



# The Outlook

## First Baptist Church Clayton

Show • Tell  
Grow • Serve

October 20, 2024

Volume 47 Number 41

## Will you walk by faith and not by sight?

By Rev. Keeley Tarkington  
Minister of Music

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### *“By Faith”*

*By faith, we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design;  
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight.  
By faith, our fathers roamed the earth with the power of His promise in their hearts  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand – A place where peace and justice reign.  
We will stand as children of the promise, We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.  
Till the race is finished and the work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

This text above is a part of the lyrics of one of my favorite songs by Keith and Kristyn Getty inspired by Hebrews 11. It is a reminder that God's presence and promises have been present since the beginning of time. Yet, sometimes, we are unable to truly see or realize the plans of God unfolding within and around us. We rely on evidence of God's goodness in the past to help us walk the race that he has put before us into a future that we may not be able to comprehend.

Many in our congregation are experiencing hard times with health, relationships, work, and grief. It can be challenging to keep the faith when it feels like life keeps knocking your feet out from under you. Sometimes, all we can do is take the next breath, take the next step, and accept the hand of a brother or sister in Christ who is there to help us stand. As people of faith, we have a choice every day to trust in God's promises, including the hope of eternal salvation, despite our circumstances. That does not mean that we will not grumble or succumb to the emotions of the unfair realities we find ourselves in, but it does mean that, just like the psalmist, we will ultimately look to the Lord for guidance and hope.

Will you walk by faith and not by sight?

# Notes of appreciation

Dear First Baptist Church,

Our family recently celebrated the life of Mona Cash with you at First Baptist Church Clayton. My mom was Mona's sister. I want to thank you and the ladies who fed us before and after the service. The service and this generous provision was very kind and thoughtful. We drove from Tennessee and appreciated all you did to honor our precious aunt and show your love and compassion to her family. I made a tribute video if anyone should want to see it. Please let me know.

With kind regards,  
Dr. Woody Thigpen  
pilgrimwoody@gmail.com



Dear friends and family of First Baptist Church,

We are so blessed to have had so many ways that you have touched our lives. Mama loved her First Baptist Church family. Your many expressions of love and kindness has meant so much to us. We knew that on every special holiday or occasion, she would be showered with love from some of you. Thank you for all the cards, food, flowers and calls during Mama's declining years. She knew when she had a visitor or call – if it was only a short memory it helped Barry and me. She loved the choir at FBC and the music and it enriched her life and those who are are blessed to worship with you. Thank you for all the ways you shared your love and sympathy.

In Christ's love, Val, Barry and families

## Join us Sunday, October 27 at With Love From Jesus

*The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* – Matthew 25:40

On Sunday afternoon, October 27, is First Baptist's once-monthly turn to serve at the With Love From Jesus house in Clayton. If you would like to volunteer, please be

there by 4 p.m. for sign-in and instruction. We will be distributing food, clothing and sharing the Gospel until around 7 p.m. You can also

bring any items you would like to donate to the ministry. They are currently in need of nonperishable items. Just recently, WLFJ had over 80 guests come for food and clothing items. The WLFJ house is lo-

cated at the southeast corner of W. 2nd S. Robertson streets.

If you are willing to help, see Rudy Oliver at church or call 919-271-1178, or email him at reholston@gmail.com.



Pray for the Pastor Search Committee to patiently await God's timing and settle for nothing less than God's perfect will. Ask God for mercy in giving us a great leader.



## Handbell ringer to speak at NBC luncheon

The NBC (New Beginners Club) luncheon will be held Monday, October 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The catered lunch is \$8. Betty Godwin, a member of First Baptist Church Clayton's handbell choir, will discuss and demonstrate the various techniques and methods of handbell ringing.

Our handbell choir blesses us whenever they perform, and this is a wonderful opportunity for "non-ringers" to learn a little about how it's done. Please notify the church office no later than October 23 if: 1) you are on the permanent list but cannot attend or 2) you are not on the permanent list but plan to attend.

## Seniors hope third time is a charm for bird park visit



One of the thousands of exotic birds at Sylvan Bird Park in Scotland Neck.

On Tuesday, October 29, the senior adults will travel to the Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck. This is the third time the excursion has been scheduled. Admission to the park is \$12. Lunch will follow at the K&W Cafeteria in Rocky Mount.

Join us as we stroll through this beautiful park that houses a vast diversity of birds from all over the world. Walking paths are mostly paved and level and total about one mile. Paths are wheelchair and rollator accessible. The bus leaves the church parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and will return by 5 p.m.

Rev. Stephen Nance still has the previously purchased tickets so please confirm if you are going. It's not too late to sign up if you haven't already. The deadline is October 25. Space on the bus is limited.

**PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Sunday,  
October 20

Sponsored by the  
Pastor Search  
Committee

Gather together in the  
Fellowship Hall during  
Sunday School to eat,  
fellowship, and pray  
together for our next  
Senior Pastor.

# Memorials and Honorariums

## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE GENERAL FUND

### In Memory of

- John Zullo by Judy Wood
- John Zullo and Mary Helen Woodard by Jeff and Jackie Tarkington
- John Zullo by Jiles and Kim Harrell
- Mary Helen Woodard by Michael and Kelly Wagoner
- Mary Helen Woodard by Kirk Edgerton
- Mary Helen Woodard by Randolph and Pat Tart

### In Honor of

Denny Sutton by the Hope Sunday School Class

## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE BUILDING FUND

### In Memory of

John Zullo by Joe and Linda Hester

## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE YOUTH FUND

### In Memory of

John Zullo by Chris and Diane Pearce

## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE CDC FUND

### In Memory of

Charles Mooneyham by Jeff and Jackie Tarkington

## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE ORGAN FUND

### In Memory of

John Zullo by Gerald and Glenda Toler

Charles Mooneyham and Mary Helen Woodard by Kenny and Vickie Adams

## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE HECK JONES FUND

### In Memory of

Mary Helen Woodard, Ramona Cash and Charles Mooneyham  
by Jeff and Jackie Tarkington

## 2024 Weekly Reports

Baptisms this Year.....	14	New Members.....	22
Worship Attendance			
Sunday, October 13.....	154	Sunday, October 6.....	204
Sunday School Attendance			
Sunday, October 13.....	125	Sunday, October 6.....	158
General Fund Giving			
Sunday, October 13 to be reported 10-27		Sunday, October 6.....	\$17,478
Weekly Needs.....	\$14,860		