give more to our **budget**, for it is the foundational support of the everyday efforts of what we do as FBC Murray. I will give more to the **World Mission Offering** because it touches people here and around the world with the Gospel. I will give to the **Family Life Center**, which for now and decades to come, will serve as a platform to support the Gospel dreams of this church long after I am gone. **I will give because the Anchor holds.**

Blessings,  
Keith

# NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR JASON ELLERBROOK



Church Family,

You are showing our community and the world what it means to be the church. Thank you!

We have created a page on our website dedicated to our disaster relief efforts in Western Kentucky. You can simply click on the disaster relief link at the top of our homepage or visit **[fbcmurray.org/disasterrelief](https://fbcmurray.org/disasterrelief)** to see how you can contribute to the efforts of FBC Murray.

Also, there are many other ways you can help outside of our direct efforts. The Murray Calloway County Chamber of Commerce has created a page that offers many ways to assist. Visit **[mymurray.com](https://mymurray.com)** to find more information.

If you learn of a specific need that could use a small crew for clean-up, please share that with our church office. We have received one request and sent a crew of 20 church members with 4 trailers to assist. More of these will arise in the weeks ahead.

Updates will be provided online at [fbcmurray.org](https://fbcmurray.org), through social media, weekly email updates, the bulletin, and the Manna concerning our efforts and how it impacts our normal church schedule. Please take the time to read and process the information. Feel free to call the church office if you have questions.

As a church, let's commit to serving our neighbors and each other with compassion, patience, and grace. We need each other to stand strong and serve well.

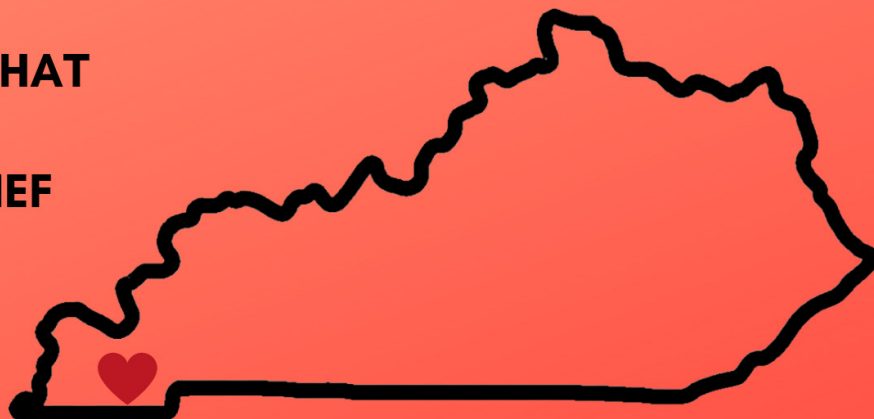
The Bible says, *"God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble. Therefore we will not be afraid, though the earth trembles and the mountains topple into the depths of the seas, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with its turmoil."* Psalm 46:1-3

Remember, He is with us! Immanuel.

In Christ Jesus,  
Jason

## PRAY FOR OUR WESTERN KY FRIENDS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT  
FBC IS DOING TO AID IN RELIEF  
EFFORTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT  
**[FBCMURRAY.ORG/DISASTERRELIEF](https://fbcmurray.org/disasterrelief)**



**GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, A  
HELPER WHO IS ALWAYS FOUND IN  
TIMES OF TROUBLE.**

PSALM 46:1



**FIRST  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
MURRAY, KENTUCKY



## NOTES FROM MATURE ADLTS GROWING IN CHRIST (SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY) BOYD SMITH

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR! If you are like me, you are wondering how could another year come and go so quickly. 2021 has been challenging in many ways, but the Lord has once again shown me that He keeps His promises. I look forward to 2022 and what the Lord has in store for First Baptist Church.

Our next fellowship luncheon is scheduled for Monday, January 24, at 12:00 pm. This will include our annual White Elephant swap. So bring an inexpensive gift and let's have some fun. Warning, I'm pretty good at getting what I want so watch out. I love you all. Call the office by January 19 to get your name on the list.

Merry Christmas!  
Boyd

## NOTES FROM MUSIC MINISTRY MIKE ROSE



Thanks to everyone who had a part in making the Christmas season really special at First Baptist this year. Wasn't it nice to have our choir lead us in music again after a year in limbo? It was good to have a sing-a-long and renew some of the old classic carols which make this the most wonderful season of the church year.

Now is the time for my annual pitch of recruiting for the Worship Choir. We have added several new members lately and there is room for you! We would love for you to join us for rehearsals on Sunday afternoons at 4:30 pm in the rehearsal room downstairs. We will begin these again in January. I will be planning several events for this group, and it would be wonderful to have a full loft as we go forward.

