



First Baptist Church
157 W. Jackson St.
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January - February 2022

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ANNUAL Business Meeting

As of now, we are planning to try to have our Annual Business meeting in person on Sunday, January 30 at 11 am following morning worship. It will be held in Pitman Hall and we will continue to socially distance. If, by that date COVID concerns do not allow it, we will conduct the business via ZOOM. As the meeting time approaches, we will inform you of the details via the One Call notification system. At this time, the ABWM will not be serving their traditional soup and sandwich luncheon.

If you are the chairman of a committee or board, please prepare your 2021 annual report soon. Once completed get your report to Debbie or to the church by January 23 so the booklet can be completed and printed. If you have a copy of your report in a PDF or word document form, you can email that to Debbie at dkershaw71@gmail.com.



Helping the hungry in our community

Even though we have the micro food pantry outside our door under the canopy, First Baptist still wants to help out with the Viriden Food Pantry that is open each Tuesday at the Church of the Brethren. So if you have items that you would like to donate to either of the pantries, please put them in the container just inside the east entrance to Pitman Hall.

The third Sunday of the month is designated as "Food Pantry" Sunday, but you can bring your items at any time. The Community Produce Cart on the square was a big hit during garden season and was used by many to share their bounty. Please continue to support these ministries to help the hungry.

Trustee work days planned

The trustees with help from a few others are making progress with the basement remodel. Most of the walls have been scraped, primed, and are almost ready for a final coat of paint. That is where the trustees could use some extra helping hands.

Two workdays have been scheduled. The first will be on Saturday, January 29, and the second will be the following Saturday, February 5. We will begin at 9 AM and continue throughout the late morning or early afternoon. There is no set time that you need to arrive, or to leave...just show up when you can and stay as long as you feel you can.

Even if you are not a "painter" or can't physically handle that, there are other projects within the church that the trustees would welcome your help with. The sanctuary pew cushions need "switched" along with a deep cleaning/vacuuming, the artificial flowers stored in Pitman Hall need purged, and there are other smaller projects that can be tackled each of those Saturdays.

If you haven't yet, take a peak at the old "kitchen" area which will soon be a new soundproofed classroom complete with built in storage benches and a janitor's sink for easy craft clean-ups. The plumbing has been re-routed through the ceiling and hidden behind a new north wall. A bead board ceiling is planned for that room along with new lighting.

Once the outside concrete block walls have been painted, the contractors and drywall installers will come in to build and finish the other two east side classroom walls and enclose the winding staircase to help prevent noise from drifting upstairs.

This much talked about, and long delayed remodel is funded mostly from memorial monies of Dorothy Oller and others since her passing. Once completed, we will have a Christian Educational wing that we can be proud of for years to come.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Lily Snodgrass	2 Supper for all 6 PM SWAT & JAM 6:30 PM 7:30 Dismiss	3	4	5 Trustee Work Day 9 AM - ?
		6	7 ZOOM Bible Study 6:30 PM Linda Snodgrass	8 David Lewis	9 Supper for all 6 PM SWAT & JAM 6:30 PM 7:00 Dismiss 7:00 Business Meeting	10
13 Diaconate meets after worship	14 ZOOM Bible Study 6:30 PM	15 Meals on Wheels Remi Scott	16 Supper for all 6 PM SWAT & JAM 6:30 PM 7:30 Dismiss	17 	18 Nevonda Daniels	19
20 	21 ZOOM Bible Study 6:30 PM 	22 Hayli Moughan Andrew Clark	23 Supper for all 6 PM SWAT & JAM 6:30 PM 7:30 Dismiss	24	25 Trigger Lewis Julius Turner	26
27	28 ZOOM Bible Study 6:30 PM Jun Dibler					

Faith's role in Love



In It's Okay Not to Be Okay, Christian author Sheila Walsh looks at the all-encompassing love that Jesus expects of his followers. He commands us to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27, ESV).

But we can't love that way without faith, Walsh writes. "I'm not living by faith if I have an answer to everything. If I understand everything God does or doesn't do, then all I need to love him with is my mind. We're called to love him with more." That "more," she explains, involves these paradoxes: "We love with all our heart, even when it's broken.

We love with our soul, even when our humanity wrestles against our situation. We love with our strength, even when it's almost gone. We love with our mind, even when we don't understand."

Even if God's purposes and plans don't make sense here on earth, we can heed this advice from the great preacher Charles Spurgeon: "When we cannot trace [God's] hand, we must trust his heart."

