

# THE INFORMER

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SHELBY, NC



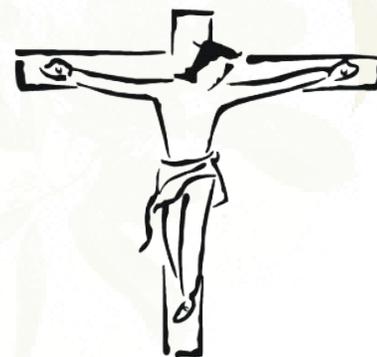
FIRST BAPTIST  
**CHURCH**  
Community + Compassion + Service

APRIL 2021 | VOLUME 42, NO. 4

## EGGSTRAVAGANZA EXPERIENCING GOD'S GLORY



An Easter Experience for All Ages  
Saturday, April 3, 11 a.m. - 1p. m.  
Dale Street Alley Drive-Thru and Scavenger Hunt!!



Virtual Tenebrae Service of Darkness  
Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7 p.m.  
via Facebook.



Virtual Good Friday Stations of the Cross  
Friday, April 2,  
Posts on Facebook at 6:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday, April 4  
9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Celebration via  
Facebook with The Sanctuary Choir  
Ensemble presenting triumphant hymns!

Stop by and place a flower in the Flower  
Cross on Lafayette Street any time after  
11: a.m. on Sunday! Take a picture there  
with yourself or your family and share a  
post with **#testifytheWHY**

# April Calendar

**Thursday, April 1 - Maundy Thursday**  
7 p.m. Virtual Tenebrae Service of Darkness on Facebook

**Friday, April 2 - Good Friday**  
6 a.m. Virtual Stations of the Cross will post on Facebook  
*Child Care and Mothers Morning Out Closed today*

**Saturday, April 3**  
11 - 1 p.m. EGGstravaganza; Experiencing God's Glory- Dale Alley Drive-Thru

**Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday**  
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship via Facebook LIVE  
11 a.m. Morning Worship via Spectrum Cable Channel 9

**Monday, April 5**  
*Easter Holiday- Church Office & Child Care Center Closed*  
*Mothers Morning Out Closed Monday-Friday this week*

**Wednesday, April 7**  
6 p.m. FBC Kids Together on Wednesdays! Dale Street Alley  
6 p.m. FBC Youth Outdoor Venue or Zoom

**Sunday, April 11**  
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship via Facebook LIVE  
11 a.m. Morning Worship via Spectrum Cable Channel 9

**Wednesday, April 14**  
6 p.m. FBC Kids Together on Wednesdays! Dale Street Alley  
6 p.m. FBC Youth Outdoor Venue or Zoom  
6:30 p.m. Budget and Finance Meeting via Zoom

**Sunday, April 18**  
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship via Facebook LIVE  
11 a.m. Morning Worship via Spectrum Cable Channel 9  
6 p.m. FBC Youth at Outdoor venue weather permitting or Zoom  
7 p.m. Deacons Meeting

**Wednesday, April 21**  
6 p.m. FBC Kids Together on Wednesdays! Dale Street Alley  
6 p.m. FBC Youth Outdoor Venue or Zoom

**Saturday, April 24**  
9 a.m. Community Garden Planting Day - Sumter Street

# Pastor's Corner

Doug Hankins

Author and speaker Simon Sinek has a working theory called the "Golden Circle." The theory states that it is less important to know what or how to do something. What we are doing is a matter of study. How are we doing something is a matter of training. Both aspects of our doing are ultimately rooted in means. But without a goal or a dream, we lack an essential component of our doing - namely, the motivation. Sinek therefore argues human beings must be driven by a clear awareness of our WHY.



- Why do we do what we do?
- Why do we believe what we believe?
- Why do we live where we live?
- Why do we build relationships with people?

Sinek observes that nowhere is the WHY more important than in relational communication. According to the Golden Circle theory "People don't buy what you do; they buy WHY you do it."

In this theory we hear something of the Golden Rule of Jesus: Love others as you would want to be loved.

For believers in Christ, we love because God first loved us. God gives us inherent worth. God gives us purpose. God gives us identity. God gives us comfort. God gives us peace. God gives us community. And He does so out of the abundance of His love and mercy to us.

Our WHY, therefore, is motivated by God's overwhelming, never-ending, love for us. God so loved us that He gave His only Son and that everyone we know can get in on this amazing love relationship.

So this Easter, we are being challenged to use social media platforms to share our WHY using the hashtag **#testifytheWHY** as the descriptor. As you surf social media over the next two weeks, would you take some time to reflect on your WHY and then send off a few posts with the hashtag?

Maybe someone will see your hashtag and join us for streaming worship on Sunday.

Maybe someone will see your hashtag and engage you on your why.

Maybe someone will be compelled by your WHY and want to join in on God's loving community.