It is such a pleasure to be working alongside you here in Murray. I know that God has great plans for us. Working together with His blessing, we will accomplish great things for the Kingdom. God bless you to that end!

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.





# NOTES FROM STUDENT MINISTRY

JON KYLE ALLRED

The storms have completely devastated many communities around us and many people have lost their homes while some lost their lives. The tornado ripped through my hometown of Mayfield. If you haven't seen aerial footage, it looks like a bomb has decimated that little town. You cannot walk very far without running into debris and fragments of a life that is now a memory.

As we survey all of the needs from the devastation, we cannot help but wonder, *"Why didn't it take out my parents' home? Why not my grandparents' home?"* And also, *"Why did it have to completely destroy my aunt and uncle's business?"* These thoughts lead me to a very important understanding about our God that I learned from a recent Pastor's response I found on a video – God is always good, no matter what. If it weren't for the storms, sin, disease, struggles, trials, and everything else evil that happens – we would never get to experience the mercy, grace, forgiveness, restoration, and wonderful benevolent hand of our Creator! Could you imagine being like the angels? They have never experienced the mercy and grace and redemption and restoration that comes from the hand of the Lord! However, and for God's glory, we get to see more and experience more and share more of a side of God that we would never know without these struggles. Praise God! ***"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose"*** (Romans 8:28). "All things" means "all things!"

Praise the Lord.  
Jon Kyle

# NOTES FROM KIDS1ST MINISTRY

RACHEL RIQUELME



January Midweek:

When addressing Jesus in the Bible, His followers used one specific title more than any other. It wasn't healer or provider. His followers called Him "Teacher". They listened intently as Jesus taught with a depth of wisdom and knowledge no one had ever heard before.

As we follow Jesus, His love transforms us. His Spirit gives us the power to show self-control. We can follow His example and choose to do what we should do, instead of what we want to do.





# NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

TINA MYERS

Great news! We now have non-fiction books available on our e-book and audio book online system. To access the online system follow these steps:

1. Go to [fbcmurray.org/library](http://fbcmurray.org/library) and click the online catalog link.
2. Login with your library card ID (call or stop by the library if you don't know your number or need to apply for a library card). You will need to put fbc in front of the number and then add enough zeroes in front of the number to make it 8 digits. For example: if your library card number is 534 your login would be fbc00000534.
3. Add your name
4. Add your email address
5. Click register

You will then be able to enjoy our online e-books and audio books. The system allows checkout for two weeks and then the book is checked back in automatically. If you are not finished, re-check the book for an additional 2 weeks. The Axis 360 app is available on Apple and Android.

Our author of the month for January is Jerry Bridges. Jerry was an American evangelical Christian author, speaker and staff member of The Navigators. He was the author of more than a dozen books. Jerry's books will be on display through January 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 FBCMURRAY to 49775 to sign up!



## BLESSING BOX



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
MURRAY, KENTUCKY

To help us keep the Blessing Box behind the Family Life Center stocked with food for the food insecure in our area and to supplement the Riviera Courts box when no groups have signed up, starting in 2022, we are planning to have a "Blessing Box Station" in the Welcome Center where we'll highlight receiving different items each month. The need is great as evidenced by the fact that both of the church Blessing Boxes are largely depleted each and every day. We'll still need groups to adopt a week every couple of months or so to stock the Riviera Courts Blessing Box.

Thank you for your generous giving throughout the year to help the food insecure families in our community. FBC, Murray is a loving, giving, compassionate church and all that you do is so appreciated.





# Combined Worship Service

**We will have one worship service at  
11:00 am.**

*In-Person and Online*

The final Combined worship service will continue  
through January 16.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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## Shoulder-to-Shoulder Kickoff!

January 9

Immediately following the 11:00 am  
worship service

Lunch in room 303

Women of all ages are welcome!



WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MURRAY

## MidWeek begins January 12!

### Check out the studies below for adults:

#### Adult women:

- *"Christian Beliefs"* by Wayne Grudem, led by Megan Downey, location TBD.
- Shoulder-to-Shoulder Bible Reading Groups, led by Debbie J. Bell and Paula Alcott, location TBD.

#### Adult men:

- *"How To Be A Church Member"* by Thom Rainer, led by Jason Ellerbrook, location TBD.

#### Adult men and women:

- Prayer meeting, led by Keith Inman, in the chapel.



