

WMU CORNER... from your WMU leader: Lynda Hicklen

Thank you, Church Family, for reaching and surpassing our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal! Our goal was \$3,000.00 but together we gave a total of \$3,586.50 which will go to help missionaries in North America and Canada. By our giving, we are definitely a part of "The Mission Moves Forward" which is the theme for the 2021 AAEO.



Riwa Tanner, our FBC Children's Director, presented a fun and informative program at the March WMU meeting, informing those in attendance by showing and involving them in what takes place in Children's Church each Sunday morning. The ladies enjoyed singing a peppy song, (complete with arm movements), worked on a craft project relating

to the death and resurrection of Christ, familiarized themselves with the work/study sheet that goes along with the lessons each week and engaged in a special time of prayer for all the children of FBC. Please take time to tell Riwa, the teachers, and children's workers who much they are appreciated as they teach our children. Pictured with Riwa are her son, Glenn and daughter, Miya, who were wonderful helpers with the presentation.

Another praise to report is the result of our "World Water Day" ministry. \$ 829.00 was collected in the water bottles and a check will



be sent to the Hope Center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to help buy a new water tank and chemicals, along with bottled water so that people who do not have access to clean, safe water to drink can come to the Center for water. Pictured are the Wednesday night missions kids who had a fun time sorting and rolling the numerous bottles of coins.

Our WMU is thankful for the tremendous support from our FBC family. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of disadvantaged people.

"Be the light that helps others see."

**GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD DONATION
NEEDS FOR MAY
Canned fruit and fruit juice**



**220 Church St.,
Dover, TN 37058
(931) 232-5496**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From our Pastor, Bro. Steven	2
A "note" from Mark	2
"The Point"	2
Congratulations!!	2
Nursery & Kids News	3
Note of Thanks	3
A Celebration of Life	3
Our Record Speaks	3
Deacon Ordination	3
Notes of Appreciation	3
WMU Corner	4
Schedule & Staff	4

Special Points of Interest

- *Planting, Watering & Waiting*; pg 2
- Notes from the Music scene; pg 2
- Youth, check out "The Point"; pg 2
- Congrats, new grandmother; pg 2
- News from the Nursery; pg 3
- *Kid Zone* happenings; pg 3
- Note of Thanks pg. 3
- Celebrating a special life; pg 3
- New Deacons Ordained; pg 3
- Heartfelt thanks; pg 3
- WMU busier than ever; pg 4
- Service Schedule; pg 4
- Meet our staff; pg 4



**Thought for
May**

Every accomplishment
begins with the decision to try.



Vol. 38 No. 4 ~ 27 April 2021

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday School	—	9:30AM
Worship Service	—	10:30AM
Worship Choir Practice	—	5:00PM
Discipleship Training	—	5:00PM
Evening Service	—	6:00PM

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Time	—	6:00PM
Youth & Kids Meals	—	6:00PM
Youth Services	—	6:00PM
Adult Bible Study	—	6:00PM

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Meet our staff!

Pastor	—	Steven Head
Minister of Music	—	Mark Harris
Minister of Youth	—	Michael Miers
Church Secretary	—	Rhonda Peveto
Custodians	—	R & D Feltner
Treasurer	—	Charles Parks
Nursery/Children's Dir.	—	Riwa Tanner
Nursery Coordinator	—	Charlotte Marshall

We're on the web!

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Planting, Watering and Waiting by Pastor Steven

For those who don't know, one of the things I am most excited about this spring is putting out a garden. It's been several years since I've been able to plant a full garden and when we bought our current house my mind quickly saw potential garden plots. Contracting COVID in January only helped fuel my desire. Locked away in the spare bedroom, I spent a fair amount of time watching gardening videos on *youtube* and planning out things for the spring.

In the interest of full disclosure, I want you to know that I am by no means an expert gardener. I am coming at this with the excitement and experience of a novice, which means in my zeal I've already made plenty of mistakes. In my rush to see things grow, most of the things I began indoors under lights were started way too early and some didn't make it into the ground. Some of the things I sowed directly into the ground were also down too early and the chances of me seeing them pop up through the soil get slimmer by the day. That's not to say I haven't seen any success. I have several things that are doing well. Three of my tomato plants are already flowering and I expect to be pestering people with excess giveaway produce sooner rather than later.

Having tried my hand at growing things, I understand better why Jesus and Paul so frequently used the world of growing things for illustrations. Truly the garden, the field, and even the humble front yard, are ripe for the preacher's picking. It was the humble mustard seed that Jesus used to compare the Kingdom of God to because of its small size and dramatic difference in its final form (Matthew 13:31-55). It was a field sown with both good and bad seed that Jesus compared the present mixture of believers and unbelievers in the world, and even in the church to, about how the gospel is received or not received by different hearts (Matthew 13:1-9 and 18:23). Wheat and harvesters are the perfect illustration for the souls of men and those who share the gospel (Matthew 9:36-38). Planting and watering are the equivalent of what Paul and Apollos did in Corinth as they preached the gospel, but the thing that caused the growth in each case (salvation) was God (1 Corinthians 3:5-9).

