

Tidings

**FROM
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF YORK**



April 2023

Dear Friends,



¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. (Ephesians 1:17-19)

Paul says, "I have not stopped. I keep asking." It sounds like he has been asking for a long time, and he is not going to stop asking for this.

Because knowing God better is all there is. We go through life trying to understand why or that has happened. We try to figure out answers to health problems and money problems and relationship problems.

Back in the Garden, God made us curious and puzzle-solvers so that we can serve God better and take care of the world better. It is natural for us to want to know more, to try to understand.

Unfortunately, we get caught in a trap where we think that if we could understand our circumstances, then we could control or accept our circumstances. But we don't have control. We never will. And accepting comes having peace with outcomes, not from understanding problems.

Even worse, we forget that our prime directive is to know God, serve God, and enjoy God forever.

To put it simply, Easter shows us that when we are lost, God is there to save and to guide us. When we are empty, God is there to fill us up. When we are at our worst, God is there with his best.

Seek God with all of your heart, and God will be found,

Pastor Tim



New Music Director
Matt H.

Matt H. began his piano studies at the age of seven. He received his Bachelor of Music (summa cum laude) from Temple University. He earned the Master of Music degree from the University of the Arts.

Matt taught for 21 years at the Menchey Music Education Center (now the Menchey School of Music) in York, PA before starting his own studio in the same area. He has also been performing professionally throughout Pennsylvania and beyond for nearly thirty years, primarily as a freelance jazz pianist. Matt also enjoys performing and teaching sacred music, and has served as the music director and/or pianist at several churches.

Also an accomplished trumpet player and instructor, Matt began his studies on that instrument at age ten and continued through his early college years as a music education major. His ensemble experience includes band, orchestra, jazz ensemble and small groups of various musical styles.

We are excited to have Matt join us at First Baptist.

What's Happening?

March 21st Council Meeting

- The church has hired Matt H. as our new music director.
- The youth director position is still being covered inhouse.
- Noel A. took over custodian duties as of March 1st.
- The Education Ministry Team is sending out a covenant form with Sunday school and Junior Church teachers.
- For Easter the children will be singing led by Megan C.
- There will be an Easter Egg hunt on Easter morning.
- There was a youth night held playing "Dude Perfect mini-games". It was a success.
- A vote was taken to allow youth director funds be used to sponsor youth events when budgeted funds are depleted.
- There will be a survey coming out to determine if we have enough people willing to help with Vacation Bible School.
- We are still waiting for the second part of the regrading of church land.
- The flat roof has been completed. We are waiting to see if there are any further leaks before paying the bill.
- Dave F. and Rick S. have been working to replace the emergency lights throughout the building.
- The church van has been sold to Mark H. as payment for work completed.
- A group met and cleaned out and organized the sanctuary closet by the organ. Christmas decorations have been moved elsewhere.
- The property team will be discussing the yellow jacket situation.
- The America for Christ offering has been collected during the month of March.

- The decision was made to remove the out of state members from the membership roll as no one responded to the letters sent to them.
- In the last month, 18 dinners were provided by 11 families to those in need in our congregation.
- Dustin H. is loading an I pad with copies of our worship service so that Ginny T. can observe and worship with us.
- Justin C. is working on getting budget materials to the Council members so that a preliminary budget for next year can be developed.
- Justin will write up a motion for the next meeting about how often the financial auditing should be done. This will then be shared with the congregation at the next congregational meeting.
- The security team will be coming up with a proposal for purchasing security camera for the building.
- A request was made for the narthex television to be projecting the service.
- The security team has been monitoring the doors during services. They will be making sure the back door is locked each week as well as monitoring that the nursery is limiting access to the children.
- The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for April 18th.
- There will be a funeral service here on March 25th.
- Leroy T. has requested use of the building on Sunday afternoon, April 30th for a meeting of the Togolese association.
- At this point in time there are a few factors hindering the start up of a Spanish speaking service.
- The Bhutanese are being invited to have a joint Easter service with our congregation. The service will start at 11:00am on April 9th.
- The Easter schedule was discussed and planned.
- The nominating committee is set up and working.