**SIGN UP ONLINE OR IN THE  
WELCOME CENTER!**

# MEET THE CHURCH MEMBERS

## David and Leigh Anne Barrett



"David and I met in a Sunday School Class at First Baptist Church in Millington, TN, and we have been married since 2008. We moved to Puryear, TN in 2015. David is a Tennessee Volunteers fan but don't hold that against him! He is the Maintenance Manager at Kenlake Foods in Murray, and I am a fifth-grade teacher at Paris Elementary in Paris, TN. We have ten-year-old twins, Alayna and Garrison, and they are in the fourth grade at Paris Elementary. They keep us busy, but we are so grateful that the Lord has chosen us to be their parents. Alayna plays travel softball and is becoming quite the little violinist as well. Garrison enjoys being active in Scouts and fishing and, like his dad, can fix just about anything that is broken! They both excel in school and, right now, they still enjoy going!

We visited FBC Murray in January of 2017 and immediately felt like we had found our home. From the Sunday School class that we visited, to the outreach of Pastor Keith and others, we knew that FBC Murray was the place that we wanted to worship at and serve. The Lord has shown himself to be faithful in so many instances throughout our lives and bringing us to FBC Murray was an answer to prayer. David is a newly elected Deacon and teaches adult Sunday School on occasion, and we have both taught in the kids and preschool areas. We also both serve on the Missions Team. Another area that we are involved in as co-leaders, is The Post. This is a ministry for post-collegiate men and women to plug into with others who are in the same season of life. I have met so many wonderful people through this ministry that I probably would not have met, had it not been for The Post!

The kids and I memorize Bible verses on our way to school each week because hiding the word in our hearts is so important for children and adults. One of our verses for December was, *"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord"* Luke 2:11. Both kids say this is their favorite verse right now (yes, they actually agreed on one thing!). We talked about how believing this verse changes everything; Jesus was sent to be a Savior for us! Our lives have an entirely new meaning after we accept Jesus as our Savior, and we should be telling others about Him through our words and actions. I am thankful that we walk alongside other believers who are striving to do the same." -Leigh Anne



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NEW MEMBERS

Gabe Turley joined by Profession of Faith/Baptism on Sunday, November 28.

## THANK YOU NOTES

Sue McNeary thanks FBC for organizing, planning, and executing our part of Main Street Merriment.

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Members and friends of First Baptist Church have established scholarships to help students further their education. Scholarship applications for Fall 2022/Spring 2023 are available in the church office and on the church website, [fbcmurray.org](http://fbcmurray.org), under the "Contact" tab. Limited scholarship funds are available and are awarded each year to students with FBC affiliation, in particular with emphases on Christian and Music Ministry. If you have any questions or need further information, you may contact Lori Morgan at the church office: 270-753-1854 or by email: [lmorgan@fbcmurray.org](mailto:lmorgan@fbcmurray.org). The deadline for applications is Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

## FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Fellowship Suppers will resume on Wednesday, January 12, in the Family Life Center at 5:00 pm. Adult meals are \$5, children ages 3-12 are \$3, college students are \$1, and children 2 and under are free.

## 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 NOVEMBER 30, 2021)

\$1,284,041.00	Budgeted as of 11/30/2021
\$1,092,747.07	Budget Receipts as of 11/30/2021
\$1,173,726.95	Budget Expenditures as of 11/30/2021
\$ 154,000.00	WMO 2021 Goal
\$ 97,125.22	WMO Receipts as of 11/30/2021
\$3,656,489.23	Family Life Center Receipts as of 11/30/2021
\$ 138,009.21	Family Life Center Borrowed as of 11/30/2021

# MEMORIALS

## Library

The books, *Discipleship That Fits*, by Bobby Harrington and *Together We Equip* by Jody Dean and Hal Stewart have been given to the FBC Library in memory of Mrs. Edna McKinney.

## Financial

Contributions to the 2021 World Mission Offering have been received in memory of Edna McKinney, Sina Richardson, Allen Russell, Robbie Trevathan, Fay Nell Flora, Marshall Garland, Oneida Boyd, Helen Weaver, Alice Bell, Ann Churchill, Mike Lovins, Gary W. Jones, Larue Mitchell, Darrel McFerron, Betty Stewart, Betty Sue Vinson, Paul Roberston, Don Faughn, Cathryn Garrott, Billy Joe Puckett, and Sherry Edwards, and in honor of Bess Kerlick, David Parker, and David & Vickie Travis.

Contributions to the Kids Camp Scholarship Fund have been received in memory of Debbie Seay.

Contributions to the Family Life Center Building Fund have been received in honor of Randy & Rebecca Cunningham, the FBC staff, and the deacon body.

# VAN DRIVER

The van driver for the month of January is Steve Springer. If you would like a ride to the traditional worship service (8:30 am; beginning January 23), Sunday School (9:45 am) or the worship service (11:00 am), contact Steve at 502-552-5984.

# ATTENDANCE

	11:00 am Service
November 28	344
December 5	365
December 12	NA
December 19	415



203 S. 4th St., Murray, KY 42071 | [fbcmurray.org](http://fbcmurray.org) | 270-753-1854