Here are a few of my own thoughts from the world of planting and growing concerning the church. **First**, in order to have a harvest you must sow. Sowing is the necessary precursor to any kind of growth. In terms of the church, that means if our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, then we have to be a people that shares the gospel. No gospel sharing, no conversion. No conversions, no baptisms. It's a formula that is not hard to figure out. As your pastor, I am committed to not just telling you the mission but also equipping you for the mission, and that means this summer I hope to do a class on Wednesday nights on how to share your faith with others. But I hope you won't wait until then. Start where you are and use what you've got, and don't be surprised if "God gives the growth".

Second, next year my garden will look similar and different. There are some things I already know I want to do again next year because of what is already happening. But there are some things I know I will need to change (like starting some of the seeds later) and if I don't make these changes, then I shouldn't expect different results. You probably know where I'm going with this. In the church there are certain non-negotiable things that God has given us to do/be in scripture and we must hold to them no matter what the harvest brings. But there are plenty of other things that do that are not scriptural mandates that are closer to personal preferences or wisdom issues. Over time we must change in these areas like the wise gardener using knowledge gained from last season and responding to new conditions this season.

Last, I remember reading that an old pastor had encouraged a younger pastor to plant a tree as soon as he was called to a church. That tree was meant to serve as a reminder that big things take time to grow. I've often thought about that. I don't normally like to think in the time scale of tree growth. I prefer to think about what I can do this week, next month and in the next six months. There is nothing wrong with short measurable goals, in fact they are quite useful. But a long term view can help guard us against seasons of discouragement that will inevitable come. There are some things that just cannot be accomplished overnight (not healthily anyway). Though there are miraculous stories of overnight growth, which we should give thanks to God for, it doesn't mean we should expect *miraculous overnight growth* to be the norm, or that we're necessarily being unfaithful if the change we desire progresses like the growth of a tree. Some of the fastest growing plants are weeds and some of the slowest growers now touch the sky.

Just a few things to think about. May God bless the next season of our church. May He uses us as workers in His field. May He find us willing and ready, and may He grant us a great harvest.



April showers bring May flowers. Isn't that the saying? What about snow? Ha! Ha! I think I've shared before that I like to raise a garden and Connie likes to raise flowers. I say that to say this: "you may take music along with any activity! Some may whistle. Others may sing or even tap out a tune on the fender of their riding mower. All the while we can praise the Lord through music almost anywhere!

I want to again thank the choir, along with the sound and tech folks for making the Easter services a success! I was bless to be a part of it.

If you're ready to get out and go, our group, *Rock of Ages*, will be performing at the Lakeland Jamboree in Cadiz, KY Friday, May 7th. Our guests will be Bro. Steven and Marla Head. Lots of folks from the church have made the drive up to share an evening with us. We'd like to see you there again!

I've been asked about special music programs possibly coming up. We will host Chris Golden again the first Sunday night in August. I do have some more local groups I'd like to invite, maybe for a 5th Sunday singing. Actually, I've been waiting for us to get close to "normal". So, keep your eyes and ears open for something. Also, it's not too early to be praying for Vacation Bible School!

Congratulations
Will Guynn, Jayden McPherson, Dade Miers
Trevor Sharpe and Shane Tanner

Senior SUNDAY

Be sure and join us Sunday May 30th
as we celebrate our graduating seniors
during the morning worship service.

For information on participating in Senior Sunday text 409.790.5484



It's a GIRL!

A big congratulations to new grandmother, Shirley Wyatt, who was recently honored by her Sunday school class (Ruth Class) and given a baby gift for her very first grandchild, **Valerie Marie McIntyre.**

Best wishes to all!

Nursery & ...



Train up a child in the way he
 should go; and when he is old,
 he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6

The nursery is a loving, happy place to be on Sunday mornings. Our time with the children is precious and enjoyable as they grow and learn new skills. Each Sunday is an adventure! Many thanks to the parents for entrusting these precious ones to our care during the Sunday school and worship hours.

If you are not a nursery volunteer and would like to be, just see Riwa Tanner or myself, and we'll be glad to get you started. Volunteers work on a rotating basis serving about once every six weeks. Hope you'll come and join the fun!

