



FIRST BAPTIST
MARYVILLE

THE LINK

JANUARY 2024

RENEW. RESTORE. REJOICE.

THE JOURNEY TO EXPERIENCE THE LOVE OF GOD

Now that our holiday activities and travels are over, the Renew Team would like to invite you to begin a new Journey to Experience the Love of God. On Sunday, January 21, the Renew Team will host a lunch and vision-casting meeting after morning worship. We will share a summary of the data from our October Renew weekend. We will also report on the activity of the Renew Team and present some initiatives that grew out of our data and our meetings.

What an exciting way to begin a new year of ministry for Christ and our church. As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 16:13, "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." Please join us on Sunday, Jan. 21, for this opportunity to share, plan, pray and love one another as we boldly move into serving Christ and our community in 2024.




FBC Maryville is a Christ-Like Community of Compassion. As a community of Christ-followers, we seek to be like Jesus in the way we love God and others.

We LISTEN to God speak through prayer and reading the Bible. We LOOK to God in worship. We LOVE others through acts of service. We LIVE generously by sharing our resources. We LEARN how to be a supportive community in small groups. We LEAD others toward Christ.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the cards, calls, and prayers during my surgery and recovery. – Emerson Wiles

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the delicious Thanksgiving dinner. It was so appreciated! We are so grateful! Sincerely, Lisa Marie and Caleb Bashaw

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Geraldine "Geri" Haworth who passed away on December 8, 2023. Geri joined FBCM by letter on Nov. 12, 2012.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to JP and Torie Burris upon the birth of their son, Abram Reid, on December 27. He weighed in at 7lbs and 14oz., and he measured 21.5 inches long. Abram joins older sister, Briar. Proud grandparents are Kent and Lysia Vaught.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

The Hope Lifters Grief group will meet on Thursdays, Jan. 18, at 9:30am, in FLC Room 203. Facilitated by Kelly Ferguson.

The Caregiver Cafe' will meet on Thursdays, Jan. 11 and 25, at 9am, in the FLC Snack Room. Facilitated by Lori Bishop.



Thank you for letting MHS Choir use First Baptist for our concert! Thank you so much! – Brayden Francis

Thank you!!...so much for letting us use the gorgeous church. We love the sound and we wouldn't have the same effect on people without your help. Thank you! – MHS Choir

Thank you for everything you do for our choir. It is much appreciated from everyone. THANK YOU!! – Qwynn Harris

Thank you so much for allowing us to sing at your church! It is always a joy to sing there! Thanks again! – Tristen Hall

Thank you for letting the Maryville Choir use the First Baptist church sanctuary! It is always an awesome experience, because ya'll are so welcoming, and the sanctuary is absolutely gorgeous! We love the sound we get from your building, too; very few buildings have such good acoustics. Thanks again! – Evelyn C.

Happy Retirement

Tony Graves has retired after 12 years of service as our Facility Manager. He does not want a reception, but if you want to encourage him with cards or gifts, you can bring them by the church office or mail them to his home address.

Thank you for your service, Tony. We wish you well in your retirement!



UPCOMING JOY CLUB EVENT

Adults, ages 55 and older, are invited to join us for this event.

Serving at Second Harvest
Tuesday, Jan. 9, 9am-12pm

Everyone is invited to join us at Second Harvest as we serve our community. We will participate in tasks such as sorting donated items and packing food boxes. We will go to lunch after we serve. The church van will leave the church at 8:45am or you can meet us there.

For more information, please contact Senior Adult Pastor [Drew Goins](#).

YOUTH PARENT LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14,
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICES
LUNCH PROVIDED



New Beginnings

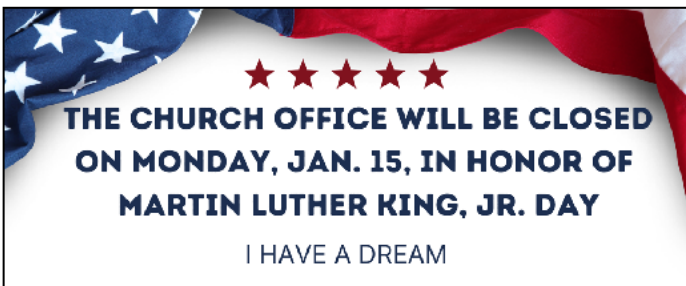
First Tuesdays of each month,
at 1pm in Room 215
in the Family Life Center

Friendship, Community, and Spiritual Growth opportunities for FBCM and Maryville women who find themselves alone on Life's Journey.



