



The Torch

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | 2022 – DECEMBER VOLUME 66 NUMBER 3

Pastor's Pen

Sunday, December 11, 2022, will be the 157th Anniversary of First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill. Our guest preacher for the 10:00 a.m. worship service will be The Reverend Tisha Dixon-Williams, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Bridgehampton in Bridgehampton NY. We pray for her safe travel here and the message God will place upon her heart to bring. We will also recognize and add to the Wall of Faith: In Memoriam – Deacon Chester Crawford and Deacon James Lowe, and Honor – Sis. Evelyn Fancher and Bro. Paul Luter. Following the service, we will eat and fellowship in the Martin Luther King Fellowship Hall. We hope you will make every effort to come and share with us on this grand day.

After serving for several years as a mission of Nashville First Baptist Church, in 1865 the church was chartered as an independent congregation, with our first pastor being Reverend Nelson Merry. The church has existed through 20 pastors, congregational splits, reunion of a group that left and came back, economic upheavals in the nation and financial challenges with the church itself (we had a Deacon Hightower who mortgaged his property twice to save our building), social, civic, and congregational unrests, pandemics, landmark court decisions favorable to people of color and elections that have been favorable and unfavorable. Through 157 years there has always been at least a remnant who has stayed faithful and did whatever needed to be done to not only ensure that the congregation survived, but that it stayed true to her calling. This only scratches the surface of our years as a congregation. We have come a long way. We have reason to celebrate.

And it is important for us to do it. We live in an era where there are those whose ancestors (as well as many today) have exploited, abused, and marginalized people of color, and now want to be revisionist of history. They want history sanitized so that the stench of the mistreatment of human beings can be camouflaged, even to the point of trying to act as if it didn't happen. But we need to remember. We need to be sure we tell our own story, with transparency, through the pain and the tears. This will always stand as a testament to the faithfulness of God to God's people ([1 Corinthians 1:9](#)), and a people who are willing to walk by faith and not by sight ([2 Corinthians 5:7](#)).

One additional note: We look to see you at our Christmas Day worship service, Sunday, December 25, and New Year's Day Service January 1, 2023, both at 10:00 a.m.

Merry Christmas,

Kelly M. Smith Jr.
Pastor

DISCIPLESHIP MOMENT

Surviving the Holidays

"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" ~ 1 Corinthians 15:55

Submitted by Rev. Joe Ella Darby, Assistant to the Pastor for Discipleship

As we are settling into a long holiday season, I want to offer a few words of encouragement to those of us who are grieving the loss of a loved one. What I will share comes from my own experience on my grief journey and from the many grief sessions I was fortunate to lead while I served this past year as a Chaplain at the VA Hospital in Nashville.

As we begin, I want to differentiate between grief and mourning. This was helpful for me, and I hope it's helpful for you. The definitions I use were coined by Dr. Alan Wolfelt, who is an author, educator, grief counselor, and the Director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition. Dr. Wolfelt defines **Grief** as what we think and feel whenever something we value is harmed or taken away. Grief is natural and healthy. We grieve all the time. Whether we are sad or disappointed when we don't get the job we really wanted, or we grieve the loss of a dream, we grieve the loss of a friendship that grew apart; we grieve when there is a separation or divorce, even if that separation was necessary. Though grief does involve other losses, our focus is on the loss of a loved one through death.

Mourning is the outward expression of the grief we experience inside. We have thoughts and feelings about these things but often we are too embarrassed or even conflicted over the grief that we just don't express it or talk about it; we keep it all on the inside. I don't know about you but often I have feared that if I mourned, I may not be able to "pull it back together". Traditionally, funerals and memorial services have been designed to help us mourn or express our grief. Please note: Mourning doesn't have to be in a public arena or just crying, but the grief you feel does have to be expressed outwardly. Mourning is a gift that frees and heals us.

As you grieve, I want you to remember a few truths:

- Understand that grief is a journey not a destination: This means don't focus on "getting over" the loss so life can go on or wishing you could arrive at "being better". It takes time so be gracious with yourself.

