



The Torch

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER 2023 – FEBRUARY VOLUME 66 NUMBER 5

Pastor's Pen

For as long as most of us have known, we have observed the month of February as Black History Month. It is the month that we place particular emphasis on the history of African Americans in this country. Even as rich and significant that history is, there are several things that are happening in this nation that demonstrates how fragile it is to continue to promote and educate people of our history. There are some events in the news recently that highlight this point.

One is the move across the country to squelch, deny and rewrite the events that have been a part of the history of African Americans, and by extension, squelch, deny and rewrite the history of the United States. Tennessee, Florida, and several other states mostly in the south, are not allowing the state to teach certain courses and subject matter that state or suggests that discrimination happened because of someone's skin color or sexual orientation. They are wanting to not have courses taught that will make white children and students feel bad about what their fore parents had done to other human beings in abusing them and denying them because of their race. If they are going to "sanitize" history so that white children won't feel bad, they should also sanitize it for Black kids as well, so that they won't have to see monuments, streets, parks, schools, cities, and counties named for people who exploited, murdered, and killed their ancestors. Clearly that is not something they want to do.

But Tennessee is seeking to go other steps further. There is a bill being put forth in the state legislature that is seeking to rename part of the street named for civil rights icon Representative John Lewis, to President Donald Trump Blvd. The street was just recently named for John Lewis, but there are some politicians who do not want that to be the name. Part of the method to their madness is because there are legislators whose offices address contains the name "John Lewis Way" and they are not wishing to have their space identified with the legend John Lewis, but instead with a former president who has questionable character and has discriminatory overtones in many things he says. It is not a matter of them being oblivious. It is about them being callous and blatant about not wanting to respect the importance historical figures have had to the African Americans here in Tennessee and the United States.

The third thing I don't believe is a matter of racist intent. It is symptomatic of what happens when the nation faces economic challenges. Amazon, one of the largest companies in the world, had made plans to place an operations center here in Nashville. They were building two buildings for this purpose. One of the buildings is named "Juno" Frankie Pierce, in honor of a woman who was a member of First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill. It is a tremendous tribute that someone had the wisdom and foresight to even name the building after her because of her role in the women's suffrage movement here in the state of Tennessee. Because of the current state of our economy, construction on the building has been halted. Amazon, regardless of how we may feel about the company, should still be commended for even having this consideration to name the building after her.

But again, there are external realities that can shortchange the conveying of history. That is why it is important for each of us to continue to tell the story and share it with the next generations. The stories we share of our victories and our struggles should encourage and inspire others to continue the fight for justice and to strive for opportunities that others seek to deny us. It is an uphill journey, but one we must continue to climb.

[Proverbs 4:6-7](#) tells us of the importance of wisdom and how it will help us. We need all the help we can get to handle the issues we are facing today. Let's do our part.

Kelly M. Smith Jr.

Pastor

DISCIPLESHIP MOMENT

Jehovah Jireh

And Abraham called the name of the place, "The Lord Will Provide"; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided. ~ Genesis 22:14 NKJV

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

For the next few months, I want to focus my monthly discipleship moments on a few of the names of God as mentioned in scripture. I believe knowing these names and praying accordingly, has the potential to deepen our understanding of God and God's activity in our lives.

Recently, I had a conversation with someone who requested prayer for a job due to a need for extra monthly income. His schedule is already packed, even bursting at the seams. Additionally, his request included a desire for balance with school and his other two jobs, as he seeks additional employment. In listening to him talk about his needs for additional income, I told him that I would pray for God's provision and encouraged him to keep his hands open to however God chooses to provide.

Many of us are familiar with the Old Testament story in Genesis 22 of God testing Abraham. God called Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac as a burnt offering. Abraham, two of his servants, and his son Isaac hiked up to Mt. Moriah. Soon, Isaac noticed that there was wood and fire and inquired of the lamb for the burnt offering. In verse 8, Abraham replied by saying "God will provide the lamb." I'm not sure if Abraham was simply hiding from his son that he was the lamb or if Abraham had the faith that somehow God would provide an actual sacrifice. From verse 5, many confer that it was the latter because Abraham told his servants to remain with the donkeys while they (he and Isaac) went up to the mountain to worship, stating they would come back.

