

Last Sunday's Record - November 8, 2020

Offering: \$26,508.66

Sunday School: 206

January 1, 2020

Requirements: \$1,177,149.15

Receipts: \$1,087,401.99

Deacon of the Week

11/15 - Mike Jones

11/22 - Walter Rogers 11/29 - Jet Scarbrough

Deacon's Breakfast (change)

November Meeting moved to Sunday, December 6

8:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Sermon for November 15

"From A to Z"

Psalm 119

MENU for Wednesday, November 18

(for Noon Lunch and Evening Take Out)

Roast Turkey, Cornbread Dressing and Gravy,
Sweet Potato Casserole, Cranberry Sauce, Yeast Roll,
and Pecan Pie

KIDS: Hot Dog and Fries

Adults: \$5 KIDS (12 and under): \$3 Family Maximum \$20

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY - November 15

Preschool Extended Session

Lee and Melissa Rogers

LAUNCH

Leslie and Jill Williams

Worship Welcome

Leonard and Betsy Cobb

Wallace and Janet Heggie

Greeter

Greg and Kathryn Monsour

Brian and April Sellers

Security Team 1

Walter Rogers, Jr. Justin Anders

Wallace Heggie Neil Henry

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, November 15

9:15 - Sunday School

10:30 - Morning Worship

3:30 - Acteens

4:30 - Youth Bible Drills

TUESDAY, November 17

9:30 - Even Better than Eden/Laird

WEDNESDAY, November 18

12:00 - Sr. Adult Noon Day Prayer Meeting, Bible Study
and Lunch (Fellowship Hall)

5:45 - Confronting Christianity/VanHorn, facilitator
(CHAPEL)

- Worship is a Verb/Bishop, facilitator
(SANCTUARY)

- Youth Worship

- Children's Ministry

(G.A.s and R.A.s)

(3s, 4s, and 5s - Children's Hall)

Nursery Open

Dr. Nathan VanHorn, Pastor

Rev. David Bishop, Associate Pastor for Music

Zach DePriest, Minister of Youth Caitlin Braud, Director of Children's Ministries

Dr. Raymon Leake, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. David McCubbin, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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THE MESSENGER



FBCM

First Baptist Church
Meridian

November 15, 2020

Volume 92, Number 44



Dear Church,

Sunday, I preached about God's faithfulness beyond the lines we draw in the sand. Most of the biblical heroes we celebrate did not enjoy the lives we seek for ourselves (*just read through Hebrews 11*). But, even if we don't see the restoration for which we long right now, our God is faithful even beyond death. He is the God of resurrection and eternal life, and Jesus is the proof. No one in the presence of God is questioning His goodness—they are praising Him for it. When I returned home from worship on Sunday, I stumbled across the following thought written by a woman named Kimberly Henderson. It reminded me that God is not only faithful to restore us (*now or later*); He also uses our hardships to redeem others as well:

"I would have pulled Joseph out. Out of that pit. Out of that prison. Out of that pain. I would have cheated nations out of the one God would use to deliver them from famine.

I would have pulled David out. Out of Saul's spear-throwing presence. Out of the caves he hid away in. Out of the pain of rejection. I would have cheated Israel out of a God-hearted king.

I would have pulled Esther out. Out of being snatched from her only family. Out of being placed in a position she never asked for. Out of the path of a vicious, power-hungry foe. I would have cheated a people out of the woman God would use to save their very lives.


I would have pulled Jesus off. Off of the cross. Off of the road that led to suffering and pain. Off of the path that would mean nakedness and

beatings, nails and thorns. I would have cheated the entire world out of a Savior. Out of salvation. Out of an eternity filled with no more suffering and no more pain.

And, oh friend. I want to pull you out. I want to change your path. I want to stop your pain. But right now I know I would be wrong. I would be out of line. I would be cheating you and cheating the world out of so much good. Because God knows. He knows the good this pain will produce. He knows the beauty this hardship will grow. He's watching over you and keeping you even in the midst of this. He's promising you that you can trust Him. Even when it all feels like more than you can bear.

So instead of trying to pull you out, I'm lifting you up. I'm kneeling before the Father and I'm asking Him to give you strength. To give you hope. I'm asking Him to protect you and to move you when the time is right. I'm asking Him to help you stay prayerful and discerning. I'm asking Him how I can best love you, and be a help to you. I'm believing He's going to use your life in powerful and beautiful ways. Ways that will leave your heart grateful and humbly thankful for this road you've been on."

**Amen and amen,
Nathan VanHorn**

CENTRI-KID SMOKED MEAT FUNDRAISER
 **DEADLINE TO ORDER:**
THIS Sunday, NOVEMBER 15
(Payment due when ordered, please!)

Memorials...

Trinidad Ministry Fund

In memory of: Ellen Rogers

Lottie Moon Offering

In memory of: Ellen Rogers

In honor of: Pat McCubbin

Missions and Ministry

In memory of:

Ward Calhoun, Jr.

Aline Forbert

Margaret Harrison

Lynn Combest

Ellen Rogers

F260 WEEK 47 READING beginning 11/15/20
Monday - Colossians 1-2
Tuesday - Colossians 3-4
Wednesday - Ephesians 1-2
Thursday - Ephesians 3-4
Friday - Ephesians 5-6
Memory Verses: Ephesians 2:8-10, Colossians 2:6-7



**Operation Christmas Child
boxes will be blessed on
Sunday, November 15.**

2020 Advent Calendar:

The Sounds of Christmas
Sunday, December 6 6:00 p.m.

**The Festival of 9 Lessons
Carols and Candles**

Sunday, December 13 6:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Communion
Service**

Thursday, December 24 5:00 p.m.