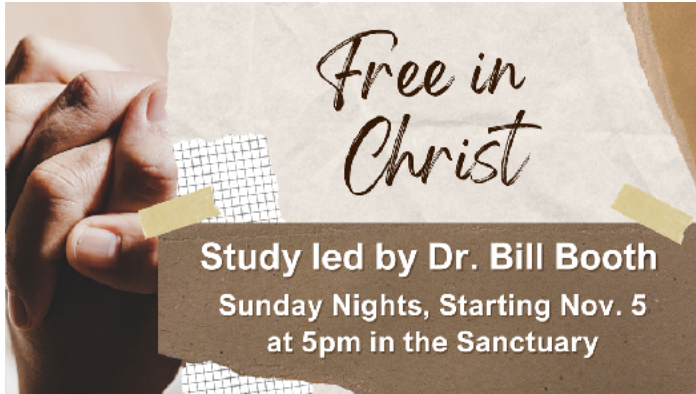




FIRST BAPTIST  
MARYVILLE

# THE LINK

November 2023



"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." (Galatians 5:1 NIV).

We are indeed free in Christ. But what does that mean? For Baptists, we have historically held to a belief and a focus on our freedom in four key areas: Bible freedom, soul freedom, church freedom, and religious freedom. Come explore these core beliefs as we discover how to best live into our freedom in Christ.



Volunteers are invited to meet in the Encouragers Room (AM107) for a continental breakfast and a brief devotion before going outdoors to plant 350 tulip and daffodil bulbs in the parking lot islands. The dirt has already been prepared for planting. The following tools are needed for the workday: weed-eaters, wheelbarrows, knee pads, shovels, yard tools, gloves, and 100ft collapsible water hoses. Thanks in advance for your help.



ACTIVITIES FOR  
ADULTS AGES 55  
AND OLDER

## FRIENDSGIVING

Tuesday, Nov. 14, at 11am in the Craft Room

Come join us for a potluck Thanksgiving meal. Ham and drinks will be provided. Please bring a favorite dish, side or dessert to share. Lunch will start at 11:30am. Please feel free to invite friends and family.



## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

The church office will close at  
noon on Nov. 22 and remain  
closed all day on Nov. 23-24.



## STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

Amy Hatcher, Financial Ministry Assist. - 14 yrs  
Tony Graves, Facilities Manager - 12 yrs

Thank you for your dedicated service at FBCM!

# OUR CHURCH FAMILY

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Mary Longworth**

Joined by statement. on Oct. 3  
in our Classic Service

**Charlotte Thompson**

Daughter of Mike and Mary Thompson  
Joined by baptism on Oct. 15  
in our Combined Service

**Eli Fowler**

Son of Kristi Fowler  
Joined by baptism on Oct. 15  
in our Combined Service

**Tom and Adamina Williamson**

Joined by statement on Oct. 22  
in our Contemporary Service

## WITH HEARTFELT SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the family of Glenna Byrd who passed away on Oct.11.

Her family will receive friends in the sanctuary on Sat., Nov. 18, at 10am. The funeral service will follow at 10:30am.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped make the **Deacon Ministry Auction** a success – those who generously donated items, those who worked to organize, and those who purchased new “treasures.”

Thanks to all,  
FBCM Deacon Ministry

## PARENT AND CHILD DEDICATIONS

**Walker Delpy**

Son of JJ and Sarah Delpy  
Dedicated on Sept. 24

**Theo Nuchols**

Son of Travis and Sydnee Nuchols  
Dedicated on Sept. 24

**Halo and Jac'Quaz Young**

Daughter and Son of Micah and Maleah Young  
Dedicated on Oct. 22

**Holland Hatfield**

Daughter of Elijah and Lairame Hatfield  
Dedicated on Oct. 22



This year, as in years past, we will be delivering pre-cooked Thanksgiving Meals to several families in our church community who need assistance. You can be part of this ministry in two ways:

1. Donate to help purchase meals. The cost per meal is around \$100 per family. If you would like to donate for a whole meal or for a portion, it would be much appreciated. You can give online (e-giving) by indicating your gift is for "Thanksgiving Boxes." We will also have a table set up in the Family Life Center lobby on Sun., Nov. 5 & 12th, available to accept your donations.
2. We need folks who will come on Thanksgiving morning, at 10 am, and help deliver meals. This usually doesn't take more than an hour or so total. If you want to deliver, please sign up at the table on Nov. 5th and 12th.

# A Season of GIVING

## **CHRISTMASWISHES**

CommunityWorx's ChristmasWishes program is gearing up to provide Christmas gifts, parent gifts, clothing, and hygiene items to local families this Christmas. The families selected to receive these items are identified by our local schools and verified as not receiving assistance from any other local Christmas programs.

The wishlists, which are filled out by the families and approved by CommunityWorx, will be distributed to our church and available for adoption by individuals, families, and groups on Sunday, Nov. 5. The gifts are due back to the church (unwrapped and in a dark, black, trash bag with drawstrings) by Sunday, Nov. 26. Please be sure to attach the tag with child's number on it to your bag. There is no need to send wrapping paper. Families will receive gifts at Christmas parties held at local churches.



## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

### **Memorial Service**

**Sunday, Dec. 3, at 4pm, in Room AM107**

Families and friends who lost loved ones in 2023 are invited to gather together for a time of comfort and remembrance.

### **Invitation to a Miracle, a Christmas Cantata**

**Sunday, Dec. 10, at 6pm**

Come enjoy the lovely sounds of the choir and orchestra as they present this cantata. The

program journeys from the miracle of prophesy to the glorious proclamation of this most significant moment, Jesus' birth. If you would like to be a part of this program, please contact Mark Hussung or the church office.

### ***Mission of Hope Trip***

**Thursday, Dec. 14, time to be determined**

Joe Hall will take a group (including the church staff) to go with *Mission of Hope* to Yellow Creek School in Middlesboro, Kentucky, for a school Christmas party and distribution. Please contact Joe Hall or the church office to volunteer to go or to receive more information.

### **Kids' First Christmas PJ Party**

**Sunday, Dec. 17, at 11am, in the Kids' Park**

Send your kids to church in their pajamas for a Christmas party in the Kids' Park. Please send them with a small finger food to share with the group.

### **Christmas Caroling**

**Sunday, Dec. 17, at 5pm, in the FLC Lobby**

We invite adults and children to join us in both giving and receiving a blessing by singing Christmas carols to our homebound. We'll meet in the FLC Lobby to divide into groups, and then we'll pick up a schedule and a lyric sheet, and go out to sing.

### **Christmas Eve Morning Services**

**Sunday, Dec. 24**

We'll meet on our regular schedule for Bible Study, Fellowship, and for our Classic and Contemporary Services. Our nursery and Kids Worship will also meet on their normal Sunday schedules.

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**Dec. 24, at 5pm, in the Sanctuary**

We hope your family will join us in the sanctuary for a night of candlelight, communion, carols, and a story that changed the world forever. Kids will sit with their parents for this service.



## CHURCH GROWTH OCTOBER 2023

### ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Date	Worship Services	Bible Study
Oct. 1	207 (166 In-Person, 41 Online)	114
Oct. 8	238 (183 In-Person, 55 Online)	157
Oct. 15	319 (292 In-Person, 27 Online)	133
Oct. 22	380 (226 In-Person, 154 Online)	183

### OFFERING INFORMATION

Oct. 1	\$	39,247.67
Oct. 8	\$	8,748.67
Oct. 15	\$	5,257.67
Oct. 22	\$	6,004.00
Offering needs each week	\$	20,356.00
Need to Date	\$	346,052.00
Received to Date	\$	218,261.32
Expenses to Date	\$	314,466.29

### BUILDING FUND

Received	\$	166.01
Received to Date	\$	2,155.05
Balance in Building Fund	\$	105,745.94

### MISSIONS

Received	\$	233.67
Year to Date	\$	2,309.67

### CONTACT INFORMATION

202 West Lamar Alexander Parkway  
Maryville, TN 37801  
Website: [fbcmaryville.org](http://fbcmaryville.org)  
Office Phone: 982-5531  
Fax: 982-5533

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

8am to 4:30pm - Monday through Thursday  
8am to 3pm - Fridays  
Closed Tuesdays from 10:30am to 1pm for staff meeting

### FLC GYM HOURS

9am-9pm - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
9am-3pm - Wednesday & Friday

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- 2 - Hope Lifters Grief Support Group - 9:30am, FL203
- 4 - Clean-Up Day - 8:30am, AM107
- 5 - Mission Moment (Puerto Rico Trip)  
Dollar Day for Maryville College Intervarsity;  
Deacon Ordination at 4pm  
*Free in Christ* Training in the sanctuary at 5pm
- 7 - New Beginnings Fellowship Group, 1pm, FL215
- 9 - Caregiver Cafe', 9am, FLC Snack Room
- 11 - Veteran's Day; Women's Event - 9am-12pm, Lobby
- 12 - *Free in Christ* Training at 5pm
- 14 - Joy Club Friendsgiving dinner
- 16 - Hope Lifters Grief Support Group - 9:30am, FL203
- 18 - Glenna Byrd's Memorial Service
- 19 - *Free in Christ* Training at 5pm
- 21 - New Beginnings Fellowship Group, 1pm, FL215  
Special Choir Rehearsal, 6:30-7:30pm
- 22 - Office Closed 1/2 day; No choir rehearsal
- 23-24 - Thanksgiving - Office and FLC closed all day
- 26 - *Free in Christ* Training at 5pm
- 27 - December Link Submissions Deadline

REMEMBER TO  
SET YOUR  
CLOCKS  
BACK ONE  
HOUR ON  
SUN., NOV. 5



DEACON  
ORDINATION  
SERVICE

Sunday, Nov. 5, 4pm  
In the Sanctuary