Birthdays and Anniversary List for First Baptist Church Members and Friends

01-Jan Pam Hawkins	30-Mar Rita Flynn	01-Jul Roger & Gloria Smith	07-Oct David Liles
02-Jan Jim Hotarek	01-Apr Craig Paisley	12-Jul Debbie Liles	07-Oct Jim & Pat Smith
03-Jan Justin Liles	02-Apr Drew & Alicia Hawkins	14-Jul Audrey Price	07-Oct Mike & Debbie Liles
07-Jan Abigail Snodgrass	04-Apr Beverly Britenstine	14-Jul Braxton A. Walters	07-Oct Jason Scott
07-Jan Patty Englert	07-Apr Carter Dibler	15-Jul Heather Nolting	08-Oct Justin & Jun Dibler
11-Jan Heather Walters	07-Apr Debbie Kershaw	18-Jul Linda Gerson	11-Oct Katie Kelsey
14-Jan Carol Britenstine	07-Apr Michael Moughan	19-Jul Kris Cervellone	12-Oct Jaylie Clark
15-Jan Zach Lemar	10-Apr Jim Smith	21-Jul Sharon Crawford	15-Oct Loretta Lomelino
17-Jan Kyle Hawkins	11-Apr Sophia Hawkins	29-Jul Debbie Klocke	20-Oct Lila Grace Hawkins
18-Jan Kyle Brown	14-Apr Cindy Burris Bates	30-Jul Kamden Blake	22-Oct Paisley Parrish
18-Jan Mathew Daniels	15-Apr Jenna Cormier	02-Aug Macie Brown	26-Oct Lizzy Dunn
18-Jan Rick & Linda Gerson	23-Apr River Hawkins	05-Aug Jay Turner	27-Oct David & Kaye Liles
20-Jan Rob Liles	29-Apr Ayden Liles	07-Aug Harrison Dibler	29-Oct Joshua Snodgrass
22-Jan Ryson Scott	30-Apr Helen Burris	08-Aug Lonnie & Sharon Crawford	02-Nov Danny Daniels, Jr.
23-Jan Abby Dixon	02-May Kathy Price	09-Aug Kim Liles	03-Nov Tyler Burch
26-Jan Kelsey Parrish	05-May Tom Cervellone	14-Aug Steve Kershaw	09-Nov Carol Paisley
29-Jan Rowan Hawkins	09-May Britt Lilly	15-Aug Tim Snodgrass	10-Nov Jill & Mark Wright
31-Jan Jill Wright	09-May Allie Wright	16-Aug Heather & Kevin Nolting	14-Nov Roger Smith
01-Feb Lily Snodgrass	13-May Adam Cervellone	16-Aug Ronan Scott	23-Nov Gloria Smith
07-Feb Linda Snodgrass	14-May Janis Hawkins	17-Aug Drew Hawkins	26-Nov Alicia Hawkins
08-Feb David Lewis	20-May Michael Wright	18-Aug Linda Liles	01-Dec Justyn Moughan
15-Feb Remi Scott	21-May Ben Clark	20-Aug Aiden Brown	03-Dec Danielle Burch
18-Feb Nevonda Daniels	21-May Ryan Brown	25-Aug Alex Walters	06-Dec Kyle & Pam Hawkins
22-Feb Hayli Moughan	25-May John Parrish	26-Aug Tracy Lewis	07-Dec Mike Liles
22-Feb Andrew Clark	25-May Steve Perkins	26-Aug Amanda Clark	10-Dec Steve & Vicki Perkins
25-Feb Trigger Lewis	26-May Vicki Perkins	27-Aug Libby Klocke	11-Dec Danny Daniels, Sr.
25-Feb Julius Turner	31-May John & Kelsey Parrish	01-Sep Jim & Lynda Hotarek	12-Dec Justin Dixon
28-Feb Jun Dibler	02-Jun Ben & Amanda Clark	09-Sep Freddie Britz	12-Dec Brendan Parrish
03-Mar Rory Scott	06-Jun Rick Gerson	10-Sep Cole Dixon	13-Dec Piper Parrish
04-Mar Lonnie Crawford	07-Jun Tommy Dibler	19-Sep Brianna Walters	17-Dec Maggie Hawkins
04-Mar Peyton Parrish	13-Jun Lynda Hotarek	22-Sep Tony Kershaw	20-Dec Mike & Janis Hawkins
07-Mar Aiden Snodgrass	17-Jun Tom & Kris Cervellone	24-Sep Mike Hawkins	22-Dec Edgar Lewis
09-Mar Jane Primrose	18-Jun Steve & Debbie Kershaw	28-Sep Ryan Burch	22-Dec Joe Langley
11-Mar Kelsie Perkins	25-Jun Tom Dibler	29-Sep Barb Taylor	23-Dec Jesse Dixon
14-Mar Bob Dibler	30-Jun Jim Wright	30-Sep Jennifer Brown	23-Dec Pat Smith
16-Mar Elliott Ann Wright	30-Jun Mark Wright	30-Sep Justin Dibler	25-Dec Mike Price
16-Mar Cole Langley		02-Oct Stacy Moughan	29-Dec Mazie Kelsey
19-Mar Samantha Jackson			29-Dec Ruby Lewis
21-Mar Danny & Nevonda Daniels			
21-Mar Maddie Lomelino			
22-Mar Kaye Liles			
27-Mar Jennifer Bates			