- Give yourself, and others, permission to feel without judgement: Our feelings are our feelings, and it is important to give ourselves and others permission to grieve and mourn in ways that are helpful to them. Everyone mourns and grieves differently and that's okay. Give yourself permission to do whatever you need to do to heal.
- Remember mourning is a sign of strength and courage not weakness: It takes courage to be authentic and vulnerable...Expressing how we feel is a strength. It's weakness to deny ourselves vulnerability. During the holidays, check in with yourself and ask "What am I thinking or feeling? What do I need right now?" Don't fear your feelings. Journal or talk to someone you trust who will not try to rush you along but will sit with you and even hug you. Receive their love.
- Integrate your loss into your life: Our loved ones may be absent from us physically, but their spirits never die. We honor our loved ones by talking about them and sharing stories about them. During your holiday meals, you can set a place for them at the table or light a candle in their honor. You can invite others to share a fond memory of them. You can cook their favorite food or share their recipes.

I want to encourage you from 1 Corinthians 15:55, "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" When we lose someone we love, it stings. We feel that death has won, and we have lost our hope or even our way in life. But death doesn't have the final say. As we grieve forward well, the sting of death will eventually lose its power and grip. We will be able to breathe again, laugh again, feel happy again, love again, and even hope again. It will take time and everyone's journey is unique so don't look at one else, only look inside and trust the process. In due time, Psalm 30:11 will happen, but we must mourn before we can dance; we first must put on our sackcloth before we can welcome cloths of joy. We will never be the same because loss changes us, but that change doesn't have to be negative. We can/will live again!

MISSION AT YOUR DOORSTEP

And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” Luke 2:12 NIV

More Than a Birthday Celebration

Submitted by Dr. Arrol N. Martin, Assistant to the Pastor

As we enter the month of December, many of us are filled with a variety of expectations and projections about the end of the year and what might await us in the new year. Black Friday and Cyber-Monday have come and gone. Yet many of us will still be putting together list for our last-minute shopping trips. With anxiety we torture ourselves over what is that perfect gift for our spouse or other family members. Children have for weeks been putting together their list for Santa Claus. All hoping that they will get the majority of the things they have hoped for. Department stores lure customers in with reduced prices and brightly lit displays of the latest merchandise. Christmas plays are held at our children's schools, some of a secular nature and others more aligned with Christian traditions.

But what is it about December 25th the day we call Christmas? The early church did not celebrate the birth of Christ until some 350 years after His death. The word “Christmas” is the joining of Christ (Messiah) and mass (Eucharist). The Romans marked the winter solstice on December 25 and the first recorded Christmas celebration in Rome was on December 25, AD 336. Thus, there are those pundits that would argue that Christmas is in reality a pagan holiday celebrating the winter solstice. However, for Christians, Christmas is the celebration of the Lord's birth, and the reality that humanity now has the possibility of being redeemed from the schism that has separated humankind from the Divine.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant. O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem. O come and behold Him, born the King of Angels. O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. *John 1:4* We celebrate on Christmas that both Life and Light entered the world. Not temporarily, but for eternity. May God's blessing fall fresh on you and your family as we celebrate the human birth of our Savior, Jesus who is Christ the Lord.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
CAPITOL HILL
900 NELSON MERRY STREET, NASHVILLE, TN 37203
REV. DR. KELLY M. SMITH JR., PASTOR



157TH CHURCH Anniversary

Guest Speaker
Rev. Tisha Dixon-Williams, Sr. Pastor
First Baptist Church of Bridgehampton
Bridgehampton, NY

**DEC 11TH
10:00 AM**



To my First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill Family,

I cannot express what it meant to me to look out and see your smiling faces at my Ordination service. Much of who I've become as a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ in this last year is due to your love, encouragement, and willingness to receive me as an intern. And for that, I will forever be grateful. Thank you so much for sharing this special moment with me.

Reverend Janiece R. Williams

Dear Church Family,

I'm grateful, thankful, and blessed by your outpouring of love on the occasion of my 91st birthday. Thanks for your prayers, cards, flowers, gifts, messages, and all other acts of kindnesses.

Sincerely,
Clara Elam



There is a new addition to the Martin and Hunt families.



