

## Announcements

### Volunteers to Take Down Decorations, January 5, 5-7 pm

Volunteers are needed to take down and store the Christmas decorations.

### Congregational Conversation, January 12

On Sunday, January 12, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall at noon for lunch and conversation. At this event, you will have the opportunity to share what you believe is hindering FBC from moving forward in unity and to listen deeply to your fellow church members.

We are asking members to bring a crockpot of soup or chili, crackers, chips or a dessert for our lunch.

Here are the ways you can share stories during the congregational conversation:

There will be an opportunity for participants to address the gathered body. If you are not comfortable sharing your hurts and concerns in the large group setting, the transition team invites you to submit your stories ahead of time to be read during the congregational conversation. (Note that similar stories might be collated in the interest of time.) You can do so on paper via a box in the reception area or online. Stories should address these two questions: 1) What is keeping me personally from participating fully in FBC's mission? 2) What needs to happen for us to move forward together?

The submission deadline for stories is January 10. Note that the transition team will read all submissions, but only those that are signed will be read aloud at the congregational conversation.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the transition team or me (reverendlaura@gmail.com).

### Kids' Missions, January 12, 1-2 pm

Kids ages 3 years-5th grade are invited to join us for a special time of missions activities and creative play. This month we will learn about CBF Field Personnel working for Together For Hope.

Our kids will learn about hunger and how it affects children and families. We will collect food for the Caritas Little Free Pantry.

### Deacons Meeting, January 19

The Deacon body will meet Sunday, January 19 in Fellowship Hall following morning worship. Lunch will be provided.

### Book Club Meeting, January 13

FBC's Book Club is reading *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Please join us in reading. We will discuss as a group on January 13. For details or questions, contact Julie Richardson.

### Annual Church Conference, January 26

Please mark your calendar for our Annual Church Conference on Sunday, January 26, following morning worship in the Fellowship Hall. At this time the church body will approve the 2020 Church Budget and new committee members.

Stay Connected to First Baptist through Social Media  
[www.facebook.com/fbcmemphis](https://www.facebook.com/fbcmemphis) • Twitter: @fbcmemphis

## This Week at First Baptist

### Sunday, January 5

9:00 a.m. First Cup Gathering  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
5:00 p.m. Decorations Take Down

### Monday, January 6

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program

### Tuesday, January 7

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program

### Wednesday, January 8

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program  
5:00 p.m. Fellowship Supper  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 9

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program  
10:30 a.m. Adult Game Day, Parlor

### Friday, January 10

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program

## Volunteers

### Welcome Desk Deacon Greeter

January 5 Carolyn Bynum

### Sanctuary Foyer Greeters

January 5 Katharine Sorenson,  
Jan Jones

### Receptionists (8:30 am - 12:30 pm)

Mon, Jan 6: Trudy Hatton

Tues, Jan 7: Betty Wilson

Wed, Jan 8: Valerie Brenner

Thurs, Jan 9: Bill Wilson

### Extended Care

Next Sunday, January 12

Threes/Fours: Jenny Pendley,  
Laura Locke

Floater: Rebecca Courtney

## FBC in Prayer

### Current Concerns

Nancy Burch  
Brant Butler  
Linda Haywood

### Sympathy

To Nancy Burch in the death of her daughter, Amy Creel Ibson.



## Epiphany Sunday

January 5, 2020

*And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

—Galatians 6:9



Rev. Randy Hyde, D.Min.  
Interim Pastor

Rev. Dennis McDuffie  
Music Ministry Interim

Holly Hatton  
Interim Children & Youth  
Ministry Coordinator

200 East Parkway North  
Memphis, TN 38112

901.454.1131 phone  
901.454.1135 fax

[fbcmemphis.org](https://fbcmemphis.org)

Stacey Graves  
Director, First Baptist Day School

Aaron Foster  
Organist

David Córdoba Hernandez  
Supply Pianist



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## Epiphany Sunday

### PREPARATION

Welcome Rev. Richard Wright

One: The Lord be with you!

