

Pelham Vision



First Baptist Church Pelham

Making Disciples for Global Impact

From Pastor Daven Watkins



Volume 1, Issue 10

November 2020

Dear FBC Pelham Faith Family,
Grace and peace to you! Revival 2020 is upon us!! Hallelujah!!! I look forward to worshipping Christ alongside you. I don't say this lightly, but the LORD has put together a conference-level lineup for the saints at Pelham. Each service will be glorious and God's House will be the place to be the first week of November! Allow me to mention a few reminders to help you navigate the week. The Sunday morning services will be at 8:30 and 10:45 AM. Sunday night will begin at 6:00 PM. Please note that there will be in-person, on-campus Sunday School classes on Sunday, November 1. Monday through Wednesday evening will begin at 6:30 PM. Nursery will be provided for bed-babies through K5 at all services. Our children (1st-5th grade) will simultaneously have revival services on the main campus Sunday morning and all evening services will be held across

the street in the Annex. Doors will open for each event 15 minutes prior to the start time and we will be livestreaming all five worship services. Also, note that we will have Wednesday night dinner at its regular time on November 4. Please make plans to be with us in-person if you can, but if you are unable to attend, please tune-in 15 minutes prior to the services. Invite your friends and family members who do not yet have a relationship with Jesus. May the LORD give a tremendous harvest!!! Also note that our Discovery Class will be Sunday, November 8 from 12:00-3:00 PM in the Annex. Discovery class is for any new member, perspective member, anyone curious about Christianity, or interest in the church. We do ask that you make a reservation by calling the church office today. On Sunday, November 15, we will hold the Ordination Council and Services for three deacon

candidates. We are thrilled to conduct this ordination process with David McKinley, John House and Jeff Waters. The ordination council will convene that day at 2:00 PM with the ordination service to be held in the sanctuary at 3:30 PM. All ordained men of the church are invited to attend the council and everyone is encouraged to attend the service. Finally let me mention that throughout the month of November we will spend several weeks walking through Romans chapter eight. This new Testament study has been rich and beneficial each Sunday morning and we will take the opportunity to spend a few weeks striving to expound the glorious truths of this sublime chapter. I love you and I look forward to seeing you soon and often in the month of November.

Your Pastor and Friend,

Daven

Upcoming Events

- November 1-4: Revival
- November 1-29 Shelby Baptist Association Food Drive
- November 8: Discovery Class
- November 10: Senior Adult Thanksgiving
- November 14: Women's Ministry "Crafty Christmas Fellowship"
- November 15: Ordination Council and Service
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Women's Ministry - Marian Carter

Please join us on November 14th for the first "Crafty Christmas Fellowship" sponsored by the Women's Ministry. We will meet from 10:00-1:00 where we will make a project from Party Art. We will also provide lunch for you from Home Plate Cooking. You

can go to the Women's Ministry Facebook page to register and pay for your craft or go here: <https://placeful.com/crafty-christmas-fellowship-at-party-art-novembere-10-1-00> to register. We look forward to fun and fellowship with our ladies.



Senior Adult Ministry- Dr. Randy Atkinson

Thanks to all who helped and all who attended our picnic fish fry on October 13 at Indian Springs Pavilion. Everybody pitched in and all who participated seemed to enjoy the food and, even more, the fellowship. Some of us had only seen one another via ZOOM for most of this year. In person contact and conversation was so welcomed and much enjoyed. We will try again in November and December. This time in the Annex. November 10 will be our Thanksgiving Meal and December 8 we will celebrate Christmas together. Everything will be provided and we will ask you to make a donation to cover the cost of food items. Masks are requested, hand sanitizer will be provided and social distancing will be observed. There will be no

special program due to program personalities declining to come because of COVID-19.

Menu for November will be turkey, dressing, gravy, cranberry sauce, green beans, ambrosia, bread, drink and dessert.

Menu for December will be ham, sweet potato casserole, lima beans, Watergate salad, bread, drink and dessert.

Reservations for these two events will be necessary and will be made when the phone/email contact committee contacts you with information. Let me also suggest, for each of these meals, think about those who cannot attend, and when you make a reservation, make reservations for a carryout (you deliver) for them

and turn that in. In this way, we can spread the joy around and include many more who are not available for in-person meeting.