Ladies, please join us for a **Friendship Tea on Saturday, April 29th, 11:30am**, in the Gathering Place. There is a sign-up sheet on the Women's Ministry bulletin board in the narthex next to the restrooms. Feel free to invite the special women and girls in your life to join us. Peanut butter sandwiches and apple juice will be available for the younger girls.

Please RSVP by Sunday, April 23. We look forward to seeing you there!



The education ministry team is looking into VBS this year. We would like to know if the parents and grandparents would like to have a VBS this year, and if so, do we want to keep it a three day event or would we like to move it to a five day event?

If VBS is going to occur, we would like to make sure we have enough volunteers to put on this important event. We would like all people who are willing to

participate to sign up and indicate if they have a preference on where they would like to serve.

Please respond to the office no later than April 30. Thank you for your consideration. Our children in the church are very important and appreciate the sacrifice you make for them.

- three day. five day
 yes I will volunteer name: _____
Preference serving _____



April 2	Palm Sunday (Last day for flower orders)
April 6	7:00pm Maundy Thursday service
April 9	7:30am Son Rise Service
	8:30am Easter Breakfast
	9:30am Sunday School
	10:15am Egg hunt & Coffee Time
	11:00am Easter Worship Service both congregations!



Property News

Noel A. has accepted the position of **church custodian** as of March 1. He is doing a great job already.

Thank you:

1. Rick S. for all the painting touch-ups around the building.
2. Joel B., Paul B., Keith B., Charlie K., & Bev M. for cleaning out the closet in the sanctuary.
3. Dave F. for all the repairs and re-wiring of emergency lights.
4. Bev M. for agreeing to do some painting in the children's Sunday school rooms.



Property Ministry

Still needed: people/person to take care of flower bed at the mailbox.

There is something you can do to make this world better. You can contribute one consecrated life.

Unknown



**First
Baptist
Church**

The greatest of these is love.

Prayers for our church

Help us as we struggle with sin. Keep us from the enemy's condemnation. Thank You for doing away with sin on the cross so we are no longer slaves to it. Help us throw off everything that entangles and persevere in the race (Rom. 6:6, 8:1; Heb. 12:1).

Father God,

We come to you with grateful and humble hearts, offering you "Praise for your great mercy in giving us New Birth into Living hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that can never perish." (I Peter 1:3). Make the resurrection personal to us, that we will keep our eyes on Jesus and live in a way that spreads Living Hope to others through service and love. We ask in the precious name of Jesus who endured the cross for us. Amen.





The Lunch Bunch is a group of people who join together Sundays after worship to share a meal at a local restaurant. They will meet at **Marino's** at 12:00 on **April 16th**. Join this group as they meet for lunch and fellowship after church.



Even when all we see are the tangled threads on the backside of life's tapestry, we know that God is good and is out to do us good always.

Richard J. Foster



It's not that God has a mission for his Church in the world, but that God has a Church for his mission in the world.

Chris Wright

The Look
By John Newton

I saw one hanging on a tree
In agony and blood,
Who fixed His loving eyes on me
As near His cross I stood.
And never till my dying breath
Will I forget that look
It seemed to charge me with His death
Though not a word He spoke.

My conscience felt and owned the guilt
And plunged me in despair
I saw my sins His blood had spilt
And helped to nail Him there.
But with a second look He said
"I freely all forgive
This blood is for your ransom paid
I died that you might live."

Forever etched upon my mind
Is the look of Him who died,
The Lamb I crucified.
And now my life will sing the praise
Of pure atoning grace
That looked on me
And gladly took my place.

