
First Baptist Church Builder

Volume 78 Issue 5

May 29, 2020

FROM YOUR PASTOR

The older I get, the shorter life seems. Sixty years of age is not nearly as old as I used to think. James says it is like the vapor that appears for a time then vanishes away. Life passes too quickly. I'm sure you can identify with that. And many of the things I used to be anxious about and worry about don't seem so important now.

Author Victor Hugo said, "Short as life is, we make it still shorter by the careless waste of time." There is no sadder example of wasted time than a life dominated by fretting and worrying.

One lady dreamed of riding a scenic train route to visit a friend in another state, and the day came that she was able to make that trip. After she boarded the train, she kept fretting about the windows and the temperature, about her seat assignment, about rearranging her luggage, and other things.

She was shocked when she reached her destination sooner than she thought she would. She was so concerned with minor matters, that she simply didn't take time to enjoy the scenery or the trip. She didn't enjoy the trip. With deep regret she said to the person meeting her, "If I'd known I was going to arrive so soon, I wouldn't have wasted my time fretting about unimportant things."

It's easy to get sidetracked by things that really won't matter at life's end—difficult neighbors, a tight budget, signs of aging, the weather, politics, the economy, etc. Moses acknowledged the brevity of life and prayed, "So teach us to number our days, that we may our hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).

Instead of fretting, feed on God's Word and apply it to yourself. Strive to grow in God's wisdom every day. Stay focused on eternal values. Get to know God better so He won't seem a stranger when you meet Him. Make it your goal to greet your waiting Savior one day with a heart of wisdom, rather than a heart of anxiety and care.

I trust you are doing well. I truly miss you and your families. I pray that we can join together in worship in the church sanctuary again soon.

Yes, we are still meeting every Sunday morning. "Drive in Church" takes place around the memorial garden when it is not raining, where you can tune your radio to FM 88.9 and hear the service in your vehicles. Even when it is raining, a few are able to gather in the sanctuary, and most are in the parking lot, we still have "Drive in Church" in the parking lot, same time, same FM channel.

We are also on Facebook at 11 on Sunday mornings, at www.facebook.com/FirstPineBluff/Live, and on KLRT FOX 16 on Sundays at 9 a. m.

Our new church website is now up and running at www.fbcpinebluff.org. This website includes our latest sermons and Builders and church calendars and information. It also includes our new online giving platform that you may use if you so desire. You may now give your tithes and offerings online if you so choose, by using a credit card or by giving directly from your checking account through ACH. Renee will explain this in more detail elsewhere in this Builder. She can also answer your questions when you call the church office about this. Of course, you can continue giving as you are now giving. You just have more options.

Please remember that **your church office remains open for regular office hours:** Monday-Thursday, 8:30-5:00. Friday, 8:30-12:30. Your staff is available for your phone calls and your needs.

Your regular Sunday School literature is available at the church office for your use. Please feel free to come by the church office for your Sunday School and devotional materials. **Your church library is also open to you during regular office hours.**

Also, **the church gym is available for your use.** As a matter of fact, walkers, you are most welcome to walk inside the gym and hallways of our church facilities. These areas are safe and dry, even when it is raining! Our parking areas are also available to use for walking.

There will be a Deacons and Trustees meeting this coming Tuesday, June 2, in the Fellowship Hall. The meeting should last no more than an hour at the most. This will be our June Deacons meeting.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God", **Philippians 4:6.** All of this shall pass. Just stay safe and well. God bless you and your families. Again, if we can assist you in any way, please call — Pastor



Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children



SAVE THE DATES!

Excitement is building as we prepare to excavate and start our VBS construction site. On the five Sunday nights in August (2, 9, 16, 23, and 30) we will be hosting “Concrete and Cranes” for kids Kindergarten through completed 6th grade here at First Baptist Church from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm each week. Information concerning registration is available on our church website (www.fbcpinebluff.org). Just click on the VBS tab at the top of the homepage.

If you have helped in the past, and have not been contacted or would like to help for the very first time, we would love for you to join our VBS Crew! Please contact me for the link to the “virtual VBS training” or go to our church website and sign-up. I will contact you via email with further information so SIGN-UP TODAY!

I am looking forward to seeing what God is going to do and is already doing through VBS 2020. Please be in prayer now and invite your friends and their kids and your kid’s friends, anyone and everyone you know! With your help we are excited about the opportunity to help kids build a firm foundation built on Jesus and his love, forgiveness, worth, promises, and life.

A New Normal in Ministry.

The COVID-19 pandemic has quickly changed how the Church is ministering, worshipping, and discipling, making Drive-In Church the new normal. COVID-19 has also put a halt on my regular Summer planning (which means no CentriKid or FUGE camps, no Terrific Tuesdays, and no Hymn Festival in September), and I usually have our Christmas programs selected by now.

As the virus continues to linger, I have come to realize that in this time of uncertainty I need to have a “plan-B” ready, and it looks like we are set to execute that plan. I will share more of the specifics soon, as some of the details are still being developed.

