



NOVEMBER 2020

FIRST VIEW

Monthly Newsletter




From the Pastor's Desk
Dr. Don McCulley
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Dear Church family,
As we enter this Thanksgiving season, we all need to be mindful of the necessity of gratitude. In Romans 1:21 Paul writes, "Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were **thankful** but became futile in their thoughts and their foolish hearts were darkened."

Let us be grateful to God for the glorious gift of salvation through His son at Calvary. Let us be thankful for the opportunity to be part of the FBC family. The old hymn writer said "Count your many blessings - name them one by one, count your many blessings see what God has done."

Gratitude is actually an attitude we all can, should and must develop. The great commentator Matthew Henry (1662-1714) was known for his gratitude. Once while walking down a street, he was robbed. The thieves took everything of value. Later that night Henry wrote the following in his diary: "I am thankful that during these years I have never been robbed until now. Also, even though they took my money, they did not take my life. And although they took all I had, it was not much. Finally, I am grateful that it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed." True gratitude can be found in more places than we often look. Sherryl and I are grateful to the church family for all of your gestures of kindness for Pastor Appreciation time. God bless you all.

Bro. Don



King David's Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a special time to thank God for all He has given us.

Use the code to fill in the missing words from a portion of King David's prayer from 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 (NIV).

CODE	1 = everlasting	6 = honor	11 = ruler
2 = exalted	7 = kingdom	12 = thanks	
3 = glorious	8 = LORD	13 = things	
4 = God	9 = O	14 = wealth	
5 = head	10 = praise	15 = you	

" _____ be to _____, _____, _____, _____
(10) (15) (9) (8) ...
from _____ to _____, ...
(1) (1) ...
Yours, _____, is the _____;
(9) (8) (7) ...
_____ are _____ as _____ over all.
(15) (2) (5) ...
_____ and _____ come from _____;
(14) (6) (15) ...
_____ are the _____ of all _____.
(15) (11) (13) ...
Now, our _____, we give _____
(4) (15) (12) ...
and _____ your _____ name."
(10) (3) ...



LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name."

Min. of Education | Bro. Wayne Perkins

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Fall is upon us and we are feeling the nice cool, crisp mornings, and enjoying the clear blue skies. I love it!! Some people become depressed and despondent at this season because everything seems to be dying or becoming dormant. Winter, with its snow, sleet, and shortened days are just ahead. But these days can be a blessing with outside activities somewhat curtailed, more time can be spent with family at home reading, watching T.V., or eating popcorn on cold nights. Why not enjoy the blessings of this season as well as spring and summer? All are made by our loving Father who has prepared and provided wonderful things for us.

Our Sunday School regathered on October 4th with 149 in attendance. We are grateful for the return to some sense of normality in our church life. However, we still miss those who are self-quarantined due to critical health conditions. We want those to know they are missed but we understand and want them to remain healthy for future fellowship when possible. We know they will return as soon as it is safe for them to do so.

Dir. of Student Ministries | Christian Carr

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As you know, there has been a lot of uncertainty and change brought about by COVID-19 over the past couple of months. It just seems like we are all unable to get back into a normal routine because of the continual sense of uncertainty and change that could happen in an instant. This is the same feeling youth ministries all across the country are facing as well. Some youth ministries have still yet to gather back together in person. Some tried to gather again but had to stop because of extenuating circumstances. Our youth ministry has been able to safely gather together in person over the past couple of months without any issues.

Judge Tommy Moore has not missed a Sunday teaching the Sunday School lesson through Facebook and so many have been/are blessed by this. Making this possible was our audio technician, Dennis Moon who has worked tirelessly to enable the Gospel to get out to our area through the Sunday School lesson and our worship services using the expertise of technology that he possesses. We are thankful for these, as well as others, who have gone the extra mile to ensure that First Baptist ministry is still in place and being used to God's Glory.

November is always a special month because of the Thanksgiving holiday. With all the distractions this year - the Corona Virus, the year-long presidential election process, the economic down-turn, and did I mention the election - all of that together with the normal things can cause us to be focused on our problems instead of our blessings. May this not happen?!! Let us not skip from Halloween to Christmas and forget Thanksgiving. We have much for which we can be thankful to our Great God!

See you in church!

Bro. Wayne, M.o.E.

I consider that a blessing from God and I thank Him for it. With that being said, as the Lord wills, we will continue to meet in person on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the Truthseekers classroom. We are starting a new series called, "In the Beginning" where we will be diving into the Biblical account of creation to see all that God has to say to us about how He created the World. All our youth are welcome to come and join us as we study God's Word and fellowship together every Wednesday at 6:30. We thank God for His many blessings even in difficult times.

Grace and Peace,
Christian Carr

Youth Bible Study
Series



Min. of Music | Dr. Robert Nanney

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November ushers in the season of Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for as a church and within the music ministry.

I'm so thankful for God's protection that enabled all aspects of the music ministry to continue in October and into what is always the busiest time of the year musically as we start rehearsals for Christmas programs. I'm also so thankful for those of all ages who continue to step up and serve, especially during the pandemic.