Upon reaching the place, Abraham built an altar, arranged the wood, bound Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. When he reached his hand to slay his Isaac as a sacrifice to God, he heard a voice call out to him from heaven telling him not to harm his son. As Abraham looked, there was a ram in the bush. He took that ram and sacrificed him as a burnt offering instead of his son.

Abraham's earlier confession of God's ability and willingness to provide did not return void. If we notice, Abraham didn't tell God how to provide, he confidently confessed that God would provide, and God did provide. Because of this, Abraham called the place Jehovah Jireh, which means The Lord Will Provide.

Often, we limit God. We limit God and put parameters on our request. Like the previously mentioned young man, in our understanding, we pray for only what we can see or understand. This young man only asked God to open doors for a job to earn more income rather than praying to the God who provides, entrusting his needs into God's capable hands. Matthew 6:8 reminds us that God knows what we need before we even ask. What an encouragement to know God knows our needs, so when we approach God, we can do so in faith for the Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want (Psalm 23:1).

Have you experienced God as Jehovah Jireh? If not, will you trust God to provide according to the riches of His glory (Philippians 4:19) and not lean to your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5)? Let me share my testimony of my early days in campus ministry; it was during that season where I intimately got to know the God who will provide. As a missionary to the campus, I had to fundraise my budget and never seemingly earned enough to make ends meet, but God always provided! I never went without and had plenty to share! Often, God's provision was not through monetary means, but came through the generosity of donors who provided a ministry house, and from my fellow church members who provided Sunday meals, furniture, and even a car.

God longs to be Jehovah Jireh for each of us. When we intentionally pursue God, we learn of God's ways. Let's continue to seek God's face, for when we do, we will surely experience his provisional hand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dear First Baptist Church Capitol Hill Family,

Thank you for your visits, calls, and prayers during my recent hospital stay. God is always good, even in our difficult times.

Rev. Arrold N. Martin

Dear First Baptist Church Capitol Hill,

Chandra and I want to thank you for all the support, prayers, emails, cards and gifts in the loss of my sister - Christine McClelland.

We also want to thank you for the support you have given Chandra in the loss of her stepmother, Katherine Pleas. We are blessed to have such a loving, caring and supportive Church Family. Special thanks to the Sunday School for the care package.

Mary and Chandra Pleas

Deacons of the Week for February 2023

Week of	Deacon	Phone#
5 th	Martin Currie	615.832.9662
12 th	Emmitt Hayes	615.790.7312
19 th	Brian Wood	615.259.0623
26 th	Ronald McFarland Sr.	615.331.0564

JOIN US FOR WEEKLY VIRTUAL PARENTING at "THE HILL" SESSIONS

TUESDAYS
6:30-8:00 PM (Central Time)

COST: \$23 for Parent's Guide & Workbook

January & February sessions focus on children ages to 6 to 12

If interested, please contact the church office via email for Zoom link: fbcc13@gmail.com

Sponsored by:
The Counseling & Wellness Ministry



Valentine's Day

2nd Sunday

Wear your Valentine Red during our worship service!

Greek/HBCU

3rd Sunday

Represent your fraternity, sorority or HBCU in your favorite paraphernalia.

Social Justice

4th Sunday

Wear attire to represent social justice / civil rights.

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

BIRTHDAYS

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

MARCH

1 Dwight Lewis
 Jamal Robinson
 3 DeJuan Foster
 Candice Telfort
 4 Tondreana Chandler
 5 Tiffany Gray
 Venoris Johnson
 Gerald Schrader
 6 Sebastian Daughtdrill
 Taura McKnight Cheatham
 Lynn Stewart
 7 Keshona Cox
 9 Susan Mosley-Howard
 10 Jonishay Acklin
 Taylor Gentry
 11 Doris Dismuke
 13 Kyrah Cruson
 14 Willie M. Magee
 Taylor McFarland
 20 Sharanda Smith
 22 Scotty Robinson
 23 Kimberly Alexander
 24 Miriam Currie
 Frankie Jackson
 25 Lyndsey Bass-Covington
 Retha Buchanan
 26 Tequila Johnson
 27 Esther Caudle
 James Chandler Jr.
 29 David Ewing
 William Ewing Sr.
 30 Erica Adderly
 31 John Howse