Our second grandson was born to our daughter Aaliyah and her husband Terrell Hunt on Wednesday November 23rd. We welcome into our world **Joshua Abram Hunt**. 7 lbs. 8 oz. Thanks be to God for His Many Blessings,

Dr. Arrol and Sis. Connie Martin



Sunday, December 25th | 10:00 AM

Christmas Day Service



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
CAPITOL HILL
900 Nelson Merry Street, Nashville, TN 37203



SAME GOD NEW YEAR

Worship with us Sunday, January 1st @ 10AM
First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill
900 Nelson Merry Street, Nashville, TN 37203

Deacons of the Week for December 2022		
Week of	Deacon	Phone#
4th	Martin Currie	615.832.9662
11 th	Ernest Dismuke	615.876.3522
18 th	Emmitt Hayes	915.790.7312
25 th	Martin Currie	615. 832.9662

OLLI AT VANDERBILT

The OLLI at Vanderbilt is an inclusive group that strives to present to the Vanderbilt community and beyond stimulating intellectual and cultural noncredit courses for adults over 50 of all educational backgrounds. Interesting topics are explored with thought-provoking and engaging instructors, who are primarily active or retired Vanderbilt faculty, as well as other community experts. In a relaxed atmosphere, with no homework, tests, or grades, you have the opportunity to ask questions, contribute ideas, and interact with people who share similar interests.

Winter registration is open! Please find below the list of available courses.

- OLLI Steel Drum Band – ADVANCED (*Limited*) (*In-person*)
- OLLI Steel Drum Band – BEGINNER (*Limited*) (*In-person*)
- OLLI Steel Drum Band – INTERMEDIATE (*Limited*) (*In-person*)
- The Underground Railroad and the Struggle over Slavery** (*In-person*)
- The United States in the 1930s: From the Great Depression to the Arsenal of Democracy** (*In-person*)
- The Sky is for Everyone: A History of Women Astronomers** (*Virtual*)
- Modern China** (*Virtual*)
- Stories Told by Nashville's Rocks and Earliest Fossil Inhabitants: Control of Present-Day Environmental Challenges** (*In-person*)
- The Forts of Nashville, Then and Now** (*In-person*)
- Formative Filmmakers** (*Virtual*)
- A Roadmap for Living the Era of Global Warming** (*Virtual*)
- How to Write a Memoir (*Limited*) (*Virtual*)
- Introduction to Watercolor and Gouache for Painting the Natural World** (*Virtual*)

(**) Course will be recorded

For more details, click [HERE](#) for our course catalog.

The deadline to register for winter courses is January 4. Click [HERE](#) for registration instructions.

[Click this link to be directed to our website >](#)

REGISTER

Prayer Request/Sick & Shut-in List

Deacon Richard Dinkins
Sis. Jan Jones Carter
Major Alicia R. Bodie

Sis. Rose McDonald
111 N. Carolina Ave. #204
Lexington, NC 27292

Sis. Leslie Williams
2929 Old Franklin Rd.
Antioch, TN 37013

Bro. Derrick McDaniel
Good Samaritan Health & Rehab
500 Hickory Hollow Terrace
Antioch, TN 37013

Sis. Maggie Roper
Riverview Health and Rehab
1600 West Claiborne Ave.
Greenwood, MS 38930

B I R T H D A Y S

DECEMBER

1 Kayla Cruson
Gary Faulcon
2 Barbara Doughty
3 Kelly Copeland
Deborah Luter
Ilee Wade
4 Linda Thompson
Torrie Washington
5 Ashley Glotta
7 Bernice Barnes
Tondrick Chandler
Vicki Todd-Stubbs
8 Corey Grimes
14 Brenda Duff
Nia Tolbert
15 Bettye Springfield
17 Leon Deaderick
Barry Hobbs
Myles Sydney
18 Vonda McDaniel
22 Ivan Davis, Jr.
23 Christopher McGriff
Gloria T. Westbrook
24 Breanna Grimes
Cora Johnson
25 Valerie Robinson
31 Jacqueline Knight

JANUARY

1 Elizabeth Davis
2 Gabriel Bryson
5 Kelando Townsend
6 Tamia C. McKnight
Diane Robertson
7 Timarion J. Smith
Betty Wilson
9 Bobby Lovett
11 Marshawn Miller
13 Karen Brown
14 Kathy Harrell
Ronald McFarland, Sr.
15 Nina Lockert
Brooke McFarland
19 Janice Brown
20 Jessica Powell
Sean Wood
21 Inez Crutchfield
22 Jason Robertson
Diantay Westbrook
24 Robert Green
Lueatrice Lovett
Adrian Samuels
26 Evelyn Gaines-Guzman
Carole McDaniel
27 James Lowe III
28 Noah Kirk
29 Hortense Jones
Lance Molette
31 Virginia McClaim
Evan Smith-Erving

