



FIRST MEMPHIS

A Different Way to be Baptist

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REMINDERS

Annual Church Conference Report Learn more on page 2.

Ash Wednesday
Learn more on page 2.

In-Person Worship resumes Feb. 7
More details can be found on page 2.

Pastor Search Committee
update. Learn more on page 2.

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Together

Vol 37 No 2

February 2021



Worship Schedule

REV. DR. RANDY L. HYDE, INTERIM PASTOR

The Reopening Task Force met January 26 and decided that with the “trigger points”—that is, the Covid-19 case numbers—coming down, it is time for us to return to in-person worship.

We will be doing so on Sunday, February 7. Since this decision has just been made, your church staff has not yet been able to determine how we will have the imposition of ashes on Ash

Wednesday, February 17. That information will be made available to you as soon as possible.

We can, however, provide you with the Lenten-Easter schedule, which is below.

Please be in prayer for one another as we once again come back together.

Lent 2021—The Way

Feb. 21 First Sunday in Lent:

Shame, Shame, Shame

Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22

Feb. 28 Second Sunday in Lent:

Run, Run, Run

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mar. 7 Third Sunday in Lent:

When the Church Becomes a Marketplace

John 2:13-22

Mar. 14 Fourth Sunday in Lent:

What God Has Made Us

Ephesians 2:1-10

Mar. 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent:

What the Giver Gave So Freely

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Mar. 28 Palm Sunday:

Looking, Just Looking

Mark 11:1-11

Apr. 1 Maundy Thursday:

On Losing Your Life

John 12:20-33

Apr. 2 Good Friday:

Exalted and Lifted Up

Isaiah 52:13-15

Apr. 4 Easter Sunday:

We Are Witnesses

Acts 10:34-43

LENT

Ash Wednesday

FEBRUARY 17, 6 PM

Preparations are underway for an in-person Ash Wednesday Service, Wednesday, February 17.

Once details have been finalized we will distribute them. The format of this service will promote safe social-distancing guidelines.



WORSHIP

Update from the Re-opening Task Force: In-Person Worship Services to Resume February 7

First Baptist Church will return to in-person worship services beginning Sunday, February 7.

The Re-opening Task Force has determined that with the decline in Covid-19 case numbers in the area, we are able to open our sanctuary again for in-person worship services. We will continue to follow all previous protocols including masks and social distancing.

Unless there is a sudden surge in case numbers over the next few days (which isn't expected), we will return on February 7. If these plans change, we will share that information in the February 3 *Table Talk* and through e-mail. We welcome all those who wish to join us for services on Feb. 7.

We will also have the service live-streamed at 11 am Sundays on the church's Facebook page. You may view it at a later time on the church's YouTube channel.

You can also listen to the service live on the radio Sundays at 11 am on ESPN 92.9 FM or ESPN 680 AM.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness.

CHURCH

Church Conference Report

First Baptist Church was called into conference on Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021 by deacon chair Tom Marchand for the annual church conference via Zoom. The business of our conference included review and approval of the 2021 budget as presented by the Finance Committee Chair Jason Callahan. Although offerings were down in 2020, certain expenses were also down because of the pandemic and the related closure of our sanctuary.

The Committee on Committees presented the 2021 list of committee members. Chair David Richardson reviewed the list of committees, their chairs and committee members. The church approved the committees as presented.

General questions were asked and discussion occurred with the congregation and an update from the Pastor Search Committee was provided.

Thank you to all who joined in our "virtual" church conference. May God continue to bless our church as we work together.

PASTOR SEARCH

Update from the Pastor Search Committee

The Pastor Search Committee has been working the past several weeks on the process that will bring the perfect pastoral candidate to First Baptist Church—the one chosen for us—who will lead us in a glorious future. The team has met twice during January with FBC's transition facilitator, Laura Stephens-Reed, for six hours of intensive training and planning for the search process and beyond.

The Pastor Search Committee has named their chairperson and secretary —**Cathy Wilhelm will lead the committee as chair and April Blankenship is the secretary.** Both of these faithful servants, as well as the entire search committee, have vowed to do the work necessary to find the best person to lead First Baptist Church as senior pastor.

Please be in prayer for this team and their work over the next few months as they seek to carry out God's will.

Guest Preacher

Rev. Julia Goldie Day to Preach Feb. 14.

February is Baptist Women in Ministry's Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching.

Congregations around the world participate by inviting

women to fill their pulpits. **Rev. Julia Goldie Day** will be our guest preacher on Sunday, February 14.



Rev. Day is a Baptist pastor who has served churches in Tennessee and South Carolina, mainly working with children and youth. She is married to Ben and parent to Jasper, Barak, and Jillian and lives in Germantown, TN.

She is an artist, a writer, preacher, and advocate for children and teenagers to live their fullest lives as image bearers of God.

As a part of her doctoral project at Memphis Theological Seminary, Julia has been teaching our Connect Four and Youth classes a curriculum that she developed called Glorious and Good. We look forward to hearing her preach as an extension of this project.

MEMORIALS

- | | |
|---|--|
| In memory of Bob Flowers by
Joyce Bruno
David & Sara Cunningham
Carolyn Wingate
Anonymous
Kathleene Sims
Aliou & Elizabeth Niang | In memory of Polly Bristow by
Anonymous
In memory of Vera Hankins by
Anonymous
Phillip & Ina Joyner
Anita Cobb
Willena Highsmith |
| In memory of Andy Simmons by
Anonymous | In memory of Tom & Dewey Middleton by
Anonymous |
| In memory of Brian Kellett by
Mark & Susan Weaver | In memory of Dot Bizzell by
Anonymous |
| In memory of Iva Lou & Bob Flowers by
Bobby Rogers & Rebecca Courtney
Linda & Ray Love | In memory of Troy Scott's 100th birthday by
David Scott & Gail Scott Poole |

MISSIONS

Annual Missions Offering

This has been an odd year in the life of our church. Due to the pandemic, we have not been able to gather as a congregation to worship or to engage in hands-on missions. However, that doesn't mean that the work of the Church has stopped. Many of you have found ways to stay engaged in sharing the good news of Christ Jesus, and caring for God's people in our community. And, in this odd year, our missions partners have kept right on leading the charge to do likewise.

This is why we give to our Annual Missions Offering; supporting ministries and organizations—around the world and across the street—to do the work of the church when we cannot. This year, more than ever, our missions partners need our help. This pandemic has left so many in need, and so many ministries struggling to meet these needs while grappling with their own financial strain. But the Lord provides! Thank you for supporting the work of our missions partners through your gifts. If you have not given to the 2020 Annual Missions Offering, February 15 is the last day to contribute.

Blessings, Holly

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GIVING

Giving Options

FBC has several ways for you to keep up with your giving schedule.

You can mail your offering to the church: First Baptist Church, 200 E Parkway N., Memphis, TN 38112.

You can donate online via our website: www.fbcmemphis.org/giving

Or, you can email Lisa Butts to learn how to set up automatic recurring offering withdrawals set up from either your bank account or credit card. Recurring payments can be set up weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. This system gives you several options for setting up your gifts to FBC, and the best part is that with automatic withdrawal, there is no more worry with remembering to write the check or submit the payment through your bank or credit card.

For more information about any of the available giving options, contact Lisa via her email lbutts@fbcmemphis.org. She'll explain the process and help you get started.