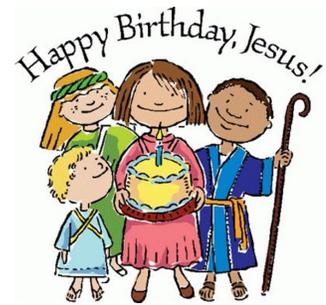
One other important date is December 7. On that date, we have reserved 28 positions in Atlanta to go and work with shoeboxes at Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. As in prior years, we will depart around 8 AM and return by 10 or 11 PM on the same day. The facility in Atlanta will practice all health protocols and throughout the bus ride over and back, we will wear masks, use hand sanitizer and practice social distancing on the bus. Let me know if you plan to make this ministry/mission trip with us.

FBC Kids Ministry—Jonathan Williams

What an interesting year it's been! From VBS to Sunday School at night, we certainly have had our normal routines interrupted here in the Preschool and Children's Department. I have been looking for ways to enable parents and children to take ownership of their faith in real, relevant and practical ways by providing opportunities for them to study at home. We supply weekly lessons on the Life of Jesus, and Conversation Starters that are designed to make the most of all the time that families spend in their cars with topics and even song lists. Our Sunday School and Wednesday night volunteers

are working hard to safely teach our preschoolers and children each week, and we are looking forward to the day when more things are added back to our schedule. One event that will go on as planned is our annual Birthday Party for Jesus, on December 13th at 6:00 PM during our Choir Christmas Program. Your 3K-5K children won't want to miss it!

Please pray for all our families, our staff, and know that we are praying for all of you. God is able!



December 13th, 6:00 pm
Children's Activity Room 212

Recreation and Outreach- Donnie Sisk

Upward Basketball has started!

Practices begin this month and games will begin in December (12 & 19), continue in January (2, 9, 16, 23, and 30) and end February 6th.

We still have room for volunteers. If your SS class is looking for a missions event, you could pick



a date and be our clean-up team for a Saturday.

Discovery Class

If you are new to FBCP and want to know more about who we are, I hope you will join us November 8th after the 10:45 service in the Annex. This is a great class for those who have been visiting or who are already members. Pastor Daven does a great job communicating who we are and

who we want to be. If you want more information, please e-mail Marcia Walker at mwalker@fbcpelham.org.



Counselor's Corner—Melanie Howard

REDUCING HOLIDAY TENSION

Holiday gatherings provide chances to reconnect with family, share old memories, and make new ones. Major holidays, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, are often accompanied by major expectations. Major expectations can lead to major disappointments, major tensions and major stress!

The following may help lead to fond family memories instead of frantic family meltdowns.

PLAN AHEAD: If your extended family is like most, you will not be the only ones hosting or going to holiday celebrations! It is essential, therefore, that families are willing to “share” their family members and share the dates and times of celebrations. If it is important to you that everyone (or almost everyone) be able to attend your extended family celebration, advanced planning is necessary. This is especially important if part of the family lives in another state, or if you have step families where the number of extended family gatherings can be doubled or tripled.

COMMUNICATE YOUR EXPECTATIONS: You are more likely to get what you want if you ask for what you want. Don't expect your family to read your mind or “just know” how you would prefer to celebrate. Communicate your desires, being careful to not present them as demands.

BE FLEXIBLE: As families grow and change, family traditions need to grow and change with them. Ecclesiastes 3:1-3 says, “There is a time for everything...” I would paraphrase this verse and say that there is a time for building family traditions and a time for changing or even letting go of those traditions. Life situations such as job changes, marriages and even new babies call for flexibility and the willingness to begin some new family traditions and celebration times.

BE CREATIVE: Be creative in planning your family holiday gatherings. “Family

Christmas” can be celebrated whenever the family can get together—it doesn't have to be done on Christmas Day or even in December. Some families exchange Christmas gifts the Friday after Thanksgiving. Other families celebrate Christmas in July at the beach. In 2020, creativity in family gatherings is more important than ever! This year, my extended family is considering a turkey-less Thanksgiving. Since some members of our family are high risk for COVID-19 complications, we may opt to skip the turkey and grill hamburgers at a state park (since transmission of Coronavirus is lower in an outdoor setting).

