



Together in Christ, we love God and others.

THE LINK

May 2018

Your Voice

By Pastor Bill Booth

No, it is not a new talent show or even some radio call in program. When I talk about “Your Voice” I am referring to the age old Baptist understanding of freedom and autonomy and the classic Christian understanding of the priesthood of all believers. We are all called to be active participants in the Kingdom of God as we faithfully follow Christ. As a part of this fellowship of believers, we share in the responsibility of building the kind of community that demonstrates the love of Christ. That means each of us has a part to play. The Bible tells us that every Christian is given gifts for the building up of the church. We also need your voice as we prayerfully listen to discern and do the will of God.

In March we gathered in our Family Life Center to fellowship and share our ideas. From this round-table discussion we heard many meaningful stories and great thoughts about moving forward as a church (highlights from that discussion are included in this newsletter). I was very encouraged by your participation and passion to see our church minister faithfully to our community and the world.

Over the next several months we will be calling on you to lift your voices again. Our process of seeking the best ways to move into the future will require us to discuss and work together. The church staff has been studying research about churches and we are committed to helping our church reach all ages and

demographics. We recognize a need to focus some attention on reaching young adults (ages 18-29). One way to do this will be to gather a task force of church members to help us continue to research and craft meaningful ways to engage these young adults.

Likewise, we will be working to add some church staff to guide us into our exciting future. Once again, we will need your help and guidance in making this a reality. We will be talking about and seeking some search teams very soon to begin the journey toward equipping our church to be prepared for the opportunities that I am certain God has for our days ahead. I anticipate at least two staff positions, one full-time and one part-time, for us to be ready to follow God’s leadership as we reach our community and world with the love of Christ.

Furthermore, we will need to put our resources to work to bring all of these ideas to life. We will be discussing our budget at another round-table gathering on May 16 and then voting on the budget on Sunday, May 20. I hope you add your voice of support and your generosity to allow the work and ministry of our church to move forward effectively.

I hope you see how important your voice is in this process. We are called to be one body, unified in Christ. I know that God has rich plans for our community of faith. I hope you are willing and able to do your part in seeking His kingdom and serving one another as Christ has taught us.



Roundtable Discussion Results March 7, 2018

Those in attendance were asked to list priorities of FBCM for the near future. The following ideas were submitted and discussed.

Budget and Capital Needs:

- Prayerfully set a goal to raise money to knock off capital needs such as roofing and HVAC, giving people a reason and a goal for giving above and beyond their tithe.
- Fund building needs such as new roof and HVAC, sound system, and water fountains
- Decide extent & method of funding mission partners (examples: Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Tennessee Baptist Convention)
- Emphasize tithing, seeking a balance between property needs and missions.
- Clean up the budget to more accurately reflect where we want to focus our energies.

Family Life Center:

- Staff and use of the FLC for our members and for outreach ministry for people who come into the gym
- Make better use of the FLC gym, craft room, etc. to get people in the church.
- Do ministry to help the homeless who spend the day at our church. Maybe offer showers and clothes washing.
- Emphasize local missions, bringing kids and families into the FLC.
- Have basketball and/or volleyball league.

Family Life Center (Continued):

- Have prayer meetings in the FLC for guidance when we start doing ministry there.
- Enlist more volunteers to staff the FLC desk as we get leaders to give oversight and organization.
- Have music for youth and children in the FLC.

Outreach Ministries:

- Help international workers who come to work at Denso with cultural integration and with knowledge about Jesus. Language learning classes for both adults and children were suggested.
- Do more outward-focused children and family mission events like *Trunk or Treat*.
- Become more involved in the schools through programs like *YoungLife*.
- Participate in *KICKO* as a ministry.
- Start a caregivers' support group to minister to caregivers.
- Investigate the idea of having a day program for seniors and special-needs adults and/or a Senior Care Outreach (help with house cleaning, and such).
- *Operation Inasmuch / CommunityWorx Workdays*
- Fresh energy into outreach to visitors / Welcome Wagon to new residents
- Food for families in need
- After-school tutoring and help for families
- Decrease missional focus to a few really impactful programs
- Create Christian programs that target families
- Friday night "Coffee Club" with live music
- Parent's night out (childcare) by youth and college students
- Local and family-focused missions that have greatest impact.

(Continued)

Roundtable Discussion Results Continued

Outreach Ministries Continued:

- Living Nativity
- Have Backyard Bible Schools

Staffing:

- Look at staff duties today and eliminate unnecessary tasks and hone in their duties
- FLC Pastor or Family Life Center Director and Administrator
- Review staffing priorities, assignments: who is in charge of what, what do we need staff to do
- More lay people involved in functions allowing people to buy into what the church is doing
- Training lay people to cover where staff is not available
- Provide internships for Maryville College students

Worship:

- Start a contemporary worship service.
- More praise and worship music
- Two services

Youth:

- Focus on youth families
- Make it comfortable for the kids to come here

Other:

- Utilize advertising as a way to invite people and let them know we are here.
- Leaders for young adult and children's programs.
- Wednesday night dinners

Other:

- Simplify
- Small groups

Next Steps:

Group agreed to set up a task force to look at our missional-giving priorities with Tom Coulter as chair since he is Finance Team chairman.

Put a team together in near future to determine need for new staff. Have them take into account the aforementioned ideas and needs.

Next Roundtable Discussion

Wednesday, May 16, in the gym
to discuss the 2018-19 budget

A free barbecue dinner will be served
starting at 5:30pm. No RSVP required.

Our Deepest Sympathy

To Chris Arnette and her family upon the loss of her sister, Lura Boggs, on March 1, 2018.

