



Indoor meals, meetings, and activities cancelled due to Covid-19 virus

- March 7** - Sunday School drive up service, 9:30 am
- March 14** - Daylight Savings (move clocks forward 1 hour)
- March 14** - Sunday School drive up service, 9:30 am
- March 21** - Sunday School drive up service, 9:30 am
- March 21** - Deacons Meeting, conference call, 12:15 pm
- March 28** - Palm Sunday
- March 28** - Sunday School drive up service, 9:30 am

Happy Anniversary!

- 3/10 Drew and Erin Gregory - 9 yrs
- 3/19 Larry and Judy Harrelson - 43 yrs
- 3/29 Gene and Bonnie Barnes - 57 yrs



for the families of ...

All Healthcare professionals,
All First Responders,
and
All families dealing with Coronavirus

The Lord is glad to open the gate to every knocking soul. It opens very freely; its hinges are not rusted; no bolts secure it. Have faith and enter at this moment through holy courage. If you knock with a heavy heart, you shall yet sing with joy of spirit. Never be discouraged! - C.H. Spurgeon

RADIO SPONSORS: If you can't be present in the sanctuary for the worship service, listen to the broadcast on WJSG, G-104 on your FM dial. The following area businesses sponsor the broadcast: Jenkins Automotive and Industrial Supply, Medical Center Pharmacy and Carter Funeral Home.



The First Baptist Informer

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Address Service Requested



March 1 - 31

Church Staff

- Rev. Jack Lee, Senior Pastor**
jack.fbcrock@gmail.com
- Guest Accompanists**
- Carly McKay, Choir Director**
- Jessica Smith, Wed Night Nursery Attendant**
- Delani Reep, Wed Night Nursery Attendant**
- Chris McEntire, Director of Accounting**
- Daniel Short, Custodian**
- John Thompson, Admin/Finance Assistant**
john.fbcrock@gmail.com



The First Baptist Informer

Rockingham, North Carolina

“To know Christ and make Him known”

Vol. XLIV * Number 3 * March 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021

Resource Recording Team (cancelled)

Monday, Mar 1, 2021

Bonnie Barnes, Joanne Cadieu

Monday, Mar 8, 2021

Mary Joyner, Judy McEntire

Tuesday, Mar 15, 2021

Charles Harrill, J.C. Lamm, Bill Featherston

Monday, Mar 22, 2021

Sally Pierce, Beverly Carnes

Monday, Mar 29, 2021

Sally Pierce, Beverly Carnes

Attendance Report

Sunday, Feb 7, 2021

Sunday School - Canc

Worship Service – Radio

Sunday, Feb 21, 2021

Sunday School - Canc

Worship Service - Radio

Sunday, Feb 14, 2021

Sunday School - Canc

Worship Service - Radio

Sunday, Feb 28, 2021

Sunday School - Canc

Worship Service - Radio

Sunday, Mar 7, 2021 (cancelled)

Nursery: Lee Chavis

2's & 3's: John and Beth Ray

Children's Church: TBA

Church Security: Jason Coen/Steve Morris

Greeters: Janice Coen/Mary Joyner/John and Beth Ray/Marjorie Rainey

Sunday, Mar 14, 2021 (cancelled)

Nursery: Erin Gregory/Kathy Griffiths

2's & 3's: Cynthia Morris/Dana Pope

Children's Church: Judy Harrelson/Lea Dietch

Church Security: Steve McIver/John Ray

Greeters: Janice Coen/Mary Catherine Moree/Steve and Cynthia Morris

Sunday, Mar 21, 2021 (cancelled)

Nursery: Debbie McIver

2s & 3s: Claudia Robinette

Children's Church: Angela Cockerton/Leah Melvin

Church Security: Clay Ewing/Graham Jenkins

Greeters: Janice Coen/Ric and Pat Buckner/Jill Emerson

Sunday, Mar 28, 2021 (cancelled)

Nursery: Elaine Davis & Melanie Lampley

2s & 3s: Debbie Knight/Mary Catherine Moree

Children's Church: Melissa Ewing

Church Security: Joey Moree

Greeters: Janice Coen/Mandy Allen/Inell Allen/Sally Pierce



One of the great movie scenes is from “Raiders of the Lost Ark” when Harrison Ford’s character, Indiana Jones, must choose which goblet is the sacred chalice. Upon choosing the correct one, the audience hears, “he has chosen wisely.” It was a challenge to choose the correct goblet.

