



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MARION

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 14

APRIL 5, 2020



The Worship of God Palm Sunday Sunday, April 5, 2020

During our efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, FBC's worship services are being prerecorded and posted on the FBC Facebook Group and on YouTube. Internet links are provided on the FBC Website: fbcmarion.org

Sermon:

Here Comes the Jesus Parade
Matthew 21:1-11
Dr. Scott Hagaman

Children's Sermon by
Rev. Christi Hollifield

Palm Procession -
Jesus Is Coming Today, Larson

Hymn - *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, ST. THEODULPH

Organ Postlude -
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded,
PASSION CHORALE

Amidst Hardship There Is Opportunity

By M. Scott Hagaman, Pastor

According to state and national leaders, the next 2-3 weeks are projected to be the peak of the pandemic in the U.S. This period is likely to be very tough for the entire country and quite serious for many of us. Large numbers of people will contract the virus, while many of those will become its casualties. Like in China, Italy, and Spain, there will be many deaths. However, in the midst of such hardship, there is also the opportunity to be more unified as a people. A common crisis reminds us of our common humanity, needs, and dependency. Please be in prayer for one another, because as many have said, "We're all in this together!" Indeed, we're all victims of this virus. However, the greater, more important truth is this: We are also all children of God in need of His grace and love.

All Church Gatherings and Activities Cancelled throughout April

FBC's deacons met via Zoom on Sunday, March 29 to discuss our plans going forward. In light of continued state and federal COVID-19 prevention declarations, First Baptist Church will not be having any in-person gatherings during the month of April, including Sunday school, worship, Wednesday night supper and small groups, sanctuary choir, and meetings of all age group ministries (children, youth, Saints Alive, etc.). Unfortunately, this will also include Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday worship. The Diaconate will meet again in approximately a month to reevaluate the situation and determine next steps.

Being Church from a Distance

During these weeks of social distancing, we will continue to be church to one another, supporting and caring for each other's needs and giving glory to God. Our staff along with a team of volunteers will provide Sunday worship services online. Our weekly service is posted on both Facebook and YouTube. (On page 2, instructions for watching FBC services are provided). Also, the Church Office will continue to be open and our staff available. If you or someone you know needs something during the Coronavirus crisis, please contact the church office or one of the ministers. We need to be especially supportive of those most vulnerable to the Coronavirus, the elderly and those with chronic health issues. If anyone needs something picked up (food, supplies, medicine, etc.) but should not be out in public, please call the church office, the ministers, or your deacon. We will arrange for someone to make the trip for you. Or, if you prefer to place orders online and need technological assistance to do so, we can mobilize a tech-savvy person to help you.

Adjusted Church Office Hours for April

The Church Office will be open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The office will be closed on Good Friday (April 10) and Easter Monday (April 13). In light of the pandemic, if possible please call the church office rather than visiting in person. If, however, you need to come in person, please practice social distancing when you encounter the staff and others. If you have any cold or flu like symptoms, please do not come to the church. For pastoral support, at all times, please feel free to call Scott Hagaman at home or on his cell phone.

Our Mission Statement

First Baptist Church of Marion is a community of faith on mission to be God's people and presence throughout the world. Following the leadership of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to worship God in word and action, to love and support one another, and to share the Good News.

First Baptist Church

99 North Main Street, Marion, NC 28752
(828) 652-6030 (828) 659-9111, FAX

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Church Staff:

Dr. M. Scott Hagaman, Pastor

scott@fbcmarion.org

**Rev. Matthew D. Roberts, Associate Pastor
for Faith Formation, matt@fbcmarion.org**

Rev. Christi S. Hollifield

Minister with Children

christi@fbcmarion.org

Mrs. Ruth T. Wakefield

Director of Music Ministry

ruth@fbcmarion.org

Mrs. Mary Lewis, Children's Center

Director, fbckids@yahoo.com

Mrs. Susan W. Webber, Office Manager

susan@fbcmarion.org

Mrs. Jean Tisdale

Communications Assistant

jean@fbcmarion.org

Mrs. Heather W. Anderson, Organist

handerson410@gmail.com

Mr. James Edwards, Maintenance Manager

Ms. Betty O. Wall

Children's Center Director Emeritus

BY THE NUMBERS—3/29/2020**Sunday School:**

Enrollment 187

Members Present 0

Visitors Present

Total Present 0

Sunday Worship:

Sanctuary 0

Worship Team 16

Budget Report:

Required this Week 10,092.52

Received this Week 18,155.00

Required to Date 131,202.76

Received to Date 110,678.00

+/- of Budget -20,524.76

JOYS & CONCERNS

- **Bridget Beam** - Celebrated her 43rd Birthday, her health continues to decline
- **Joyce Bingham**
- **Pat Faulkner**
- **Beth Garrett**—Daughter of Charlotte Hughes, Duke Med. Ctr.
- **Jim Gorst**
- **Jim & Gerry Gorst & family** on the death of son-in-law, Andy Rapale
- **Rev. Christi Hollifield**
- **Joanne Howle**
- **Elaine Laney & family** upon the death of **John Litaker** - 3/25/20
- **Alice Little** - Surgery Postponed
- **Margie Smith**

COMMUNITY FOOD RESOURCES

McDowell County Schools via the six(6) elementary schools will provide a lunch meal for students from 11am-1pm Monday through Friday.

Free Meal Opportunities for kids at local restaurants while school is closed. Please read the particular information about each restaurant. March 16th-26th. Limit one per day Monday-Friday.

- **Fat Boys Burritos**- For any K-12 McDowell County School attendees Only-Free kids meal one taco with chips and a drink- In house only
- **Smokey Q's**- For any K-12 McDowell County School attendees Only-Free kids meal with a drink
- **McDowell Local**-For any McDowell County student K-12-Free kids meal with a drink- Tuesday- Friday- Dine In or Carry Out- Children must be present
- **Main Street Pizza**-Free kids meal during school closure for any child- 6 different choice options
- **BoonDocks Sports Bar and Grill**-For any and every kid enrolled in a K-12 school-Free kid's meal- Dine in or carry out- Child must be present
- **Luisa's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria**- For McDowell County School attendees K-12-Free kid's meal from children's menu with a drink and with one paying adult meal
- **McDonalds on West Henderson and Hwy 70 West**-For school age children-Free kids meal of hamburger, cheeseburger, or 4-piece chicken nugget and small fries; apples or yogurt, Between the hours of 11am-2pm any day of the week until school is back in session.
- **McDonalds in Old Fort**- For school age children-Free kids meal of a hamburger, cheeseburger or 4 piece chicken nugget, and a choice of one side (gogurt, apple slices, or small fry). Child must be present, valid one per child. Any day from 11am-2pm
- **Whistle Stop in Old Fort**-For school age children- Free kids meal- 7 inch cheese or pepperoni pizza and a drink
- **Bruce's Fabulous Foods**- 2 Free kids meals with an adult meal purchase -Children up to age 12 must be present to receive a free grilled cheese sandwich, chips or Doritos, brownie or cookies and a beverage.
- **Burrito Brothers**-For McDowell County School attendees- Free kids meal of a cheese quesadilla, chips and salsa. Child must be present.

East Marion Baptist Church: If you have a need food assistance and you live in the East Marion district, please call East Marion Baptist Church, Phone: 559-2575

McDowell Mission Ministries: Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 until food is depleted, Phone: 659-3981

Grace Community Church: Every Wednesday, 2:00-4:30, Anyone with a need of food can go to mcdowellcares.com to fill out the form. An email will then be sent to Mandi Pittman who is coordinating this effort at GCC. If families do not have access to the internet, please call GCC at 724-9599 for assistance.