You never know the power of the WHY, especially when your WHY is Jesus.

## Sunday, April 25

9:30 a.m. Morning Worship via Facebook LIVE  
11 a.m. Morning Worship via Spectrum Cable Channel 9  
6 p.m. FBC Youth at Outdoor venue weather permitting or Zoom

## Wednesday, April 28

6 p.m. FBC Kids Together on Wednesdays! Dale Street Alley  
6 p.m. FBC Youth Outdoor Venue

# Financial Snapshot

## Financial Snapshot – February 2021

We are so blessed by the faithful financial stewardship of the membership of First Baptist Church. Thank you for your devotion to the Lord as you give sacrificially to accomplish the ministry and mission of our church. Here's an update from the Financial Snapshot at the end of February (after 16.67% of the year).

### First Baptist Church:

FBC Budget YTD \$ 220,306.12 (16.67%)  
 FBC Receipts YTD \$ 190,065.30 (14%)  
 Behind the Budget \$ -30,240.82

FBC Receipts YTD \$ 190,065.30 (14%)  
 FBC Expenses YTD \$ 185,869.57(14%)  
 Surplus for February \$ 4,195.73

Feb '21 YTD O'Plate \$ 183,562.50  
 Feb '20 YTD O'Plate \$ 178,883.88  
 Ahead of Last YearTD \$ 4,678.62

Weekday Ministries (Child Care and MMO)  
 WDM Budget YTD \$122,379.80(16.67%)  
 WDM Income YTD \$102,686.24 (14%)  
 WDM Expenses YTD \$103,356.82(13%)  
 Deficit for February YTD \$ -670.58

## Staff Anniversaries



Georgia Cooper  
 Church Chef  
 April 5, 1993

*J.O.Y. Sunday School Class,  
 Thank you so much for the wonderful snacks,  
 treats and thoughtful cards that you sent to  
 our staff. We are so blessed to have people in  
 our community like you all.*

*Love,  
 4 PCU Staff and  
 Leadership  
 Atrium – Cleveland*



## Music Notes

Emily Monore



As the Lenten Season comes to a close this week, I wanted to share with you a beautiful hymn text from the great Charles Wesley. Our Sanctuary Choir sang an anthem several years ago by Dan Forrest based on this text. Reflect on these words as we make our journey to the cross.

*Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears;  
 The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears:  
 Before the Throne, my Surety stands.  
 My name is written on His hands.  
 Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary,  
 they pour effectual prayers they strongly plead for me:  
 "Forgive him, O, forgive," they cry,  
 "Nor let that ransomed sinner, die."  
 My God is reconciled, His pardoning voice I hear;  
 He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear;  
 With confidence I now draw nigh, and "Father, Abba,  
 Father" cry.  
 Arise my soul, arise. Charles Wesley*

## Holy Week

### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Tenebrae Service of Darkness on Facebook. This service commemorates the final hours of our Lord's life on earth, as he suffered death upon the cross. This service will be led by our ministers. Our musicians will offer reflective passion hymns after each reading.

### Good Friday Service

Friday, April 2

Virtual Good Friday Service with Stations of the Cross on Facebook

### Easter Day Celebration

Sunday, April 4 9:30 a.m.

This Easter Sunday-The Sanctuary Choir Ensemble and Harrison Burnette with our band have prepared some triumphant songs and hymns for worship so we all can lift our voices in celebration of our Lord's resurrection! We will also have a beautiful flower cross in the sanctuary to celebrate His resurrection. It will be placed outside on Lafayette Street in front of the church. Please come by and place your own flowers on the cross.

# Lift High the Cross...

...The love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name  
Celebrating Grace Hymnal, No. 415

As Jesus came to that last week before the crucifixion, he spoke to his disciples about what they should expect. He said:

*"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. (John 12:31-33)*

Even as Jesus described his death in these verses, he also describes how it is that we live as his followers in the world - we are to "lift up Jesus!" When we **#TestifyTheWhy**, and let our friends and neighbors and acquaintances know that the reason we trust our lives to Jesus is that he gave his life for us, then we are "lifting high the cross" and proclaiming the love of Christ for those with whom we speak!

Years ago, when Gene Waterson and Roland Leath served as ministers in our church, they had arranged for local florists Jack and Marilyn Logan to provide a large "flower cross" arrangement for the communion table for Easter Sunday. When that Easter Day arrived, Jack woke up with a start because they had made the arrangement but they had forgotten to deliver it to the church! Upon arriving to the Sanctuary with the "flower cross," the Easter worship service was already underway. They opened the doors to bring in the flowers just as Roland Leath had invited the congregation to stand and sing "At the Cross." The congregation thought it had been planned to happen that way!

Well, in 2021, we can plan to intentionally "lift high the cross" and let others know "why" we follow Jesus.