**Many: And also with you!**

The prelude provides an opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God by being still and quiet.

Prelude *Air on G String* J.S. Bach  
David Córdoba Hernandez, *pianist*

### ADORATION

Choral Introit *Worship the Lord* Tom Fettke  
The Sanctuary Choir  
(The text of the Introit may be found in our hymnal at number 115)

Call to Worship Rev. Richard Wright

One: Let us sing our praises to God, the One who gathers us here.

**Many: We gladly respond to God's presence, and offer our praise.**

One: With a word of promise,

**Many: A loaf of bread for the wilderness,**

One: And wine for the journey.

**All: Let us worship God!**

Invocation Rev. Richard Wright

\* Hymn of Praise 640 *Let All Things Now Living* ASH GROVE

\* Call to Confession Kathleene Sims

One: The gift of God's grace is lavished upon us—poured out like water—through the life and death of our Risen Lord. Trusting in the love and goodness of God, let us confess our sins.

\* Prayer of Confession

**All: Holy God, you have given us everything, yet we have failed to respond with gratitude. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your word; yet we answer with empty promises. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your light; we try to hide ourselves from your glory. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your life; even this precious gift we have not received. Have mercy on**

*us, O God, forgive us. In Jesus Christ, give us the faith and power to become what you created us to be: beloved children, full of grace and truth. Amen.*

\* Assurance of Pardon Kathleene Sims

One: This is God's promise, the sign and seal of your redemption: You have been called by God, claimed in Christ, set free through the Spirit. Believe this good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\* Congregational Response 337 EL NATHAN

*I Know Whom I Have Believed*

(As we sing, the children are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon.)

### PROCLAMATION

Children's Sermon Holly Hatton

New Testament Reading *Galatians 6:7-10* Julie Richardson

(page 1011 in the pew Bible)

One: This is God's Word for us today.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Preparation Rev. Dr. Ray Higgins and Congregation

***Almighty God, to You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Message Rev. Dr. Ray Higgins

*Doing Good*

### RESPONSE

\* Hymn of Prayer 385 *In Christ There Is No East or West* ST. PETER

Missions Moments Cherish Mathis

Offertory Prayer Tiffany Wright

Offertory *Away in a Manger* Steven Scott  
Aaron Foster, *organist*

\* Congregational Response 253 *Doxology* OLD 100TH

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayers of the People Glenn Everton

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.***

Anthem *As We Gather Around the Table* Mark Blankenship

The Sanctuary Choir

(The text of the Anthem may be found in our hymnal at number 367)

### CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Today we celebrate communion by coming to the Table. When we do this the body of the church acts together, moving as a community toward the table. When you approach the table take a piece of bread and eat it. Then take the cup and drink it. Communion servers may offer words of affirmation such as "The bread of life given for you" or "The cup of salvation." When receiving the elements you may remain silent or offer "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." A gluten-free option will be available on the organ side. A deacon will bring communion to those who cannot come forward.*

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Richard Wright

\* Hymn of Response 568 CANONBURY  
*Lord, Speak to Me, that I May Speak*

\* Benediction Rev. Richard Wright

\* Congregational Response 387 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* DENNIS

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love,  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above. Amen.***

Postlude *Angels from the Realms of Glory* arr. John Innes  
Aaron Foster, *organist*

*An offering will be received at the doors for our Benevolence Fund.*

\* The congregation will please stand, as you are able.

Amplifying devices are available at the Welcome Center desk.

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Today's guest preacher is Rev. Dr. Ray Higgins. Ray Higgins has served as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Arkansas Coordinator since 2005. He was born in Denver, Colorado and grew up in El Dorado, Arkansas. He's married and has two post-college sons. He has served as a senior pastor, seminary ethics professor, special projects coordinator, and youth minister. He has degrees from Baylor University (Ph.D. in Religion/Christian Ethics), Southwestern Seminary (M.Div.), and the University of Arkansas (B.A. in Philosophy). Ray continues to teach ethics, part time, with seminaries and colleges and serves on a medical center's ethics committee. He has led mission trips to Chile, Bulgaria, Canada, China and Slovakia, participated in a disaster response trip to Haiti, and traveled in Europe. He is a loyal Razorback fan.