Clinchfield United Methodist Church: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00-1:00, Phone: 559-2643

Corpening YMCA Marion: Every Saturday 11-1:00- Pre-packaged meals, Third Thursday 4:30-5:30- Mobile Market, Senior Center- Old Fort, Second and Fourth Thursday 10:30-11:30, Phone: 775-7081

Centro Unido: Every other Thursday starting this Thursday March 19th, 12:00 til food is depleted, Phone: 828-852-0727

Clinchfield United Methodist Church: Tuesdays and Thursdays outside weather permitting, 11:00-1:00, Phone: 704-678-4781

Bounty and Soul: Drive Thru- pre-packaged food, Tuesdays at Saint James Episcopal Church, 424 West State Street in Black Mountain , 11:00-1:00, Fridays at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, 117 Montreat Rd. Black Mountain, 4:00-6:00, Phone: 419-0533

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

As we seek to be church to one another and to be good neighbors during the Coronavirus crisis, what can you do? Here are some suggestions:

- Practice social distancing to prevent the spread of the virus. Stay at home and away from crowds. Make phone calls rather than visits. Send emails rather than sending cards. In general, avoid contact with others. When you are in contact with others, wash your hands often, cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze, and do not touch your face.
- For those younger and healthier, sign up to be a volunteer to help those who cannot get out in public. The Church Office is compiling a list of those available to help. Community Presence Committee is also organize support for those in need. Their information will be posted regularly in the FBC Facebook Group.
- Call and check on your fellow church members and neighbors who may need assistance, especially the elderly and chronically ill. Deacons and staff will be joining in this effort to keep us connected and supportive of one another.
- Continue to make tithes and offerings to First Baptist Church. Contributions may be made by mail or over the internet, using our church website: <https://fbcmarion.org/online-giving/>. If you need assistance, please contact Susan Webber in the Church Office.
- PRAY! PRAY! PRAY! For those who have contracted the virus: for healthcare professionals, for government officials, for our families, neighbors, church, and country and, indeed, for the whole world. Continue to ask God to bring healing and wholeness to all people!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

April 19th - Video Conference with the Parks
July 12th - 21st - Summer Mission Trip to Slovakia

Koinonia Zoom

Join us each week on Zoom as we continue Koinonia Digitally, talking about life, faith, and scripture each Sunday afternoon at 6pm. Link will be sent out each week via email/Facebook/text.

FBC Scholarship

The FBC Marion Scholarship application is available now. It was posted on Facebook and is available in print in the church office. The deadline to receive applications is Wed, April 15th. All materials need to be turned in to Susan Webber. If you have questions, please contact Matt Roberts.

FAMILY MINISTRY



Need to see familiar faces and hear friendly voices? **Join us for Children's Chats with Ms. Christi on Sunday at 4:00 pm.** I will be emailing the meeting ID for each week's

Zoom call, so make sure that I have your email address. You can text it to me at 442-9225 or email me at christi@fbcmarion.org. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Adults need to share their feelings, frustrations, fears, and anxieties as well. So, after our Children Chats on Sundays, we can excuse the kids and spend time together via Zoom discussing life as we know it now. We are in this together, a family of friends and brothers and sisters in Christ.



...is the day you will find a story and activity for children and families on the FBC Marion Facebook Page. Be on the look out and join in the

fun! Keep me posted via text at 442-9225 or Facebook on how your children and family are participating!

Sending virtual hugs to all my children and their families. Although there are numerous ways for us to gather virtually as a group there may be times where you or your child need individualized care. Do not hesitate to contact me or the ministers. You are important us and we are always available! Much love!! ~Ms. Christi ~



SAINTS ALIVE MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

May 4-8 - Spring Beach Retreat
May 19th - Breakfast in the Park
August 5-6 - Barter Theatre Overnight Trip

Spring Beach Retreat

Join us for a week at Myrtle Beach and all the fun, food, and fellowship you can handle. \$330/person for double occupancy (you secure your own roommate), \$560/person for single occupancy. Full payment due March 29th

Breakfast in the Park

Our group always looks forward to this fun morning, and we will gather on Tuesday, May 19th for a time of fellowship and food. See you there!