**C enter of my life:** *"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20*

**R econciled to God:** *"Through him to **reconcile** to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross." Colossians 1:20*

**O vercomes the world:** *"And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, **triumphing** over them by the cross." Colossians 2:15*

**S in is canceled:** *"Having **canceled** the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross." Colossians 2:14*

**S et free to live:** *"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and **live for righteousness**; "by his wounds you have been healed."  
1 Peter 2:24*



## Easter Offering For Missions

The SBC's Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions and The CBF Offering for Global Missions



Click here to download the Prayer Guide from the North American Mission Board or go to

<https://www.anniearmstrong.com/resource/prayer-guide/>

As you prayerfully plan to make your Easter offering to ensure that the "**mission of our Lord Jesus moves forward**" across North America, thank you for taking time to study about the work of our missionaries.



Click here to download the Prayer Guide from CBF Global Missions or go to

<https://cbf.net/offering-for-global-missions#downloads>

# Faith and Health Ministry Team Reminders!

## Blood Drive

Blood Drive,  
FBC Gym  
May 4, 2:00-6:30 p.m.,  
Call 1-800-RED-CROSS



Wear a mask, Wait  
6 feet apart, wash  
your hands, and GET  
VACCINATED!

We are so thankful for all the volunteers who have helped with the EGGstranvza. From cutting cloth to stuffing eggs. Mr. Michael Southard made the crosses for the Resurrection garden. We are thankful for the ways FBC members volunteer!



## Community Garden Planting Day

April 24, 9:00 a.m.  
Spring is here and that means it's time to dust off those garden tools, find your favorite work gloves, and join us in the Community Garden as we begin a new season of growing food for folks in Cleveland County who are hungry. We will begin at 9:00 am.



## Planning for the Future

Our Deacons have been working monthly with their Pandemic Task Force to assess our next steps as we continue to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. Thankfully, great strides have been made and even more are on the horizon as our nation combats the pandemic. We continue to pray for our national and state leaders, as well as health care workers, as the vaccines roll out to greater numbers of people.

Our Deacons hope to announce a Together Again plan for return to in-person worship very soon as trends continue to progress. Be watching your mail box, email box and be listening for a phone message to let you know our next steps.



*FBC Deacons Meet In-Person for Their March Meeting to Help Fine-Tune Gathering Procedures for an Upcoming Return to Worship*

# FBC Youth

Here's a story...the greatest Story. Hebrews 12:2a says "Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal." This summer, revisit with us stories that are part of God's Story. Hear God's Story with Moses at the burning bush, sing God's Story as part of a church worship, act God's Story as those who brought a man to Jesus, and continue to write God's Story as those who came before us. You are invited to immerse yourself in the ongoing Story of God. The greatest Story ever told will be to be continued...through you. Hope you will join us for camp this summer. Sign up today!

For covid protocol information visit this website - <https://passportcamps.org/covid-19-protocols/>



July 12-17  
Farman University  
Sign up with \$50 deposit by April 18

## Marlee and New Growth 2020

By Holly Hicks

One year ago the world stopped, the pollution cleared, and we all had to stop our busy lives. I have to admit I was nervous but thrilled to stay at home with my girls. I changed my focus from the outside world to the inside world. Shortly after this "shut-down", Carol Ann Hoard and Missy Smith realized the need to connect with these kids whose world just turned upside down. They made these wonderful goody bags and actually drove all the way to Lattimore to deliver them to my house. Contained within these bags were cucumber seeds. My youngest daughter, Marlee, and I decided what better time than now to start a garden! We needed the sunlight. We needed the soil. We needed connection to the miracles of our God through nature. So, we gathered everything together and planted those seeds in tiny cups. This started a conversation and a competition. We argued over how to care for our new hobby. I said they needed more water. She said I was wrong. Well, I was wrong. Her cucumbers grew. Mine shrunk. She won. From that moment on, she was fascinated by the process, by the new life, by the wonders of God's creation. As of today, she has around 80 plants of different varieties in her room. My Marlee has found her passion! Thank you CA! Thank you Miss Missy!