FEBRUARY

2 Valinda Burks
Geri Easley
3 Sabrina Daughtdrill
4 Wesley Currie
Kourtlyn Greene
Jeffery Wood Sr.
6 Billie Calloway
7 Richard Ewing IV
Constantine Fenderson
8 Benita Lynch
12 George Timothy Haynes II
14 Stephen Daniel
15 Ed Risby Jr.
Lolita Slay
16 Johnny Allen
Cornelia Cruson
Gary Faulcon II
17 Hortensia McFarland
18 Tammye Hawkins
19 George Hill
21 Kendra Deas
22 Andreana Brevard
Patricia Lane
23 Kenneth Cory
Chyann Haskins
24 Christopher Beard
25 Myshia L. Deaderick
26 Kathleen Wilkinson
27 Christopher Demonbreum
Rachel Walker
28 Naomi Blair

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
Thursday, December 1 st	"The Voice of Discipline"	Deuteronomy 4:32-40
Friday, December 2 nd	"The Word Is Very Near"	Deuteronomy 30:6-14
Saturday, December 3 rd	"We Would Like to Hear"	Acts 28:16-22
Sunday, December 4 th	"Teaching Boldly and without Hinderance"	Acts 28:23-31
Monday, December 5 th	"Blessed by God's Forgiveness"	Psalms 32:1-7
Tuesday, December 6 th	"Blessed by Being Chosen"	Psalms 33:8-12
Wednesday, December 7 th	"Blessed by God's Gift of Grace"	I Corinthians 1:4-9
Thursday, December 8 th	"Blessed by God's Revelation"	Daniel 2:17-23
Friday, December 9 th	"Blessed by the Word of Truth"	Colossians 1:67-79
Saturday, December 10 th	"Blessed by God's Redemption"	Luke 1:67-79
Sunday, December 11 th	"God Has Blessed Us"	Ephesians 1:3-14
Monday, December 12 th	"Receiving the Humble and Contrite"	Isaiah 57:14-19
Tuesday, December 13 th	"Building on the True Foundation"	I Corinthians 3:10-16
Wednesday, December 14 th	"Sharing in the Promise"	Ephesians 3:1-6
Thursday, December 15 th	"Making Known the Wisdom of God"	Ephesians 3:7-13
Friday, December 16 th	"Praying for Spiritual Power"	Ephesians 3:14-21
Saturday, December 17 th	"Discovering the Gift of Salvation"	Ephesians 2:1-10
Sunday, December 18 th	"Discovering Our Oneness in Christ"	Ephesians 2:11-22
Monday, December 19 th	"One Lord"	Exodus 20:1-7
Tuesday, December 20 th	"One Faith"	Zechariah 14:6-11
Wednesday, December 21 st :	"One in Christ Jesus"	Galatians 3:23-29
Thursday, December 22 nd	"One God"	Exodus 20:1-7
Friday, December 23 rd	"One Spirit"	I Corinthians 12:4-13
Saturday, December 24 th	"One Body"	Romans 12:3-8
Sunday, December 25 th	"Building Up the Body Together"	Ephesians 4:1-16
Monday, December 26 th	"God Is Faithful"	II Corinthians 1:18-22
Tuesday, December 27 th	"A Faithful Heart"	Nehemiah 9:6-10
Wednesday, December 28 th	"Descendants of Abraham"	Galatians 3:6-12
Thursday, December 29 th	"Inheritance through the Promise"	Galatians 3:13-18
Friday, December 30 th	"Jesus' Birth Foretold"	Luke 1:26-38
Saturday, December 31 st	"Elizabeth's Blessing"	Luke 1:39-45
Sunday, January 1 st	"Mary's Song of Praise"	Luke 1:46-55

MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT

Loyalty Month

“We’re In This Together”