Our biggest news is that we have found ways to creatively and carefully plan and rehearse for our Christmas cantata for the adult choir and the Christmas musical, which has been revamped as the Christmas Spectacular to foster safe distancing and involve more folks of all ages.

Cantata practice began on Oct. 21 as an extension of Wednesday night choir practice. We normally have about 35 in that choir, but because of social distancing in the choir loft, that number has been reduced to 20-22.



Adult Hand Chime Choir performed Sun. Oct. 18

Jeanie Nanney, Hand Chime Choir Director/Christmas Spectacular Director

We were pleased to welcome a new member of the Adult Hand Chime Choir, Grant Turner, who joined us on October 18th after "aging out" of the Youth Hand Chime Choir. We were also excited to welcome BACK Heather Hodges, who has not played with us in a while. Our prayers continue for one of our chimers, Tom McWherter, who was hospitalized, so he and Suzie were unable to play with us. Thankfully, we had chimers, as we usually do, who graciously stepped in at the last minute to fill in. I am so grateful for the dedication of this fine group of people who add so much to our worship service.

Practice is underway for "Christmas Spectacular," and it promises to be an enjoyable night for all ages. We have nearly 80 church members involved, and we are taking every possible precaution to keep everyone healthy as we prepare for this production.

It's been wonderful to see how eager these choir members are to serve and find as much musical normalcy as possible. Mark your calendars for Sunday, Dec. 20, as we present the cantata during the morning worship service. There will still be plenty of time for Bro. Don to bring his message afterward.

The other big news involves the Christmas Spectacular, which is a "variety show"-type of program that involves numerous small groups singing, doing skits, playing hand chimes and bringing the Christmas story in a touching, exciting and fun way. See Jeanie's column on this page for more details. She has worked many hours to create this program from scratch, including writing/changing dialogue and putting it all together to match the nativity theme. Sunday afternoon practices with various groups began Oct. 18 and will continue through November.

Jeanie and I wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving!
Robert Nanney

Once Upon a Song
interview with Judy Cleek



We are carefully limiting the number of people who are on stage and who practice at the same time, and we are using the sanctuary to gather the larger groups to better employ social distancing. There is a table set up in the sanctuary foyer which I will use as our "mailbox" to deliver printed information to those involved. Participants need to check the table for material with your name on it. There is also a practice schedule on the table.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 13th, because you most certainly will not want to miss this event. You will laugh, many will be moved to tears, and you will see the Christmas Story unfold in drama and song.



Christmas Spectacular practices



Mission Spotlight

Hello Dresden First Baptist!

Many of you I have known for several years but others do not know me at all. For those of you who may not know me, I grew up in Dresden and attended this wonderful church for 15 years before moving to the Cincinnati/Northern KY area in 2004. My family lived across the street from the parsonage while we were in Dresden. I have been so thankful for the support of your church family both while I was a member and each time I came back to visit. You have always welcomed my family with open arms each time you see us, and we call you 'our Dresden church'.

This December, my family will be hired as career missionaries with the International Mission Board (IMB). Our final destination will be Buenos Aires, Argentina. I was asked by your WMU to share a little about our experience and all that the Lord has been doing to prepare us in this journey.

First of all, I am thankful to have grown up in a Christian home and because of that and a church family pouring into me, I became a Christian at age 10. I have always had a love of missions and even remember having a lemonade stand when I was around 12 years old to raise money for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. I went on my first mission trip in high school with the Weakley County Baptist Association. I was also able to travel to Honduras twice with Union University to take part in medical missions. Several of you participated in one of the six World Changers trips I was blessed to attend through Dresden FBC. After pharmacy school, I was connected with a mission group who would travel to south Texas and cross the border each day to do medical missions in Mexico. I took two trips with this group. I always felt like the Lord was leading me to use my medical career for short term missions, that is, until I met my husband.

After Chris and I were married, I encouraged him to take his first mission trip to India. He went and came back on fire for missions.

Often, I would ask him if he had our bags packed somewhere. As a new mom with two-year-old twins, it was clear to me that I was not ready for full time mission work in another country. The discussion and prayers about a career in missions continued for about three more years and finally, the Holy Spirit gave me a peace and let me know it was time to apply. We started the application process immediately.

The application process with the IMB is thorough, to say the least. Our process took almost two years, although some applicants can complete it in about six months. It began with an interview with our pastor to obtain our church's approval. We then had studies and classes to complete, turned in ten references each and had so much paperwork to fill out. We had to obtain medical clearance. We also had to attend three marriage counseling sessions with a local Biblical counselor. At times, the process was challenging, daunting and frustrating. Other times, we could see that the Lord was not wasting this time in our lives. Instead, he was using it to grow us.

For about 18 months, we kept track of a witnessing journal where we would record times that we had gospel conversations and would then turn that in monthly to the IMB.

This led us to become involved in a church ministry in Covington, KY working with a homeless population. It was through this ministry and our church's food pantry that we were able to find more opportunities to share the gospel with those who had physical and spiritual needs.

Something God revealed to me during this time was that He will equip those that He calls.