## Wilderness Trail

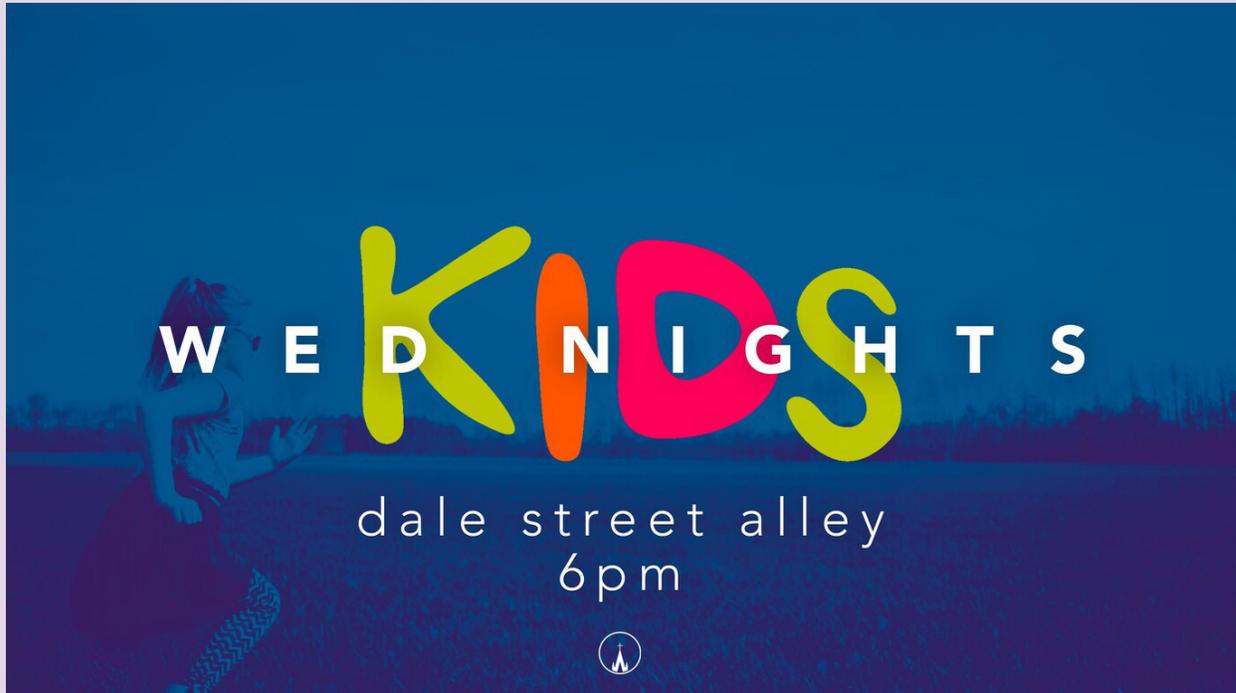
Youth Backpacking Trip  
July 25-30

The Wilderness Trail logo depicts the experience into which youth are invited to live. Based on Galatians 6:2 – "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" – this is an image of the Kingdom of God as we go about burden-bearing in small group wilderness journeys. Walking together, taking Quiet Time, sharing Little Foxes and Holy Grounds, washing one another's feet, playing in the rain, serving, and celebrating secret friends, sharing meals, and trusting the process... this image reminds us to love one another on trail and out in the world. This week of backpacking will bring you closer to God and to each other. We only have 9 spots. Sign up fast with \$50 deposit.





FBC Kids meeting back together  
on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Dale Street alley.



FBC Kids wave palms and shout,  
"Hosanna" to worship Jesus  
coming into Jerusalem.



FBC Kids  
**JUMP FOR JOY**  
to have an  
**EGG-STRAVAGNAZA!!!**

## EGG-Citing Scavenger Hunt

*Saturday, April 3*  
*First Baptist Shelby Dale Street Alley*  
*11 a.m. - 1p.m.*

Drive-thru and get items to make a resurrection planter then park at Cross Fit lot and go together as a FAMILY on an EGG-Citing Scavenger Hunt with lot's of eggs and prizes for children! Everyone that completes the scavenger hunt receives a coupon for a free blizzard from Dairy Queen. Please wear a mask.



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Community + Compassion + Service

120 North Lafayette St.  
Shelby, NC 28150

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## STAFF DIRECTORY

Doug Hankins, Lead Pastor.....doug@fbcshelby.org  
 Tony Tench, Executive Connections Pastor.....tony@fbcshelby.org  
 Carol Ann Hoard, Youth and Intergenerational Pastor.....youth@fbcshelby.org  
 Missy Smith, Children and Family Pastor.....children@fbcshelby.org  
 Penny Corn, Weekday Ministry Director.....childcare@fbcshelby.org  
 Emily Monroe, Worship Coordinator.....music@fbcshelby.org  
 Donna Dryden, Financial Coordinator.....finance@fbcshelby.org  
 Jene' Baxter, Operations Coordinator.....operations@fbcshelby.org  
 Bruce Boyles, Chairman of Deacons.....deacons@fbcshelby.org

## CHURCH INFORMATION

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. -5 p.m.  
120 N Lafayette St, Shelby, NC 28150  
(p) 704.482.3467 (f) 704.482.1137

Check out our website and blog:  
[www.fbcshelby.org](http://www.fbcshelby.org)  
Wi-fi Password: FBSC-120NLaf

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!  
@FBC\_Shelby\_NC



Remember, you can make your plans to give financially to the church online by going to the church website ([www.fbcshelby.org](http://www.fbcshelby.org)) and clicking on this symbol at the bottom of the page or click on "Giving" at the top right corner of the homepage.