

The Lamplighter



First Baptist Church of North East

VOLUME 52, ISSUE 5

FEBRUARY 2021

Weekly Services & Group Meetings

Sunday

8:30am: Worship Service

9:30am: Sunday School/Bible Study (classes available for Preschool through Adult)

10:30am: Worship Service & Children's Worship

5:30pm-7:30pm: Youth (grades 6 through 12)

Wednesday

6:30pm: Kids' Klub

6:30pm: Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (Monthly Business Meeting immediately to follow, 2nd Wed. of each month)

Thursday

10am: Ladies' Prayer Circle

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear church family,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I trust that this new year finds you to be healthy and whole, and more in love with Jesus than ever. 2020 was quite a challenge. 2021 may be even more so—in some ways. Your church family is reeling from all the restrictions of the Covid-19 crisis, as you are too, no doubt.

I have recently received my Covid-19 vaccination and feel relieved and much safer, for myself and for all those I come in contact with. Many of you have also been going through this same process as you are able to sign up and get taken care of. Let me encourage you to do so. As more and more of us are vaccinated, life will be able to return to whatever normal is going to look like in the foreseeable future.

We have returned to our pre-Covid schedule for the most part. Group sizes are smaller, but more and more of us are starting to feel safe enough to come. We still must be very careful and diligent to protect each other, but that can be a good thing and not so much of an inconvenience as at first. I think of it like wearing a seat belt. Years ago, most balked at having to do what had never been required before. But as we realized the immense benefit and enhanced protection to ourselves and others, in the event of an accident, all of us have changed our behaviors. Our whole society is better for it.

Our childcare center has continued to operate (with occasional glitches) throughout this crisis. God bless all of you who work with these precious children. Please pray for all our church workers in whatever capacity that they serve.

I hope you have been enjoying my series through the Thessalonian epistles, whether you listen in person or online. (continued on page 4)

Lap Time with the Lord

Today, as I write this it is cold. Sunny, but cold. The school age children have finished their virtual learning for the day and are outside, enjoying the sunshine. Today is a good day. The children are happy, the staff are happy and well, the director is happy too! Days like these remind me of why I love working with children! They are innocent, often unaware, of the circumstances going on in the world. They play with their friends, eat yummy snacks, and anticipate the next adventure that is looming around the corner. Unfortunately, there are difficult days, too. Children sometimes have struggles getting along with a friend, get frustrated with their schoolwork, feel insecure, unsure, angry, sad, confused, and every other emotion you can think of! (Picture a full-blown emotional meltdown of a three-year old!) As adults, we can relate to their struggles. We feel these same emotions on a regular basis, too! Hopefully, we do not throw temper tantrums but, I bet most of us have come close a time or two! (My hand is raised right now! How about yours? Lol!) We have hurt feelings, insecurities, frustrations, disappointments, doubt, anger, sadness, confusion, well, you get the idea.

Thinks about a time when you experienced a child's emotional explosion. This little body so full of feelings and no skills to process them, seeking help from a trusted adult. As adults, the help we offer is a lap, two arms, and a gentle voice telling them that, "I know it's hard. It's going to be ok. I love you and I've got you!" And it seems to make all the difference in the world! Their breathing slows down, the tears dry up, and often they will fall asleep in your arms, exhausted and surrendered! Peace has been restored in their little hearts!

I think as adults, we forget that we can take our struggles, fears, and failures to God and He will do the same thing for us. His Word tells us that He will:

Pull us up into His lap;

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

Wrap His peace and comfort around us like a blanket;

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

Whisper to us, "I know it's hard. It's going to be ok. I love you and I've got you!";

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

I think I could use a little more "Lap Time" with the Lord. How about you?

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES


- 9 Danny & Judy Clemons
- 14 Ken & Vickie Henry
- 15 Chris & Laura Moyer

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Danita Walker
- 4 Jane Brandenburg
- 5 Heather Bibey
- 10 Rachael Jackson
- Matthew Jackson
- 11 Alesha Walker
- 15 Brad Grant
- Ron Gray
- 17 Julianna Rose Musser
- 18 Joshua Ewing
- Emma Short
- 19 Nancy (Carpenter) Carr
- 20 Natalie Marvel
- 22 Clint Blithe
- 23 Jenny Hokuf
- 24 Alexandria O'Donnell
- 25 Riley Hudler
- 26 Arlee Brown
- 27 Judy Clemons
- Dusty McKinney
- Sarah Ann Veasey
- 28 Larry Thornton



february

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
31 BAPTIST MEN'S DAY James Area is preaching. 5:30pm: Youth	1	2	3 6:30pm: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30pm: Kids Klub	4	5	6 9am: Deacon's Mtg at the church.
7 5:30pm: Youth	8	9	10 6:30pm: Prayer/Bible Study & Business Meeting 6:30pm: Kids Klub	11	12	13
14  5:30pm: Youth	15 President's Day	16	17 6:30pm: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30pm: Kids Klub	18	19	20
21 March 2021 Lamplighter articles due! 5:30pm: Youth	22	23	24 6:30pm: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30pm: Kids Klub	25 <div>See page 1 for regular events/services</div>	26	27
28 James Area is preaching. 5:30pm: Youth	1	2	3 6:30pm: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30pm: Kids Klub	4	5	6 9am: Deacon's Mtg at the church.

(Pastor's Letter continued from pg 1)
Paul prayed with thanksgiving to God, despite persecution, for their faith in Christ. He had 3 basic requests that have become my prayer for you. He prayed that their faith would grow, their love would increase and that they would be "blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when

our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones." (1 Thessalonians 3:7-13).

Let us all pray like that for each other.

In His service,

Pastor Steve

Pastor Steve



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LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®

Church goal: **\$2,500**

Goal reached and exceeded:

\$2,745

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206 Mechanics Valley Road
North East, MD 21901

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUBMIT
YOUR
ARTICLES



**March 2021 Lamplighter
articles are due no later
than Sunday, February
21st. Please email articles
to Jess Wagner @
fbcne@verizon.net.**



The Lamplighter

Published 10 times a year.

An electronic version of our newsletter is available on our website as a pdf file and may be emailed to you upon request. It will be emailed to you instead of a mailed, printed copy.

First Baptist Church of North East
206 Mechanics Valley Rd
North East, MD 21901-3824

Phone: 410 287-6247

E-mail: fbcne@verizon.net

Website: www.fbcne.org

Follow us on Facebook @
www.facebook.com/FBCNE

Dr. Stephen D. Hokuf, Pastor
Dan Mohler, Associate Pastor

Jess Wagner,
Editor/Ministry Assistant

Budget Analysis

Budget/General Fund Weekly
Average as of 1/24/2021

(4 weeks): **\$2,509**

Needed Weekly: **\$3,897**

Budget Status: **-\$5,554**

Maintenance/Building Repairs
Fund: **\$3,675**

Parking Lot Fund:

Received to date: **\$45,780**

Church goal: **\$47,745**

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering:

Reached & exceeded: **\$2,745**

Church Goal: **\$2,500**

To give online, please visit
www.fbcne.org/give/