Looking through the Bible at those that God calls to do His work, He is not searching for the most well-spoken theologian. He will use us no matter what our weaknesses are.

Mission Spotlight continued...

Moses questioned the Lord and said that his speech would prevent him from accomplishing the task. Jeremiah also questioned the Lord when he was called to be a prophet. Isaiah could only focus on his uncleanness as the Lord was calling him.

These examples throughout the Bible had a few things in common. First, God was clear in who He was calling. It was not a mistake. He had not called the wrong person. Second, there was always a promise that the Lord would be with the one He has called. And third, all who were called responded in a 'yes' even though they did not feel they should have been chosen. They recognized that they served a mighty God who would go before them and prepare them for the task ahead. Despite my weakness, I know God can do a mighty work through obedience to His calling.

After we completed the application process, we attended an interview conference with the IMB in January 2020 and were approved to move on to applying for a specific career position. We thought the Lord was directing us to European peoples and through the interview conference we looked at various locations and job options. The job opportunities in Europe would put us in countries where we were not allowed to have an option of homeschooling. Through a guided prayer time and discussing our options, the Lord directed us to South America and ultimately the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina. This was after we were certain that South America was not where we would be going.

The pandemic has delayed us once, but our current plans are to attend a seven-week training in Richmond, VA starting January 25, 2021. We are then scheduled to land in Puebla, Mexico for a year of language training. Once language training is over, we will travel to Buenos Aires.

While we wait, we are selling almost everything we own and attempting to pack all our necessities into eight pieces of luggage. Thankfully, our house sold this past spring, and we were able to rent it from the new owner.

The Lord has shown us that none of this is about us. It is all for His glory and honor. We just need to be willing to go and serve. He has shown us that we are not in control. He is the one that is sovereign overall and controls when and where we go. He intertwines our lives with others as well as works through disruption. His work will be accomplished regardless of what is going on in the world.

If you have ever given to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering, thank you for your generosity. Your gift will pay for IMB missionaries' salaries, healthcare, housing and much more. IMB missionaries are fully funded thanks to generous donations from Southern Baptist church members. The Lord is using these missionaries in unique ways. Not only are we thankful to be a part of this wonderful sending organization, but we have also been able to meet some of the most amazing missionary families along the way.

There are those that go and those that send. Everyone's job is important because you cannot have one without the other. Look for opportunities to go and send. Most of all, pray. As a friend of ours who church plants in Utah always says, "prayer is the work!"

(To receive our newsletter, please email cmrich75@gmail.com.)

Rhonda (Gardiner) & Chris Richards



FIRST VIEW

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Bro. Wayne Perkins, Min. of Ed.
Dr. Robert Nanney, Min. of Music
Christian Carr, Student Minister
Becky Anderson, Nursery Director
Janet Robinson, Ministry Assistant
Lisa Harris, Custodian

November Events

1st.....Women on Mission
1st.....Deacon Meeting
7th.....Men's Breakfast
7th.....Sew Faithful
8th.....Business Meeting
11th.....TBC Virtual Summit
26th.....Happy Thanksgiving
29th - Dec. 6th.....Week of Prayer for LMCO

A Great *Multifude* + You **imb**
Rev. 7:9

LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®

Happy Birthday

1st Peyton Oliver
2nd Jenny Kate Bennett
3rd Tate & Tyler Moore
Gracie Adams
4th Kurt Ferrell
Miller Moore
John Cianfarani
8th Myra Grace Morgan
9th Emm'ley Box
11th Ryeson Greer
Trudy Sanders
She'lee Wiley
13th Melissa Morris
Larry Houston
16th Kailee Pritchett
17th Tamara Harrison
20th Marshall Anderson
22nd Kenra Simpson
23rd Barbara Ferrell
Mary Robertson
26th Tanna Wetherell
27th Denton Friar
28th Christian Carr
Jake Bynum
Gerline Mansfield
Gertie Sheffield
29th Betty Shipton
Randy Morgan
Janelle Smith
30th Donna Perry
Marylou Tibbs

Connect with DFBC on www.dresdenfbc.org
Live Stream available on facebook.com/dresdenfbc-live
and YouTube through our church website
on Sundays at 11 am & 6 pm and Wednesdays at 6:30
Sunday 11 am Radio Broadcast on 95.1fm
Sunday School lesson 10 am on live stream options



Thank you for
supporting the mission
& ministry of DFBC

THREE WAYS TO GIVE



offering plates
in church foyer



www.dresdenfbc.org
under Give tab



PO Box 176
Dresden TN 38225

Financial Gifts to the Church

In Memory of Harold Williams, Gene Gallimore, Evelyn King by: Kelley & Sheila Swearingen
In Memory of Harold Williams and In Honor of Dean & Diann Williams by: Don & Judy Cleek
In Memory of Wilkins Esch by: Joe & Margaret Modena, m Clara J Cordell
In Honor of Dr. Don McCulley by: Kelley & Sheila Swearingen

A Thank You card to the church family was reviewed from the family of Harold Williams and the family of Gene Gallimore.