We'll collect dollar bills for
A Place to Stay

Sunday, Jan. 7



FBCM YOUTH PRESENTS THE 12TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, February 4, at 5pm
in the Gym

Come out and sample the best chilis that our church family has to offer. Cast your vote for the best chili by making a monetary donation to the chef. All proceeds will support our youth group's 2024 summer mission trip.

Winners will be selected in two categories:

1. People's Choice - The chef whose chili received the highest monetary donations.
2. Judges' Award - The chef of the chili most preferred by a secret panel of judges.

To enter your chili, please sign up by emailing or contacting [Gary Stinnett](#) in the church office.

CHURCH GROWTH DECEMBER 2023

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Services</u>	<u>Bible Study</u>
Dec. 3	277 (239 In-Person, 38 Online)	156
Dec. 10	258 (221 In-Person, 37 Online)	150
Dec. 17	254 (222 In-Person, 32 Online)	150
Dec. 24	287 (229 In-Person, 58 Online)	157
Dec. 31	211 (184 In-Person, 27 Online)	139

OFFERING INFORMATION

Dec. 3	\$ 43,688.00
Dec. 10	\$ 10,697.50
Dec. 17	\$ 19,066.00
Dec. 24	\$ 43,598.81
Dec. 31	\$ 117,534.30
Offering needs each week	\$ 20,356.00
Need to Date	\$ 549,612.00
Received to Date	\$ 611,794.51
Expenses to Date	\$ 509,547.36

BUILDING FUND

Received	\$ 533.33
Received to Date	\$ 10,477.05
Balance in Building Fund	\$ 93,295.94

MISSIONS

Received	\$ 804.33
Year to Date	\$ 7,589.00

CONTACT INFORMATION

202 West Lamar Alexander Parkway
Maryville, TN 37801
Website: fbcmaryville.org
Office Phone: 865-982-5531

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

8am to 4:30pm - Mon. through Thurs.
Closed Tues., 10:30am-1pm, for staff meeting
8am to 3pm - Fri.

FLC GYM

9:00am to 9:00pm - Mon. Tues, Thurs.
9:00am to 3:00pm - Weds. and Fri.



JANUARY

- 7 - Dollar Day for *A Place to Stay*
- 9 - Joy Club trip to Second Harvest
- 11 - Caregiver Café, 9am, in the Snack Room
- 15 - Martin Luther King Day - Office and FLC Closed
- 17 - Hour of Prayer, 12-1pm, in the Sanctuary
- 14 - Youth Parents' Luncheon in the Craft Room after the services
- 18 - Hope Lifters Grief Group, 9:30am, FL203
- 21 - Church-Wide Luncheon in the gym after services.
- 24 - Hour of Prayer, 12-1pm, in the Sanctuary
- 25 - Caregiver Café, 9am, in the Snack Room
- 29 - Deadline for February Link
- 31 - Hour of Prayer, 12-1pm, in the Sanctuary

FEBRUARY

- 1 - Hope Lifters Grief Group, 9:30am, FL203
- 4 - Communion in services
- 4 - Chili Cook-off at 5pm, in the gym
- 6 - New Beginnings, 1pm, in FL215
- 7 - Hour of Prayer, 12-1pm, in the Sanctuary
- 8 - Caregiver Café, 9am, in the Snack Room
- 13 - Joy Club Murder Mystery Party
- 14 - Valentine's Day / Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)
- 15 - Hope Lifters Grief Group, 9:30am, FL203
- 18 - Quarterly Business Meeting
- 21 - Hour of Prayer, 12-1pm, in the Sanctuary
- 22 - Caregiver Café, 9am, in the Snack Room
- 26 - March Link Deadline
- 28 - Hour of Prayer, 12-1pm, in the Sanctuary
- 29 - Kids' Spring Consignment & Homegoods Sale

All dates and times are subject to change.

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

Steve Radford - 47 Years
Theresa Carnathan - 23 Years

Thank you for years of dedicated service at FBCM!