APRIL

1 Valerie Molette
 2 Ronald Collier
 4 Erica Collier
 Tavon McKnight
 5 Paul E. Robertson
 6 Kristopher Currie
 8 Gwendolyn H. Vincent
 10 Robert Boone Jr.
 Isiah Daughtdrill
 12 Kevin Carter
 Myah Lipscomb
 13 Derek Howard
 15 Leonia Lawrence
 16 Majorie Davis
 17 Francene Barbour
 18 Marquentas S. Deaderick
 23 Maia Payne
 26 Tiara Boothe
 29 Maggie Roper
 Patrick Slay
 Jeffrey Wood Jr.
 30 Esther Wright

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
Not Many Elite Called		
Wednesday, February 1 st	“How Majestic is God’s Name”	Isaiah 43:14-28 Psalm 8
Thursday, February 2 nd	“God Will Build You a House”	2 Samuel 7:1, 4-17
Friday, February 3 rd	“Who Am I before God?”	2 Samuel 7: 18-29
Saturday, February 4 th	“God Confounds the Wise”	1 Corinthians 1: 18-24
Sunday, February 5 th	“God Chooses the Lowly and Despised”	1 Corinthians 1:25-31
Called with a Holy Calling		
Monday, February 6 th	“God’s Children and Heirs”	Galatians 4:1-7
Tuesday, February 7 th	“A Holy Nation”	Exodus 19:1-8
Wednesday, February 8 th	“Abide in Christ”	John 15:1-14
Thursday, February 9 th	“Chosen by Christ”	John 15:15-27
Friday, February 10 th	“Be Holy”	Leviticus 19:2-4, 9-18
Saturday, February 11 th	“Keep God’s Statues in Holiness”	Leviticus 20:22-26
Sunday, February 12 th	“Kindle God’s Gift within You”	2 Timothy 1:3-14
God Chooses the Poor		
Monday, February 13 th	“Pure and Undeified Religion”	James 1:19-27
Tuesday, February 14 th	“Defender of the Oppressed”	Amos 5:7-15
Wednesday, February 15 th	“Father of Orphans, Protector of Widows”	Psalm 68:1-13
Thursday, February 16 th	“Defend the Poor and Needy”	Proverbs 31:1-9
Friday, February 17 th	“Good News for the Poor”	Luke 4:16-30
Saturday, February 18 th	“Coming Miseries upon the Rich”	James 5:1-11
Sunday, February 19 th	“God Has Chosen the Poor”	James 2:1-12
God Calls You into Light		
Monday, February 20 th	“Rescued from Darkness”	Colossians 1:9-22
Tuesday, February 21 st	“Paul’s Charge to Timothy”	1 Timothy 6:11-16
Wednesday, February 22 nd	“God Turns Darkness into Light”	Isaiah 42:8-17
Thursday, February 23 rd	”God’s Word Gives Light”	Psalm 119:121-136
Friday, February 24 th	“”You Are Children of Light”	1 Thessalonians 5:1-10
Saturday, February 25 th	“You Belong to God”	1 Peter 2:1-12
Sunday, February 26 th	“Live Free in the Light”	1 Peter: 2:13-25
The Prodigal Son		
Monday, February 27 th	“Lord, Hear my Prayer”	Matthew 20:1, 6-16
Tuesday, February 28 th	“God, Teach and Guide Me”	Psalm 25:1-15
Wednesday, March 1 st	“How Majestic Is God’s Name”	Psalm 8
Thursday, March 2 nd	“God Will Build You a House”	2 Samuel 7:1, 4-17
Friday, March 3 rd	“Who Am I before God?”	2 Samuel 7:18-29
Saturday, March 4 th	“God Confounds the Wise”	1 Corinthians 1:18-24
Sunday, March 5 th	“God Chooses the Lowly and Despised”	1 Corinthians 1:25-31

MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT

**“Lovely Day”
Third Sunday of Advent
“Psalm 118:17-24”**

**December
11**

Rev. Tisha Dixon-Williams

Submitted by Adrienne Fancher

157th Church Anniversary

Today is for celebration! Bill Withers’ 1977 hit, “Lovely Day,” has a feel-good sweetness that brings a smile. Celebrating 157 years of vital ministry is a Lovely Day. This scripture is the last of the Hallelujah Psalms – which is good for celebrating this Anniversary.

Point 1- Lovely Days are made from Lousy Days. The psalmist refers to calamities, attacks, facing death, but the psalmist praises God and celebrates his survival. This is a Day of Deliverance: celebrate the things we survived as a church and on a personal level. Good news: so far, you’ve survived 100% of your lousy days!

Point 2- Every Day is not a Lovely Day. Some days seem impossible to face – on those days, make a choice to rejoice! You can wallow in your sorrows or you can choose joy. If you want a Lovely Day, go where the Love is.

Point 3. Lovely Days are made from Long-suffering Days. Long-suffering = patiently enduring some circumstance. Don’t judge my story by the chapter you just walked in on. Nobody knows the suffering behind your Lovely Days: wedding, childbirth, prison release, graduation, cancer-free. Be encouraged for all your long-suffering Lovely Days are ahead. After 157 years of rejection and suffering, God made this church a capstone.

Point 4. Lovely Days are the Lord’s Day. Every day is not a Lovely Day, but every day is a day the Lord made. If the Lord made it, then it is Good! This day was planned long ago: we shall rejoice and be glad in it. Go ahead, Lord, and make my day!

“Let us rejoice” is a call to worship. Access Granted: enter His gates with thanksgiving. The Lord is omnipresent. You can re-write the song: “Just one look to You and I know it’s going to be a Lovely Day!” This is the day we set boundaries on people and let God loose, we stop spending and start investing, we stop making excuses and start making plans.

There are some Lovely Days ahead!

**“Gifts for Jesus”
Fourth Sunday of Advent
“Isaiah 9:2-7”**

**December
18**

Pastor Kelly M. Smith Jr.

Submitted by: Kathy Harrell

What makes Christmas “Christmas” for you? Decorations, holiday parties, presents, lots of good meals? Are these the things we really need for Christmas to be Christmas for us? We can learn from Isaiah’s prophesy to the people under Assyrian rule what Christmas was intended to be. He told of a child to be born and what that one special birth would mean. He gave the people hope. What can we learn from this message that will help us to have the Christmas that we need?

Point 1-We need a Christmas that is filled with light. The Israelites were walking in darkness under another nation’s rule. Many of us experience darkness in many different ways. If the darkness becomes unbearable, people may give up and give up on life. We need a Christmas filled with light so we can find our way through. That light is Jesus Christ. Find the light in the safety and security of family and friends. It is always darkest just before dawn, but even when we may be in the valley/shadow of death/darkness, we will fear no evil (Psalm 23). God is with us every step of the way.

Point 2-We need a Christmas that is filled with joy. People look for joy in the wrong places. Joy is not under the Christmas tree. You cannot buy joy. You will have joy when you realize that your world is not controlled by anything or anybody but God! Joy is *internal*. The world didn’t give it to you and the world can’t take it away. Think on the things God has done for you. Remembering and experiencing Divine activity increases our joy.

Point 3 -We need a Christmas that is filled with inversion. Inversion is to turn things in the opposite direction, to be changed. God will take our burdens upon himself. He will send a “child” who will carry the government on His shoulders. We don’t need something added on to us, but things taken away.

Point 4-We need a Christmas that is filled with zeal. Zeal is to passionately pursue something. People can help you but they may not have a pleasant attitude about it. They do things begrudgingly. It’s almost better not to have their help. God is not like that. God has a zeal to do the things God does for us. God made us, we wandered away from God, and God paid the highest price to get us back...the life of His only Son. We twice belong to God...that is Zeal!