Trusting in God’s timing is the lesson that we all must learn. COVID-19 is not a surprise to the Lord and the timing of it and where we are as a church is also not a surprise. Start praying NOW as I think and pray through the questions that I have: What music selections do I need to make? When will we be able to return to regular rehearsals and what will that intel? Where will we be with the FirstKids and Student Ministries in the Fall? How can we get more people involved in our ministry? Please be praying for God’s wisdom as I seek God’s will for the next steps for the Music and Student Ministries.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you,

Bro. Bryan



“Like” us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/firstpinebluff

www.facebook.com/themusicministry



First Record

May 3, 2020

Budget Needs	\$11,151.75
Budget Receipts	\$11,686.10
TV Receipts	\$420.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$155.00
Other	\$6,416.13
TOTAL	\$18,677.23

May 10, 2020

Budget Needs	\$11,151.75
Budget Receipts	\$17,601.00
TV Receipts	\$1,110.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$930.00
Other	\$1,442.00
TOTAL	\$21,083.00

May 17, 2020

Budget Needs	\$11,151.75
Budget Receipts	\$8,128.00
TV Receipts	\$160.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$55.00
Other	\$377.00
TOTAL	\$8,720.00

May 24, 2020

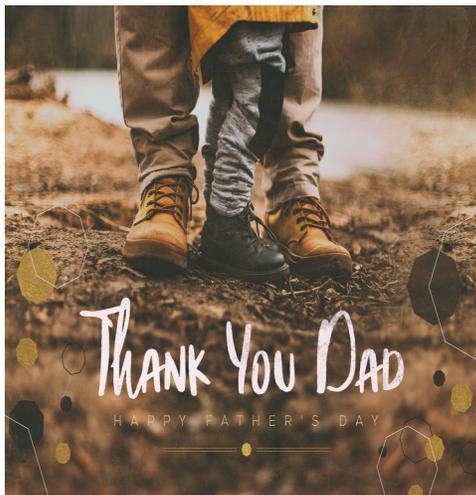
Budget Needs	\$11,151.75
Budget Receipts	\$11,457.00
TV Receipts	\$1,340.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$55.00
Other	\$214.32
TOTAL	\$13,066.32

Sunday School Materials

Are you missing Sunday School? Silly question, we all are! We do have the Summer quarter material in and we have sorted it by class in the office. If you would like to come by the office and pick up your study guide, please do. We also have the monthly magazines for April and May available. Please remember the office closes for lunch 12-1 Monday through Thursday, and closes at 12:30 on Friday.

Mother's Day Baby Bottle Offering

We will continue to collect the Baby Bottle Offering through Father's Day. This year will be a tad different. We will not be distributing bottles. You will be able to contribute with your contribution envelope. You will just need to check the "Other" box on the front of the envelope and write Hope or Baby Bottle Offering in the space next to it. **WE WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTING CASH OR CHECKS THIS YEAR. NO CHANGE.** All checks need to be made payable to First Baptist Church.



Our church is moving to a new kind of church record keeping solution called Realm. It primarily serves the administrative needs of our staff, but it also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in our church. Not only will this improve work life for our ministry staff, it will make it easier for our church family to connect with each other, keep up with what's going on, and grow as a connected community of believers.

Everyone in our church gets a unique profile. Your profile contains everything you want people to know about you. Your profile enables you to join a small group, RSVP to events, track your giving, update your contact information, change family details, or replace an outdated family photo.

Groups and classes are an important part of our church, and now you can connect with the people in them throughout the week.

Review your giving history or make new donations online or on your mobile phone. Simply sign in to look over your year-to-date giving, print a contribution statement or make a new one-time or recurring donation. It's always available and kept secure in an easy-to-use online environment.

Your privacy is very important to us. You have complete control over who can see your contact and personal information. Contact information is never public or searchable on the internet. Authorized staff will always have access to your profile information.

I hope you have received your invite from Realm. Please do consider accepting the invite. It is not necessary and completely up to you.



Our website is live and online giving is available again. Listed below are the steps you should follow.

1. Click the GIVE button on our church website: www.fbcpinebluff.org
2. Click the Give Now button.
3. Enter the amount you want to give.
4. Give to the fund pre-selected for you or choose a different fund from the drop-down menu.
5. Select a frequency.
6. Enter your email address.
7. Click CONTINUE.
8. Select your account type:
 - Credit/Debit Card
 - ACH/Checking Account

Enter your payment information to complete the transaction. You'll receive email confirmation of your gift.

If you choose ACH, be prepared to give the routing number of your bank and the account number.

Regular Schedule for Weekly Services

SUNDAY:
 9:00 am TV Broadcast on FOX 16
 (one week delay).
 11:00 am Morning Worship Service

MONDAY:
 4:45 pm Ladies Fitness
 6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir
 6:30 pm Youth Ministry
 9:00 am Men's Bible Study
 5:00 pm Family Dinner
 7:30 pm Student Ministry
 5:45 pm Adult Prayer Meeting
 6:45 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Cancelled until further notice

Deacons 2020

Blasius Awonsang 318-278-4208
 M. H. Bitely 718-3764
 Travis Chisom 489-3881
 Troy Cole 540-7393
 Dan Crowder 501-944-1236
 Steve Dalrymple 718-0630
 Larry Daniel 540-7534
 Tommy Fowler 534-4756
 Tommy Grace 866-0916
 Horace Green 550-3540

John Hayden 510-0546
 David Hutcheson 329-6127
 Earl Keaton 535-6298
 Lawrence Kenney 413-2599
 Lynn King 540-7400
 Billy Kittler 550-8910
 Carl Koen 501-626-2854
 Jim McBurnett 692-8132
 Rodney Rodgers 543-9936
 Jim Simpson 692-3282

The new church directory project has been postponed. Keep an eye out in the Builder for when the photos will be taken. We have sent an e-directory out. If you would like a paper copy, please let the office know.



News from the Pews

STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

Ken Thornton
 1-501-425-7097
Bryan Bolton
 489-8970

MEET OUR NEW WEBSITE! YAY!

www.fbcpinebluff.org



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