Thus while His death my sin displays
For all the world to view,
Such is the mystery of grace.
It seals my pardon too.
With pleasing grief and mournful joy
My spirit now is filled
That I should such a life destroy
Yet live by Him I killed.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Fund Giving	\$14,870	\$131,894
General Fund Expenses.	\$13,031	\$136,802
	\$1,839	(\$4,908)

Phase 2 - \$3,023

Balances

General Fund Balance - \$130,818

Loan Balance - (\$325,414)

Miscellaneous Funds Raised

Roof Fund Balance 2/28/23 - \$2,532

Cash Position 2/28/23

Reconciled Cash - \$130,818

Restricted Funds - \$96,628

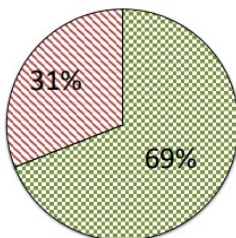
Unrestricted Funds - \$34,190

The Gathering Place Status

As of February 28, 2023

Collected

Bank Debt

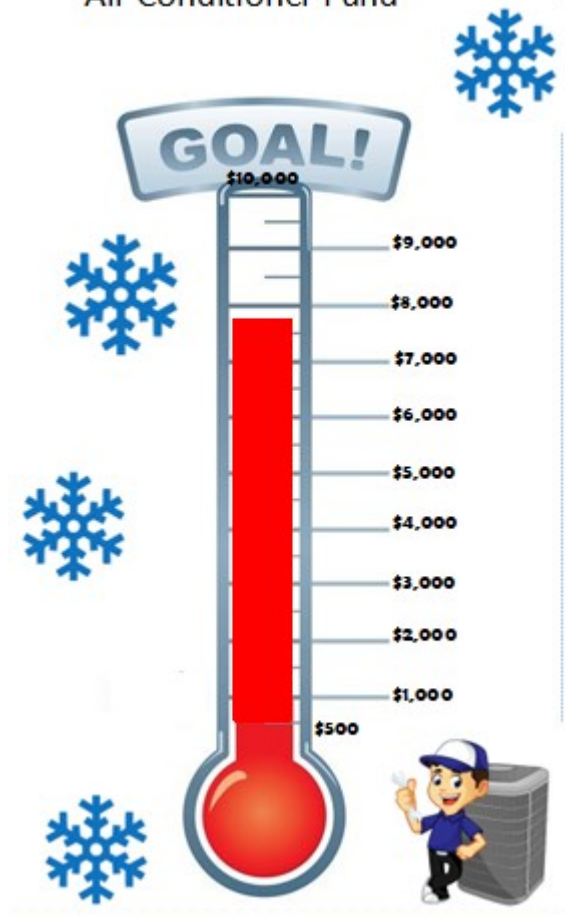


Monthly Pledges
\$3055

Average Payment
(6 Month)
\$4,423

**Estimated
Payoff**
August 2031

Air Conditioner Fund





Happy Birthday



April Birthdays

4 Winston H.
6 Austin W.
7 Alice S.
7 Jamie W.
10 Dave M.
14 Alice W.
15 Evan C.
17 Dan W.
19 Donna O.
22 Charlene S.
24 Joe S.
25 Judy E.

April Missionary Birthdays

6 Becky Stanton - Hungary
8 Sue Hegarty - Costa Rica
9 Matt Mann - Southeast Asia
11 Steve James - Haiti
14 Shigemi Tomita - Japan
19 Brian Smith - Haiti
24 Corenne Smith - Brazil
27 Laura Parajón - Nicaragua
28 Thelma Nambu - Philippines
29 Joyce Reed - Global Consultant
Spiritual Care
29 Dan Chetti - Middle East
30 Valerie Osterbrock - Malaysia



April
ANNIVERSARIES

April Anniversaries

22/78 Ed & Deb A.
23/83 Rick & Louise H.
28/84 Lee & Brenda T.



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THE TIDINGS

APRIL 2023

Church Staff

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

This is a monthly publication for members and friends of First Baptist Church.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, kindly notify the church office.