In Christ, Charlotte

...Kids News

"Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing."
Psalm 100:2

The *Kid Zone* is fondly remembering Ms. Linda Bouldin upon her passing. In fact, Wednesday, April 28th, we are taking time with the children to celebrate her life and what we will miss most about her. She enjoyed life and people and serving the Lord. She literally served up hugs and Wednesday night meals in the *Kid Zone* for years. I cannot name all the ways she served, but here are a few: singing in the choir, helping with the *Completely One* ministry, adult mission trips, WMU. She liked to be busy...busy in a way that was helping others. And it wasn't drudgery for her; it wasn't just a duty to fulfill. She LOVED it! You could tell by the WAY she did things: with that big smile and a humorous comment here and there, and always with a little self-deprecating humor thrown in. There will never be another Ms. Linda; however, she has influenced each of us in ways so that we can say, "I can live for Jesus with joy...like Ms. Linda did."

Blessings, Riwa Tanner

Adult volunteers are needed for Concrete and Cranes VBS June 21-25, 2021, 6:00pm-8:30pm each evening. This year, we will have volunteer prep nights Sundays from 5:00-6:00pm on 5/16, 5/23/ 6/6, and 6/13. (See bulletin insert in May for more details). Sign up on the church foyer on May 16th before or after church, or contact Riwa Tanner or Megan Parks before that date.



My Dear Church Family,

I wish to thank each of you for your prayers on my behalf in these recent days. You have lifted my name in prayer and in doing so, you have also lifted my spirits. I am so blessed to be a part of a praying church family, and I thank God for you.

In Christ,
Michael Hastings



...will be held in memory of our dear Linda Bouldin, Saturday, May 8th at 2:00pm in the FBC Family Life Center. Everyone is invited to attend.

Our Record Speaks

MARCH 28, 2021

Budget Receipts	\$ 4,049.95
A.A. Easter Offering	545.00
Logan Wright MYF	20.30
Total Receipts	\$ 4,615.25

Needs to Date	\$ 100,840.07
Receipts to Date	98,186.07
Weekly Needs	\$ 7,756.94

Sunday School	110
Morning Worship	154
Discipleship Training	29

APRIL 04, 2021

Budget Receipts	\$ 10,553.10
A. A. Easter Offering	276.50
Building Fund	60.00
Brick Fund; memory of J.T. Jackson	30.00
Logan Wright MYF	60.30
Total Receipts	\$ 10,979.90

Needs to Date	\$ 108,604.01
Receipts to Date	108,739.17
Weekly Needs	\$ 7,756.94

Sunday School	103
Easter Services	182
Discipleship Training	No DT

APRIL 11, 2021

Budget Receipts	\$ 8,044.65
Pure Water Fund	50.00
Building Fund	220.00
Logan Wright MYF	20.30
Total Receipts	\$ 8,334.95

Needs to Date	\$ 116,360.95
Receipts to Date	116,783.82
Weekly Needs	\$ 7,756.94

Sunday School	114
Morning Worship	148
Discipleship Training	41

APRIL 18, 2021

Budget Receipts	\$ 7,220.10
A. A. Easter Offering	200.00
Memorial Brick Fund	30.00
Mother's Day Offering	25.00
Logan Wright MYF	60.30
Total Receipts	\$ 7,535.40

Needs to Date	\$ 124,117.89
Receipts to Date	124,003.92
Weekly Needs	\$ 7,756.94

Sunday School	107
Morning Worship	136
Discipleship Training	35

APRIL 25, 2021

Budget Receipts	\$ 5,976.00
A. A. Easter Offering	50.00
Water Bottle Offering	562.00
Memorial Brick Fund	270.00
Logan Wright MYF	20.30
Total Receipts	\$ 6,878.30

Needs to Date	\$ 131,874.83
Receipts to Date	130,882.22
Weekly Needs	\$ 7,756.94

Sunday School	100
Morning Worship	119
Discipleship Training	33



DEACON ORDINATION

Michael Miers, Eric Nelson and Jay Longest were ordained as FBC Deacons during a special evening service, held March 28. Congratulations, Michael, Eric and Jay...we appreciate you!



Everyone,

A lifetime of possessions and sentimental items were lost about 2 months ago when my family suffered the tragedy of losing our house to a fire. The members of this church have been so gracious and generous and caring in our time of need. My heart was truly touched by your acts of kindness, whether through prayer, thoughtful comments, well wishes, gracious offers, or donations. You have all touched the hearts of my family and me. I can't tell you enough how much it has meant to me. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Eric Killius & Family

To: Pastor Steven and my Church Family:

"Thank You" is too small of an expression to say for all the kindnesses you have done for me during these past months, but it's all I can come up with.

You have provided me with "taxi services", run errands, sent encouraging notes (some with food gift cards), cooked delicious meals, made phone calls, and dropped by to check on me. If I have left out anything, please forgive me.

I love and appreciate each of you. God bless, and may you know the joy of His presence.

Loretta Boyd