Today's worship participants are Richard Wright, a deacon and chair of the Personnel committee; Kathleene Sims, a member of the Sanctuary Choir; Julie Richardson, a member of the Sanctuary Choir and Connect 4 SS class; Tiffany Wright, a member of the Connect 4 SS class; Cherish Mathis, chair of the Missions Committee and a member of the Sanctuary Choir; Glenn Everton, a deacon and member of the Sanctuary Choir and Ray Hatton, a member of the Sanctuary Choir and First Friends SS class.

Bridget Ellis celebrated her fifteenth anniversary as a FBC employee on January 3. Holly Hatton will celebrate her first anniversary as Interim Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator on January 7.

## THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

Today is Epiphany Sunday. Today marks the end of Christmastide as we remember the coming of the magi to visit Jesus. Epiphany means appearance. On this day, we celebrate Christ as the light of the world—an identity marked by the magi's visit and their presentation of gifts fit for a king.

## WELCOME TO FIRST BAPTIST

We are so glad you decided to worship with us today. Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor's Card in the pew rack in front of you. You can place these in the offering plate during the offertory. Consider lingering after worship so that our members might have a chance to greet you. Our ministers and deacons will be in the Welcome Center after worship and would love to meet you.

## CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

The presence of children in worship is a gift to the Church. They are valuable members of our faith family and we welcome them into this house of worship. Our nursery is open during worship for infants and toddlers. The nursery is located out the doors to the left of the pulpit and down the hall. Our nursery workers will be happy to assist you. Extended Care is for children ages 3-4 and for 5-year-olds who have not entered kindergarten. These children will sit as a group with our Extended Care leaders on the first pew in the right section. All children through 5th grade are invited to the front of the Sanctuary to participate in our Children's Sermon. Our preschoolers will leave for Extended Care after this.

## A WORD ABOUT FBC

First Baptist Memphis is a Midtown congregation that seeks to follow Christ by practicing hospitality, community, dialogue, and service.

- We value diversity in our membership and believe it enriches our journey and ministry.
- We strive to be a family of faith where all can belong.
- We value the voice of every child of God and strive to hear the voice of God in one another.
- What we do inside our walls prepares us to share God's love across the street and around the world.

The Radio Bible Class (10:30 am) and this service (11:00 am) are broadcast live on radio stations ESPN 680 AM, and ESPN 92.9 FM. Sermons are available online at [www.fbcmemphis.org](http://www.fbcmemphis.org).

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52 WEEKS & 52 WAYS TO CHANGE MEMPHIS  
2020 MISSIONS INITIATIVE

FBC's Missions Committee is excited to offer a new Missions Initiative to start off 2020!

The FBC family is invited to participate in *52 Weeks and 52 Ways to Change Memphis*. This weekly "missions moment" will be highlighted monthly in Together, with weekly focus points discussed in the *Table Talk*. These "moments" will fall into four categories: prayer, giving, doing and connecting.

The Missions Committee hopes this encourages members and their families to partner with FBC's ministries, as well as participate on their own for moments to keep missions as a focus throughout the entire year.

Our Missions Focus in January includes:

**Jan 5-11—Giving:** Continue collecting items for Perea (household cleaning supplies; clorox wipes; paper towels; toilet paper; feminine hygiene products; broom/mop; non-perishable food) to help needy families with keeping healthy.

**Jan 12-18—Praying:** Pray for the families who will receive the donations.

**Jan 19-25—Doing:** Donate blood, join the bone marrow registry, or talk as a family about organ donation. Think about how these donations affect others in our community who are in need.

**Jan 26-Feb 1—Connecting:** Send a "get well" or "thinking of you" card to someone who needs encouragement or is ill.

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