Challenges can bring out the best in us if we choose wisely. Challenges should direct us to examine the big picture. Challenges can help us refine our agenda, our goals, our ambition, and our desires. Don’t run from challenges, walk to them, and embrace the lesson.

For the church, challenges should be viewed in light of God’s power, strength, and wisdom. Since God is still all powerful, we can rest in His promise that He will work accordingly to His purpose (Romans 8:28). Therefore, we have nothing to fear nor worry when we face a challenge. Look at challenges as a way to celebrate.

Sunday, March 7, 2021 will be one for celebration. I am extremely excited that we will gather for worship inside the sanctuary. I hope that you will be able to gather with us, but if not, we will continue to livestream the service through Facebook and broadcast live through WJSG G104FM. Either way, I look forward to spending quality time with you as we strive to bring glory and honor to our Redeemer. Blessings, Jack

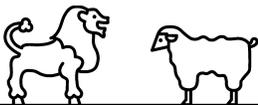


Dear FBC family, after a unanimous vote at the February Deacon’s meeting, I’m very excited to announce that we will be returning to in-person worship services in our sanctuary on March 7th, 2021.

In doing so, we ask that you follow the normal guidelines we are all no doubt accustomed to at this point - please wear a mask when entering and exiting the sanctuary, please remain appropriately distanced from each other, and be sure and sanitize your hands when entering and exiting. In preparation for the service, we will be marking off rows to make it easier to find the appropriate seats, and we will be also placing masks and hand sanitizer at each entrance/exit. Next Sunday is the one year anniversary of the last in-person service at FBC Rockingham, and we are all very excited to see our church family once again.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in getting back to the point where we can all safely worship together.

In Christ, Jason Coen, Chair, FBC Rockingham Board of Deacons.



MARCH



With the new safety guidelines for attending our Sunday services, while combating COVID-19, some folks in our congregation may feel disappointed corporate worship will look a little different. A report from the Department of Health warns, "Strongly consider discontinuing singing, group recitation, and other practices and performances where there is increased likelihood for transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets." In another section it notes, "Activities such as singing, and group recitation negate the risk-reduction achieved through six feet of physical distancing." Absorbing this is tough news for those who feel most connected to God and others through music.

"There is something about articulating our emotional state and using music, using song, as a means of expressing ourselves before the Lord. And that's deep in the Christian tradition, from singing and praying the Psalms to the early hymns in the New Testament like in Luke's gospel and peppered through Paul's letters," said Glenn Packiam, associate senior pastor at New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado. "There was also a reputation that early Christians got. In Pliny's letter to the emperor, he says, "These strange Christians get together before sunrise and they sing these hymns to Christ as if to a God."

I want to assure you that you can still connect with the Lord and embrace our time together in God's house by trying a few of the following ideas:

Acknowledge God's presence: Maybe we should start our gatherings by acknowledging his presence with us. For our community to know that the absence of singing does not mean the absence of the presence of God will be important. The presence of God does not revolve around our worship: our worship revolves around his presence. He is here already.

Allow lament: We are probably becoming increasingly aware how many people are carrying grief because of the current pandemic. As we gather once again, the sense of loss will have accumulated and will be acute. Empty chairs in our buildings will be stark reminders of empty spaces in our lives: loved ones who have died; jobs that have been lost; dreams that have been broken. So, let us be very careful with words of victory and power, and avoid offering easy answers.