Please submit any changes to Debbie Kershaw or go online www.virdenfirstbaptist.org

Christian Education Board meeting set



The Board of Christian Education will meet via ZOOM on Monday, January 24 at about 7:00 PM immediately following the ZOOM Bible study. Gloria Smith is Sunday School Superintendent and this will allow her to be a part of the meeting while she is traveling. The CE Board consists of all Sunday School teachers for both children and adult, as well as the youth and Wednesday Night leaders.

The main purpose of this meeting will be to look back at 2021 for items to include in the CE report for the annual meeting, and to set the church calendar for 2022. The CE board is continually looking for new and important ways to further the Christian growth of our members, no matter what their age.

Website Member Area easy access

If you haven't yet explored our church website, you will be surprised to see what all you can find on www.virdenfirstbaptist.org

Added new in 2021 is a "MEMBER AREA." This section can only be accessed by church members after creating a User Name and Password...which is a simple process. Just follow the prompts and Steve Kershaw will then set you up and send you a confirmation. The MEMBER AREA contains information such as a copy of the church directory, Annual reports past and present, current church officers, One Call info, policies and procedures for Pitman Hall, the nursery, and more. There you will also find a copy of our church constitution, our church covenant and other historical and relevant information.

The website also gives you access to Sunday worship services that you may have missed or would like to revisit! There are pictures from the past all the way back to the beginnings of First Baptist Church of Virden. Take a few minutes to explore and enjoy the rich heritage and bright future of our church at: www.virdefirstbaptist.org

*Don't worry about the future.
Worry quenches the work of grace
within you.
The future belongs to God.
He is in charge of all things.
Never second-guess him.*

—François Fenelon

Puzzle!

Match each clue with the correct biblical dreamer.
Use the Scripture hints if needed.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This person's brothers were irritated to hear of certain dreams. 2. Angels went up and down a ladder in this person's dreams. 3. This person dreamed about skinny cows eating fat cows. 4. After an unpleasant dream, this person warned a loved one to avoid Jesus. 5. This person saw a statue whose feet were smashed by a stone. 6. A dream warned this person (plus family) to flee to Egypt. 7. This person saw a vine produce grapes, with juice squeezed into a cup. 8. A dream warned about Herod's evil plan. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Pharaoh (Genesis 41:17-21) B. The Magi (Matthew 2:12) C. Jacob (Genesis 28:12) D. Pharaoh's cupbearer (Genesis 40:9-11) E. NT Joseph (Matthew 2:13) F. OT Joseph (Genesis 37:9, 11) G. Pilate's wife (Matthew 27:19) H. Daniel (Daniel 2:31-35)
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Answers: 1.F, 2.C, 3.A, 4.G, 5.H, 6.E, 7.D, 8.B



The Pastoral Search Committee continues to work in search of a candidate to serve our church. Finding a new pastor is, to state the obvious, challenging. And, as if the process is not difficult enough, we are still in the grips of a nationwide pandemic. We want to discover the next person God is calling to lead our church, and this is a spiritual matter that can only be accomplished through prayer. And that is where we ALL become members of the Search Committee...here are three things each of us need to pray for, Every. Single. Day:

1. Wisdom - submit your work and the work of the committee to the Lord. Place yourself and our church in His hands, and ask for Him to lead the way. A prayer for wisdom isn't a one-time event. Seeking God's input through prayer is something we need to do on an ongoing basis.
2. Search committee - Pray for them throughout this process. Members of the committee include: Ben Clark, Libby Klocke, Drew Hawkins (Chairman), Debbie Liles, and Pam Hawkins. Take a look at those names--this is a good reflection and representation of our church family. Encourage them and lift them up in prayer.
3. Future candidates - Ask the Lord to lead the right person to serve our church, and pray for that person's well-being and family throughout this process.

Remember that God already knows who will become our next pastor and when that person will arrive. So pray for patience as well...remember too, that due to the sensitive nature of the search process, not everything that the committee is doing can be shared with the rest of us at any given time. If you aren't already, begin today to pray for each of the 3 things above, and that the committee might also find an interim pastor to lead us until the person God has already chosen is ready to step in. In the meantime, let us support the work of First Baptist with our prayers, our time, and our offerings.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