To Lonnie Hostin and his family upon the loss of his brother, Wilford Brian Hostin, on March 2, 2018.

To Adriel McCord and his family upon the loss of his grandmother, Marie McCord, on March 3, 2018.

To former pastor John Sharp and his family upon the loss of his father, David Sharp.

To Lisa Tipton and family upon the loss of her sister, Jama Hamby, on March 31, 2018. Jama was also Jo Nuchols' cousin.

To Rita Freberg upon the loss of her husband, Carl Freberg, on April 19, 2018. Carl was also Lynne Hurst's father.

Thank
You

Bill Booth,

I just wanted to personally thank you for the time, effort and energy your staff invested in the Good Neighbors Spring Festival. We are so impressed with your church and their compassion for our community. Thank you for partnering with GN. We look forward to more adventures in the days to come.

Your personal support and encouragement are also appreciated.

Thanks again - Hope to see you very soon!

With gratitude,
Lisa R. Blackwood
Blount County
Good Neighbors



Staff Planning Day

Wednesday, May 22
9am - 2pm

The church staff will meet offsite to plan our upcoming fall schedule. The church office will be closed during this time, but the Family Life Center gym will be open.



Upcoming Business Meetings

Quarterly Business Meeting
Sunday, May 20, after the service.

We will vote on the new budget and on new at-large Administrative Council members. We will also affirm new church team members and announce Pastoral Council nominations.

Special Called Meeting
Sunday, June 17
We will vote on new Pastoral Council members



Joy Club Picnic at Pearson Springs Pavilion Monday, May 7, 2018

The Joy Club will have a potluck picnic on Monday, May 7, at the Pearson Springs' Park pavilion. Arrive at 11am, and we will eat at 11:30am. Please bring a covered dish to share. Plastic tableware and drinks will be provided. Please feel free to also bring any games that you would like to play and your own lawn chairs.



new hope
Blount County Children's Advocacy Center

Stewards of Children Training

Rhonda Stinnett will lead a *Stewards of Children* training in the Learning Center on Tuesday, May 8, from 6 to 8pm.

This prevention training program teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. It is designed for organizations that serve youth and for individuals concerned about the safety of children. This training is free of charge and open to the public.



Our Church on Mission

God is doing amazing things through *Connect with a Child* in Kenya thanks to your generosity. Below is a photo of the new High School Science Lab funded through your donations to this ministry.



CHURCH GROWTH 2018

Attendance Information:

	<u>Bible Study</u>	<u>Worship</u>
March 4	270	369
March 11	162	215
March 18	239	309
March 25	269	346
April 1	282	532
April 8	250	314
April 15	219	366
April 22	248	302

Offering Information:

March 4	\$31,221.00
March 11	\$6,769.00
March 18	\$12,323.00
March 25	\$6,738.50
April 1	\$28,504.75
April 8	\$22,167.00
April 15	\$11,845.00
April 22	\$12,376.50
Offering needs each week	\$18,109.00
Need to Date	\$778,687.00
Received to Date	\$790,824.97

Building Fund

Received	\$5,775.00
Received to Date	\$21,521.50
Balance - Building Fund Total	\$90,782.79

Missions

Received	\$3,935.50
Year to Date	\$16,408.83



UPCOMING EVENTS



Note: All dates are subject to change.

MAY

- 6: Graduate Recognition Sunday
- 7: Joy Club Picnic at Pearson Springs
- 8: LifeLine Screening; Stewards of Children Training
- 10: Maryville City Baccalaureate
- 12: Hosting Maryville Christian Graduation
- 13: Mother's Day
- 16: Roundtable Discussion
- 20: Business Meeting
- 22: Staff Planning Day
- 28: Memorial Day - Office and Gym Closed

JUNE

- 3-7: VBS
- 11-15: Centrikid Camp
- 17: Father's Day; Special-Called Business Mtg.
- 17-24: Family Promise
- 22-29: Youth Mission Trip

CONTACT INFORMATION

202 West Lamar Alexander Parkway
Maryville, TN 37801
Website: fbcmaryville.org
Office Phone: 982-5531 -- Fax: 982-5533
Gym Phone: 982-4898 -- Daycare: 984-0667
Weekend Emergency Phone: 865-982-5531

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

8am to 4:30pm, Monday - Thursday
8am to 3pm - Friday
Closed from 9 to 11am on Tuesdays for staff meeting.

FLC GYM HOURS

6am to 9pm - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
6am to 3pm - Wednesday and Friday

Contact the gym for more information about group fitness classes and orientation.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are a month away from one of our church's biggest outreach opportunities - Vacation Bible School. Besides praying for this ministry, below are a couple other ways you can help.

Register your child(ren) prior to VBS. Online registration has begun! You can access this through our website, fbcmaryville.org. This will enable you to skip the lines and make the first night of VBS less hectic for everyone.

We still need volunteers! There is a place for everyone! If you would like to make a difference in a child's life by serving in this ministry, please call, text, or email Children's Pastor Nick Poole. You may also call the church office for assistance in getting in touch with Nick.

Thanks for investing in the lives of our kids!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY:

- Bible Study Groups - 9:15am
- Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30am, Sanctuary
- Kids' Worship - 10:30am, Kids' Park

WEDNESDAY

- Adult Studies - 6:00pm
- Choir Rehearsal - 6:00pm, Choir Room
- *Collision* Youth Worship - 6:00pm, Youth Room
- *Recharge* - 6:00pm. K-6 Grade in the Gym
- Childcare is available at 6pm in room CH101

For more information about available Bible Study Groups and Growth Groups, go to our website at fbcmaryville.org.