1 Corinthians 12: 21-27

Elder Albry Lockhart

**October
16**

Submitted by: Kathy Harrell

There should be no divisions in the body of Christ. Everyone is needed and valued. If one suffers, all suffer; if one rejoices, all rejoice. In a college course, I learned about the dynamics of worship and the differences in the black ‘invisible institutions’. These were the places where enslaved people met in secret...the woods, the swamps, and in tents. The people knew that they needed to be together and reminded that God was always with them. They would sing, pray, and preach. No matter what each one was going through, they were not in it alone. The church today is our constant and consistent reminder that we are all in this together. No matter where we come from, who we are, or what our educational background is, we are in ‘this’ together...through slavery, through the civil rights struggle, and even through a world-wide pandemic! The apostle Paul wrote this epistle to the divided church as a reminder about the Wisdom of God vs. the wisdom of man. We all have spiritual gifts-all are different, but all operate under the same spirit. No one is greater than another. All are indispensable. Diversity is what makes the church beautiful as we all stand for the same ideals.

Point 1- We need each other. All parts are connected to the body but may do totally different things. All parts work together to make the body function correctly. We need to change our perception of how we see one another. While it may seem that one person does not have much to do, each person is essential...just as each part of the body is essential. I need you and you need me to survive, to keep holding on, to keep fighting! Why? Because we are each other’s “life support”.

Point 2-We are committed to one another. Each person should have equal concern for the other. We must learn to give special ‘modesty’ to things we may disagree on. This is how we commit to one another so that we have reciprocal relationships. Everybody is always covered. Watching over one another through whatever may come, including a world-wide pandemic! I’ve got your back and you’ve got mine.

Point 3-We are the church. The church alone is just a building. A piece of the church is us. We experience being whole again when we come together in worship, prayer, or praise. That’s what makes all of us ‘the church’. A body needs all parts to be whole. When we are the collective body of Christ, then we are the church.

Loyalty Month

“The Loyalty of the Leaders”

1 Corinthians 4: 1-2

Pastor Kelly M. Smith Jr.

**October
23**

Submitted by: Beverly M. Brown

Context: V4; ”This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. 2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.”

Pastor Smith expressed the effectiveness of ministry’s implementation and how it is linked to the faithfulness of the leaders support even when it is difficult. Further, it means being engaged and committed to advancing the ministry. It means trusting and listening to the Holy Spirit and allowing it to guide one’s action. Paul led the people to where they needed to be.

These are the three (3) reasons for faithful leaders:

Point 1- Faithful Leaders are servants: Which means they serve others and work on the behalf of others. Faithful leaders respond in an affirming manner because God/Christ Jesus has blessed them. Titles are to be negated and placed on the shelf and a faithful leader becomes involved in a proper context. Why? It is about your service and not your title. Faithful leaders are grateful and have a mentality to serve others and Christ Jesus. Faithful leaders give the best/first of what and who they are rather than the last.

Point 2- Faithful Leaders are Stewards: They do what is best for the greater good and aim to see the bigger picture of situations and circumstances. Stewards manage resources coming into the church and are proactive in problem solving.

Point 3- Faithful Leaders are Shepherds: Leaders guide people in the direction of Jesus Christ. Whatever the gains, God/Christ Jesus is to be glorified. Reaching out to others could save someone’s life.

Each person’s actions can make a difference in someone’s life. God needs leaders to advance His kingdom and be and do one’s best at all times.

Amen, Amen, and Amen.

Loyalty Month

"Loyalty Rewards"

Luke 9: 57-62

October
30

Pastor Kelly M. Smith Jr.

Submitted by: Sheila R. Littleton

It is great when people are committed to loyalty. Many organizations and businesses have loyalty rewards or discounts. What does one get for being loyal to church? It should not be just tangible things such as promoted in a prosperity ministry. Rather to be a disciple of Christ, we are compelled to be loyal for other benefits.

Point 1- Loyalty rewards by giving spiritual discipline.

Jesus cannot promise comforts and conveniences in life. If you develop spiritual discipline and understanding, you will have capacity to handle anything that may come your way. You will learn to be content in any circumstance, as Paul wrote in Philippians 4:11. As athletes are disciplined for a particular sport with their preparation with fitness and dieting, we are prepared for life with spiritual discipline. Some things in life are not prepared by human hands but can be handled only by God.

