First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 35
Clayton, N.C. 27528-0035

RETURN SERVICE

Church Staff
Dr. Mark T. White, Pastor
Rev. David L. With, Associate Pastor for Students & Outreach
Rev. Phyllis C. Crane, Minister of Senior Adults
Mr. James O. Elmore, Director of Music/Organist
Mrs. Katherine A. Rattie, Financial Secretary
Mrs. Vicky Elia, Secretary
Mr. Donnie R. Pollard, Custodian

Telephone: 919-553-4161 Fax: 919-553-4162
Email: staff@fbcclaytonnc.org
Website: www.fbcclaytonnc.org
Mrs. Serena S. Luke, Child Development Center Director
Telephone: 919-550-4018

The Outlook
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October 11, 2017

The Pastor’s Corner

Homecoming is a Day for Family and Friends

Church Homecoming services are special services usually set on or near the anniversary date of the founding of the church, although many churches may choose other dates for a variety of reasons. Our church was founded in October of 1811, making this our 206th anniversary. Services are oftentimes themed to acknowledge those who not only founded the church but who over the years have contributed to the well-being of the church and the body of believers. The services can also be a great aid in drawing the body of believers closer to God, one another, and the church.

These services can also be a wonderful time to “make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to church.” Homecoming is a great opportunity for one to bring a friend to church where he or she can experience the love of Christ in the proclamation of the Gospel, in the welcome, and in the fellowship. Homecoming is a time in which that friend’s story may become entangled with our own as a shared aspect of our lives in Christ and the love of Christ we all experience in various ways.

Homecoming is also a time that gives rise to images of getting back to business—to be renewed and refreshed, ready to roll up our sleeves and get back to the business of worship, evangelism, and discipleship. It means we’ve been strengthened for the tasks that are ahead of us and the community of faith of which we are a part. Homecoming also gives rise to the image of a loving God with arms of welcome opened wide to the daughters and sons created in God’s image and in whom the image of God resides. They are arms that are always ready to embrace the wounded, the broken, the stranger, the joyful, the mournful, and all others. No matter what, God always welcomes us home. In Jesus we always find the familiar, and the Holy Spirit guides us and gathers us in. As Christians we have a “Godly heritage rooted in deep soil.” And like the Psalmist, we can say, “I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord” (Psalm 122:1). Dr. Roger Nix will bring the Homecoming message in the 11:00 am service. Dr. Nix is the Director of Missions for the Raleigh Baptist Association. We have been featuring ministry partners to First Baptist in our Homecoming services over the past few years. The Raleigh Baptist Association was our partner in the start of Mosaic Church of Clayton, along with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. I know that you will welcome Dr. Nix. We conclude the observance of the day with a wonderful fellowship lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Don’t miss it! We’ll see you Sunday for Homecoming Day...

-Mark T. White, Pastor
First Baptist will host a covered dish lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Immediately following the 11:00 am service, we will enjoy a

Our guest speaker in the 11:00 AM service will be Dr. Roger Nix, on Sunday, October 15, 2017.

Mark your calendars and join us for our church Homecoming on Sunday, October 15, 2017.

Our PieceMakers sewing/quilting group is busy sewing and quilting. They are making costumes for our nativity scene among other projects. They meet every Tuesday at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

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Remember Movie Night on Friday, October 13 at 5:30 pm. Pizza & Salad is the menu. Bring a dessert!

Thank you to First Baptist for your support of WMU’s sponsorship of the “Able to Serve” dance. What a wonderful time our guests had fellowshipping and dancing together! They also enjoyed the food, music and interactions with folks across the county. All present were blessed by participating!

Mark your calendars for the Baptist Women’s World Day of Prayer on Monday, November 6th at 7pm. First Baptist will host folks from across the Johnston Baptist Association and we want all of our church to participate.

There will be music, a short program, special prayer time for missions across the world and refreshments afterwards.

If you have names and address of former members of NBC, please write them down and just being present to welcome guests and fill in where needed. Stay tuned for more information as the date draws near, but plan NOW to be a part of this important event!

FBC Missions Council

Beverly Matthews Please keep Beverly in your prayers. Pray for effectiveness of treatment and strength. If you would like to send a card or note of encouragement to Beverly, please send to:

195 Springbrook Avenue, Room 130, Clayton, NC 27520

Art Holder is doing well after his shoulder surgery; please pray for a quick recovery.

Gerald Brantley is recovering from his broken collar bone. Please continue to keep him in your prayers for healing.

Maloa Benson was admitted to Johnston Health/Clayton on Tuesday, Oct. 10. Please pray for doctor’s wisdom as they treat Maloa and that she will respond to treatments. Please pray that Maloa would feel God’s peace and comfort.

We offer our Sincere Sympathy and Christian Love to the family of Vann Martin. Vann’s mom, Mrs. Edith Martin, passed away on October 4, 2017 in Wallace, NC.

We are truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church.

May God bless each of you.

In Christian love,
Vann, Lynne and Adam Martin
Bert, Leslie, Olivia, Owen and Will Mederos

Please Pray

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the many acts of kindness and expressions of condolences regarding the death of my mother, Jeanette R. Boykin.

We are truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church.

May God bless each of you.

In Christian love,
Vann, Lynne and Adam Martin
Bert, Leslie, Olivia, Owen and Will Mederos