McDowell County COVID-19 Hotline - (828) 527-6687

Hotline operates between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. seven days a week. If you think you have been exposed to the Coronavirus or are experiencing a fever, please call 527-6687. The operator will ask a list of screening questions and provide appropriate medical instructions based upon the answers given.

CHURCH LIFE ONLINE

On Sundays, First Baptist Church worship services are posted on both the FBCM Facebook Group and on the FBCM YouTube Channel.

- To watch FBC services online, you will need internet and one of the following devices: Smartphone, computer, tablet, smart TV, or TV streaming device (Roku, Amazon Fire, Google Chromecast, Apple TV, etc.)
- To watch on YouTube: YouTube may be accessed where you access the internet (smartphone, computer, or TV streaming applications). If you do not have one already, setup a free YouTube account. Search for "First Baptist Church of Marion." Once found, mark "subscribe," which will save the FBCM channel in your account for easy future viewing. A library of current and older services are available for watching. If you have a smart TV or TV streaming device with the YouTube app, you can watch FBC services on your larger TV screen.
- To watch on Facebook: If you do not have one already, setup a free Facebook account. Once you are logged into your account, search for "First Baptist Church of Marion." Search results will show two options for "First Baptist Church of Marion": (1) a Page, which gives basic information about the church for the general public, (2) a Group with 500+ members, which is a closed group requiring approval for joining. The second choice is the one you need to choose. If you are not a member of the FBC group, request membership. One of the group administrators will approve your membership within a few hours. The most recent worship services will be posted at the top of the page, under announcements. Other older services are available in the "Media" section, under "Videos." Facebook can be accessed on your computer or smart phone, and on some smart TVs and TV streaming devices.

During this time when we will not meet, we will continue to offer some special opportunities that you can connect to from home:

Lectio Divina Digital Prayer Experience:

Ruth Wakefield will continue to post a weekly prayer experience on the FBC Digital Small Groups Facebook page. This Lenten study will be an excellent place to jump in for everyone, but especially for our Wednesday small group participants.

Sunday School:

Each Sunday, we will offer a Sunday School lesson on the church Facebook page that will allow you to continue your passion for studying God's Word. To begin that process, Cynthia Davis's Golden Circle lessons will be made available to the whole community. They are currently doing a Lenten study led by Jewish scholar Amy Jill Levine.

THE UPCOMING WEEK

Birthdays

Our Church

- Apr. 06 Forrest Sutton
- Apr. 08 Tanya Hunter
- Apr. 09 Aleene Davis
- Apr. 10 Patrick Price
- Apr. 11 Bob Ayers
- Apr. 12 Juanita Woody

Our Missionaries

- Apr. 06 Lauren Deer, Chaplain
Raleigh, NC
Steven Mills, Chaplain
Flat Rock, NC
- Apr. 07 Bonnie Hicks, Chaplain
Woodstock, GA
Mary Wrye, Chaplain
Henderson, KY
- Apr. 08 Laura Johnson, Chaplain
New Bern, NC
Drexel Rayford, Chaplain
Birmingham, AL
- Apr. 09 Jim Pruett, (PC)
Charlotte, NC
Steve Vance, Chaplain
Charlotte, NC
- Apr. 10 Alan Rogers, Chaplain
Kaneohe, HI
- Apr. 11 Laura Broadwater, Chaplain
Louisville, KY

DEACON OF THE WEEK

April 5- April 10, 2020

Amos Hardy
828-559-2342

HOMEBOUND PERSON

OF THE WEEK

Lucille Toney
Autumn Care Nursing & Rehab.
1264 Airport Road
Marion, NC 28752

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 95
Marion, NC 28752

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
99 North Main Street
Marion, North Carolina 28752