Point 2- Loyalty rewards by giving life.

Jesus is about giving life. A man in the scripture was concerned about burying his father, but Jesus expressed concern about the importance of giving life. We should be about helping people find life, ministering to them, and lifting them up. Many people are here today because someone shared life. We celebrate the lives of those who have gone on to be with the Lord, but we spend more time helping others learn about giving life.

Point 3- Loyalty rewards by giving the kingdom of God.

Another man in the scripture wanted to say goodbye to his family before following Jesus. The kingdom of God should have priority. Our Christian faith and doing the work of the church should have priority in our life. We should be moving forward, and the kingdom of God is ahead of us. The Kingdom of God brings us healing and hope. Everything else around us is temporary. When we are loyal, we experience the fullness of the kingdom of God and rewards beyond this life. We should ask if we are really doing all we can do in the life of the church or engaged as much as we can.

"Message from the Spice Farm"

Jeremiah 18:1-2

November
6

Pastor Kelly Miller Smith Jr.

Submitted by: Deborah Luter

God has various ways to get God's message to us. God speaks to us through our reading and studying of scripture. God speaks through our prayers and petitions. God speaks through preaching and prophetic utterances. But these are not the only ways in which God speaks. When we look at the prophecy of Jeremiah God has a message for Jeremiah that would be found down at the potter's house. The potter was a common worker who made jars, bowls and plates for everyday use. But God sent Jeremiah down there so that Jeremiah can understand so many other things about God.

Point 1- Spices remind us of how God cares for us.

The Psalmist reminds us that this is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. The world and they that dwell therein. God, since the creation of time, has been doing things to care for us. We live in a world that has lost the wonder of what is natural. We have found shortcuts to things that are designed to help us. At the spice farm there are things that can be beneficial for us health wise. There are spices that help our aches and pains, like turmeric. There is ginger that will help with hypertension. But too often we under appreciate what God does for us in nature. We complain about the rain, but the rain gives us water we need. We complain about the sun, but the sun gives us warmth and growth. So why can't we find a way to live and appreciate the world God has given to us?

Point 2- Spices remind us that our senses need to be awakened.

We need something that is going to awaken the sensibilities within us. Perhaps we have become too desensitized to so much of what is going on in the world around us. That is why we find ourselves in the dark days we are in now. I heard a preacher mention yesterday that Sunday morning we will push our clock back one hour. But on election day we may push them back 50 years! Though the pushback is being done by others, it too is our fault because we fell asleep at the wheel. We allowed previous elections to choose incompetence. And they are the ones making the decisions that are trying to change back the world in which we live. We need to wake up!

Point 3- Spices remind us that some things give their best when broken.

Many plants can only release their aroma after they have been snapped, broken, bruised, or torn. Sometimes that is what happens in our own lives as well. There are those who have been broken, battered, and bruised by life. There are those who have been tossed, torn, and turned by life. Crushed and bruised by situations beyond their control. But it may be then that our true fragrance can really come through.

First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill

900 Nelson Merry Street | Nashville, TN 37203

www.firstbaptistcapitolhill.org

Kelly M. Smith Jr., Pastor

Our Mission

First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill is Building, Restoring, and Revitalizing lives through Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

Love God, Make Disciples, Serve Community

Looking for a Church Home?

If you are looking for a church home, we encourage you to come and visit us! There are several ways to become a member of FBCCH.

Baptism - when a person is willing to initially express a belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and is willing to live one's life according to His will. Baptism is the symbolic initiation into the Christian faith.

Christian Experience - when a person who has previously been a member of another church chooses to unite with FBCCH, believing this to be the place for one's spiritual nurturing. These people have already been baptized and have committed a faith relationship with Jesus Christ.

Watchcare - when a person wishes to have his or her membership with FBCCH while he or she is temporarily living in the city.

Associate - when a person who has a membership in another church wishes to have a membership in FBCCH.

Restoration - when a former member chooses to rejoin FBCCH.

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Scheduling Access to Church Buildings

To all groups needing entry and use of the church, sanctuary, and Ennix-Jones Center during the week, please call the church office at 615-255-8757 in advance of your event. This is to ensure personnel are available to allow entry and to have a record for security purposes. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.