December
25

“Gifts for Jesus”
“Matthew 2:9-11”
Pastor Kelly M. Smith Jr.

Submitted by: Beverly M. Brown

Pastor Smith shared the context of the historical perspective of Matthew 2:9-11. He then provided a reflection of a song taught to him and other youth at early age. The song is entitled “The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts”. The wise men were looking for Jesus in a palace and instead found King Herod who was being deceptive as if he wanted to honor Jesus birth; when he knew of Jesus birth, Herod wanted to kill his competitor. By this time, Jesus was about 2 years old or older. The gifts taken to Jesus were three (3) which consisted as gold which represented Him being a King; the incense represents Jesus holiness; and the myrrh represented Jesus death. The three take aways:

Point 1- Bring the Gifts of a Loving Heart. Family and interest in others is important based upon the fact that God/or Christ has given so much. The gifts we can give sincere love from the heart, show love for God and not because it is expected. Remember, the commandment to love all persons with one’s heart and soul “Luke tells us “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27).

Point 2-We Should Bring Him Thankful Praise. Kindness and positivity with praise. Each person was implored to praise God just because He is God. Be excited about the praise given to God. God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus Christ and all persons are to praise Him because of His many blessings to us. God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus Christ life for mankind and to whom all praise all blessings belong and received by His People.

Point 3- We should bring the Gift of walking in His way: God is a good gift for all of His Children. God/Christ Jesus desires for all humankind to feel, say, do, and walk in the way He would like for believers to go. We are the hands, feet, and capacity of Jesus to walk in the way He wants or desires. We are to walk in the world and not just the church as God/Christ would want human beings. Allow God/Christ Jesus to transform one’s mind, heart, and soul not just your physical self. Have a loving heart, give with thankfulness and highest praise, and walk in the way He wants, no matter the obstacles.
Amen, Amen, Amen.

January
1

The Year of Revival
“Lord, Send a Revival”
“Ezekiel 36:33-38”
Pastor Kelly Miller Smith Jr.

Submitted by: Deborah Luter

Pastor Smith began by saying it is his hope we will make this the year of revival. The idea of revival is the reawakening or bringing back to life something that has been or can be beneficial to life and to living. Many churches have annual revivals. We call ours spiritual renewal week. The intent is to jumpstart a congregation and a community. Something has to jumpstart us so that we can be who it is that God intends for us to be. Ezekiel was the spokesman for God to the Israelites. His message to them was to remind them that they are God’s people and God is their God. God wanted them to know that God will restore them so that other nations will not exploit them. .

Point 1- Lord, send a revival of our original intent

There are 1198 chapters in the Bible. 1196 of them are trying to help us to get back to what is in the first two chapters. Genesis 1 and 2 speaks of God’s creative order of God creating the heavens and the earth, God separating the waters, God planting vegetation, God creating the birds in the air and the fish of the sea and the animals that roamed the earth. It also talks about God creating humanity and creating humanity in a way that was designed for us to live in harmony with one another as well as with nature and with God.

Point 2-Lord send a revival of our productivity

In the 36th chapter of Ezekiel he talks about what the Lord said that the Lord would do. The Lord is going to rebuild the places that have been torn down in ruins. The Lord also said that he is going to replant the places that have been desolate. This is to indicate that God is actively engaged in trying to make sure that the people have an opportunity to live lives and to be productive. But the challenge is that we have to choose to not only embrace the blessings of God, but also to be productive with the things that God gives us. That productivity is not for our own benefit, but for the benefit of those who are around us. We still must do whatever we can to produce the fruit in this current season God is expecting productivity out of us.

Point 3- Lord, send a revival of our knowing you

God says in this passage and the next chapter that they will know that “I am the Lord”. It’s an interesting phrase because it almost sounds like God is on an ego trip. Yet, in reality God was not doing this for his own ego. God was doing this for our sake. Sometimes God does some things because God knows *we* won’t do it unless HE does it! Ezekiel’s prayer was a petition to God.