BE PEACEFUL: Holiday gathers are not the time for discussing controversial topics or dispensing advice. Romans 2:18 says, “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Before you speak, ask yourself if what you are about to say will build up and encourage the other person, or tear him or her down. Use caution in asking questions that may subtly suggest disapproval such as, “When are you going to get married, have a baby, or get a job?” For those who desire these things, such questions may trigger grief or make them feel stigmatized or isolated.

BE PRAYERFUL: Pray for each member of your immediate and extended family and pray for your time together. If you, your children, or your parents are part of a blended or stepfamily, pray for all the people who are part of that family—including the ex-spouses and their families. As we do so, we will be more sensitive to their needs, more forgiving of their flaws, and freer in sharing our love. Prayer also causes us to look for God's guidance and wisdom in relating to our family.

BE LOVING: We are called to love each other just as Christ has loved us. In 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, it says, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps

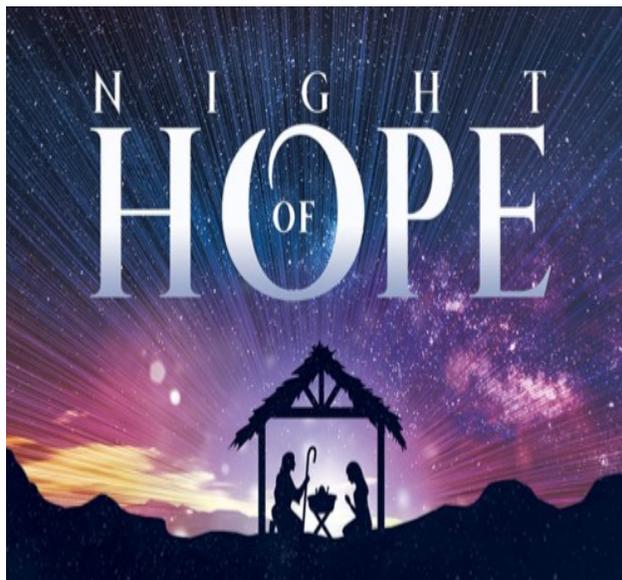
no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

During these holidays, seek to demonstrate this love to your family in honor of the Savior who was born as love incarnate.

Major expectations can lead to major disappointments, major tensions, and major stress!!

First Baptist Church Pelham

2867 Pelham Parkway
Pelham, AL 35124
Phone: 205-664-0237



Night of Hope
Sunday, December 13, at 6:00 PM

SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOOD DRIVE: November marks our annual Shelby Baptist Association food drive. We begin distributing bags and lists of most needed items today. Everything is due back on the last Sunday of this month, November 29th.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: We will be collecting our OCC shoeboxes beginning Sunday, November 8th. Our collection dates include November 8th, 14th (10:00-12:00 drive-thru delivery), and 15th.



Worship Ministry – Brett Fuller

I spent many days this past summer wondering if our Worship Choir would be able to return in 2020. The odds seemed insurmountable at times, but I'm thankful that the Lord has provided a way for our choir to lead during this unique season. True, it looks a little different with only 30 in the loft, BUT the spirit of our choir is infectious. I want to say how thankful I am for their commitment. Around 50% of our active role has made the decision to return this fall. They are faithful on Wednesdays and lead with exceptional skill and passion on Sundays.

One exciting piece of news is that we are presenting a Christmas program this year!! On Sunday, December 13, at 6:00p.m., the Worship Ministry will present "A Night of

Hope!" In an effort to include as many people as possible, this live event will feature a live choir, live band, virtual choir members, virtual children's choir, testimonies, and other exciting elements. You will have the opportunity to experience the performance live in-person or via our Live stream. It's our hope that this year's program will be a source of encouragement during this season. There is "HOPE" when you speak the name of Jesus into every situation, and we're going to celebrate that HOPE on December 13.

I look forward to seeing you in worship here inside the walls of the church or online in the days ahead!

Cathy and I love you and we are thankful for you,
Brett

