



The Outlook

First Baptist Church Clayton

Show • Tell
Grow • Serve

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There is much to celebrate at FBCC

By Dr. Len Keever
Interim Pastor

Years ago, a friend told me about a book he was reading that said every church needs new members. New members ask questions that help established members notice what they may have overlooked. Even better are those who are the first Christians (or perhaps Baptists) in their family.

They remind us not to assume everyone knows why we do baptisms, the Lord's Supper and worship as we do. The point is that new members remind us not to take for granted that everyone knows what we know.

In each of my pastorates, I have been afforded the chance to view the church with new member eyes. And, given that I am now nine months into my time as interim pastor, and that we are beginning a new church year together, there are a few observations I'd like to share.

First, FBCC has an amazing staff! Your team of pastors are gifted, enthusiastic and dedicated to Christ and his church. We should be very thankful for their dedication, compassion and care.

Secondly, you have incredible ministries and lay leaders. The opportunities for the week printed on the back of the bulletin is evidence of your commitment to missions and outreach in the community. I am constantly thankful for the vast number of folks studying scripture, gathering for prayer and taking on projects for our neighbors. FBCC is an active church.

Last night I returned from Church Council + with a deep appreciation for the wisdom God has provided us. Church Council + is made up of Church Council members and the chairs of each committee at FBCC. The sharing of ideas, always looking for ways to grow, to utilize our space in the most efficient and respectful way, is refreshing.

I love the "What can we do to help?" attitude present in the meetings. I appreciate the insights that are shared. What a blessing it is to discuss ways to be a better church and sense the excitement as we share possibilities.

Pray for the Pastor Search Committee to follow God's timetable and that they will find God's perfect will in God's perfect time.



Notes of Appreciation

It is hard to express our sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown to us and the family of Ramona Cash.

Thank you for everything: the hugs, smiles, cards, food, flowers, visits and prayers.

May God continue to bless the people who unselfishly give of themselves for His service.

– Jack and Judy Coats



Thank you for all of the cards, visits and phone calls. I'm finally settled into my new apartment at Brookdale Senior Living and enjoying it very much. My new address and phone number is Brookdale Senior Living – Apt. 107, 830 Berkshire Rd., Smithfield, NC 27577 and 919-205-1050. Please continue to keep me in your prayers and call or visit when you can.

– Love, Lois Crutcher

Celebrate

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We have new members agreeing to be on committees. They bring enthusiasm, energy and perspective. They help us stay grounded, defined and focused. If you are a committee chair and you have not had your first meeting yet, please do so soon to welcome and include them in your work.

They are evidence that God is active in providing the help we need to continue the legacy with which we are entrusted.

That leads to another positive I observe, the desire to enhance communication. The Outlook is a wonderful instrument to share information. Realm is a tremendous tool to keep us informed and connected. Regular emails from the prayer team and the Wednesday and Friday Reminders keep us connected.

Soon there will be Connect/Serve brochures in the pew pockets so that all who worship with us can learn more about what is going on and plug into the life of the church through fellowship and service. I am grateful for the folks who are being proactive in telling FBCC's story.

I could go on and on – the youth, children and music ministries, our Child Development Center, and of course worship. Let me end with this, if you have not looked at FBCC with fresh eyes lately, take a second look.

When you do, I pray you will see what I am seeing, and you will be proud to be a part of what God is doing among us. There is much to celebrate.

Memorials and Honorariums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE GENERAL FUND

In Memory of

Ramona Cash by Bucky Coats

Ramona Cash, Mary Helen Woodard, Charles Mooneyham,
David Pilkington and Earl Jones by Andy and Gloria Pleasant

Mary Helen Woodard, Charles Mooneyham by Judy Wood
Ramona Cash and Mary Helen Woodard by Rudy and Edwina Oliver

Ramona Cash by Ayden and Betty Lee

Ramona Cash by John and Dolores Bagley

Ramona Cash by Candy Pope

Mary Helen Woodard, Keith Ferrell, Hazel Strickland,
Joyce Lipscomb Canady and Ramona Cash by Paul and Bronna Greer

David Pilkington, Earl Jones and Charles Mooneyham

by Ronald Crowder and Debbie Ragland

David Pilkington by Gerald and Glenda Toler

Ramona Cash, Charles Mooneyham and Earl Jones by David and Jo Earp

Ramona Cash, Mary Helen Woodard and Charles Mooneyham

by Jiles and Kim Harrell

Keith Ferrell by Beatrice Pulley Family

James and Ramona Cash by Everett and Dianne Foutz

Mary Helen Woodard, Ramona Cash and Charles Mooneyham

by Walter and Jill Rasor

Ramona Cash by Donna Brown

In Honor of

Paul Greer, Elaine Johnson, and Jack and Judy Coats by Candy Pope

Cathy Paschal, Anne Abene, Lexene Lee and Terry McCallum

by Jack and Judy Coats

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE ORGAN FUND

In Memory of

Ramona Cash by Kenny and Vickie Adams

Ramona Cash, Mary Helen Woodard, Charles Mooneyham, Keith Ferrell
and Earl Jones by Tom, Emily and Jay Vinson

Ramona Cash by Billy Parrish

Mary Helen Woodard by Lowell and Dorothy Harris

In Honor of

Jack and Judy Coats by Walter and Jill Rasor

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE SENIOR ADULT FUND

In Memory of

Earl Jones by Dorothy and Lowell Harris

Ramona Cash and Mary Helen Woodard

by Ronald Crowder and Debbie Ragland

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

In Memory of

Earl Jones by Rudy and Edwina Oliver

Memorials and Honorariums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE BAPTIST MENS' FUND

In Memory of

Charles Mooneyham by Rudy and Edwina Oliver
Charles Mooneyham by Lowell and Dorothy Harris

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE MISSION FUND

In Memory of

Ramona Cash by Diane and Chris Pearce

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE MUSIC FUND

In Memory of

Mary Helen Woodard and Ramona Cash by Jean Bryant
Ramona Cash by Jack and Judy Coats

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE HECK JONES FUND

In Memory of

Ramona Cash by Lois Weeks

Volunteers sought

The Baptist Men will be participating in an upcoming Habitat for Humanity building campaign in Clayton. Construction began Saturday, September 14.

The workday for First Baptist Church Clayton will be Saturday, October 5 from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There are 15 volunteers needed as well as volunteers to help prepare meals for 20 people.

Ricky Blackmon is the leader for FBCC. Please contact him as soon as possible if you would like to volunteer for this mission project. Call 919-524-5197 or email rickyblackmon56@gmail.com.

Church office seeks addresses for college students

Attention college students and their parents. Please call or email Terry McCallum with your new address for the fall and spring semesters.

If you have the same address as last year, please call to confirm. Terry can be reached at 919-553-4161 or tmccallum@fbccclaytonnc.org.

Thanks very much.

2024 Weekly Reports

Baptisms this Year.....	14	New Members.....	20
Worship Attendance			
Sunday, September 8.....	185	Sunday, September 1.....	123
Sunday School Attendance			
Sunday, September 8.....	149	Sunday, September 1.....	89
General Fund Giving			
Sunday, September 8.....	\$28,031	Sunday, September 1.....	\$24,963
Weekly Needs.....	\$14,860		