The Year of Revival
“It Doesn’t Have to End Like This!”
“Ezekiel 37:1-6”
Pastor Kelly Miller Smith Jr.

January
8

Submitted by: Adrienne Fancher

The church is about REVIVAL. It is what we are expected to do. Revival should happen constantly! God spoke to Ezekiel so that he could speak to the People. We think Ezekiel should be in funeral mode with all those bones. There was nothing that seemed revivable in the valley. Ezekiel must have wondered why God was asking him if the bones could live. Ezekiel says, “You know, Lord.” The Lord is saying this is not the Ending!

Point 1-It does not have to end like this when the Lord’s hand is there. We need to understand that the Lord’s hand is with us; therefore, we can handle anything. The journey may be rough, but the Lord will bring you through. Sometimes God’s hand is in the form of the physical hand of a person, such as when medical staff performed CPR on Damar Hamlin to save his life on a football field. We need to recognize the Lord’s hand.

Point 2-It does not have to end like this when we are open to the Divine possibility. It probably took Ezekiel a few minutes form an answer for God. Ezekiel saw a valley of long-dead bones. How often is the expected answer not really the answer we hold inside. God may have asked Ezekiel to see if he believed in the Divine possibility. We should always be open to what God is doing. Sometimes what we see is beyond our ability to perceive. Fisk University sent a gymnastics team to compete at the NCAA level – the first HBCU to compete in gymnastics – because Fisk believed in the possibility.

Point 3. It does not have to end like this when there is a vision for the future. “Prophesy” is the telling of things to happen in the future. God outlines what is going to happen. Ezekiel is called to preach to the bones. God had a future vision. God has a vision for our future, but we can’t always see it. Many times, people reach a point where they don’t have a vision for their future – which often leads to destructive behavior against themselves or others. The story of Jesus and His valley of dry bones to the cross is proof of God’s vision. The Resurrection was the New Beginning!

God wants you to know that your situation now is not the end.

The Year of Revival
“It’s About to Go Down”
Ezekiel 37:7-10
Pastor Kelly Miller Smith Jr.

January
15

Submitted by: Kathy Harrell

As we get to this text in Ezekiel, we learn that this is the main event! No more just talking the talk, it’s time to walk the walk! There is a lot that leads up to this main event: there is observation of the valley, there is dialogue as to what needs to happen, there is present the one who would be the catalyst of the situation, and there is the material needed for things to happen. It’s about to go down.

It is interesting to learn how God sets up moments for blessings.

Point 1-It’s about to go down when we use the power of proclamation. Ezekiel was prophesying in obedience to God’s command and trust in Him. We must be obedient to proclaiming God’s Word even when we do not know what the outcome will be. As Pastor Kelly M. Smith, Sr. wrote in one of his books; “*proclamation is to bring comfort to the disturbed and disturb to the comfortable.*” And proclamation/preaching is not simply what you hear, it is what you do.

Point 2-It’s about to go down when we use the power of the pieces. When Ezekiel proclaimed the word of God, not only did the dry bones begin to come together, but so did the tendons and flesh. The text does not tell us that things looked like all of the pieces that would be needed to fulfill God’s word was not there. But all of the pieces were already there. Sometimes what we need is right before our eyes. Things may not look like what we need, but the event is filled with possibilities. Our greatest challenge is when we evaluate our possibilities based on what we *perceive* ourselves to be. What we feel is the problem, may in reality be the solution. God can speak a word over our lives that will put us back together.

Point 3-It’s about to go down when we use the power of the Presence. God does not wait for our answer to His call. He will continue to tell us what we need to do. God knew Ezekiel was thinking that something was still missing from God’s command...he realized there was no breath for the bones. God had Ezekiel to prophesy to the four winds which represents the four corners of the earth: Northern wind (growth and prosperity), Southern wind (healing and peace), Western wind (protection from adversaries), and Eastern wind (transformation and blessings). God will bring forth His full arsenal to get the job done. He always supplies whatever is needed for us to be revived. God comes through like a powerful locomotive. Either we get on board or get run over!

First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill

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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.

Torch Staff

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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.