Embrace the Changes: It is OK that this is not business as usual. If you are ever tempted to judge success by numbers, this is not the time to do it. If there was ever an opportunity to engage with your worship pastors, leaders, intercessors, and creatives in a fresh bold way, this is it. If you are hoping this moment will enable leaders to get back control and protect income streams, this is probably the time to be brave and resist it. The old 'usual' may never return. So, as we gather together and don't sing, maybe one of the things we should be doing is collectively listen to the Spirit-Whispers that start to paint a different picture of the future.



Did you know, the song "It Is Well With My Soul" was written by a successful Christian lawyer Heratio Spafford. His only son died at age 4 in 1871. In 1872, the great Chicago fire wiped out his vast estate, made from a successful legal career. In 1873 he sent his wife and four daughters over to Europe on a summer trip on the ill fated SS Ville du Havre. Since he had a lot of work to do, he planned to follow them later. The ship sank and he lost his four daughters with the wife being the only survivor. She sent him a famous telegram which simply read, "SAVED ALONE....." On his return home, his Law firm was burned down and the insurance company refused to pay him. They said, it's an act of God." He had no money to pay for his house and no work, he also lost his house. Then while sitting and thinking what's happening to him, being a spiritual person, he wrote a song - "Whatever, my Lord, You have taught me to say - It is well, it is well with my soul." My dear friend, a good attitude will determine your altitude. When you look at your life, career, job or family life, what do you say? Do you praise God? Do you blame the devil? A good attitude towards God makes Him move on your behalf. Just sit down and say, "Today, God, it is well with my soul, I am thankful I had a peaceful sleep, I am thankful I am alive with possibilities, I am thankful I have a roof over me, I am thankful I have a job, I am thankful that I have family and friends. Above all, I am thankful that I have the Lord Jesus Christ on my side." Be blessed and don't be envious or shocked when others are prospering because you don't know what they have been through to get there (test, trials and tribulation) so thank God for what you have. "Little is much when God is in it. It is well With my soul!" Touch someone's life with this message. If God is for us, who can be against us?



3/2 Anna Lee Crump
 3/5 Jack Lee
 3/9 Teri Beth McDonald
 3/21 Janice Coen
 3/28 Caroline Smith

3/4 Lex Hilton
 3/6 Ivey McKay
 3/16 Brynleigh Joy
 3/25 Harper Harrelson
 3/30 Kathleen Mumford

3/5 Melanie Lampley
 3/8 Clay Ewing
 3/18 James Stokes
 3/25 Mandy Allen
 3/31 Kim Cox

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 14th.



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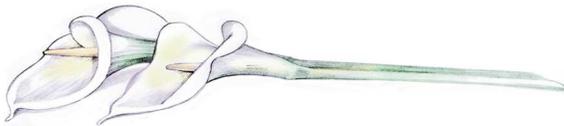
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In Memory



Hunter Ennis
 Marjorie Rainey

TITHES & OFFERINGS

GIVE UNTO THE LORD

Giving Summary	January 2021	February 2021
General Fund	12,900	12,239
Challenge to Maintain	0	0
Missions (CBF)	0	0
Missions (SBC)	250	250
Memorials & Honor	445	25
Radio Ministry	800	800
Pastor's Benevolence	250	15
Heating and Air Cond.	215	100
Organ Fund	0	0
Baptist Men	0	0
Sound/Light/Sponsor	400	400
PD Baptist Ramp Fund	750	0
Lottie Moon	0	0
Local Missions	3,036	0
Total Gifts	19,046	13,829
Budget req. to date		59,092
Gifts to date		32,875
YTD req. under actual gifts		(26,217)
% giving to req.		56%

Tithes and Offerings

As the Covid-19 virus continues to alter our church activities, we want to remind you to keep your financial obligations to First Baptist Church as current as possible. Also, do not forget payments and pledges toward the HVAC loan. As you continue to either mail or drop-off your gifts we want to thank you for your support.

Finance Committee

Wednesday Night Cook Teams

Due to ongoing efforts to curtail the spread of the COVID-19 virus, all Wednesday Night Meals are cancelled until further notice.

