

UNITY IN THE SPIRIT

IT'S WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS



FIRST BAPTIST KNOXVILLE - FIRST COMMUNITY

First Community | July 4, 2021

Countdown

Great Are You Lord

David Leonard | Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan

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You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord

Welcome | Tim Boone

Prayer for Church Leadership

The Church

Chris Brown | Mack Brock

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We are the change
The world is waiting for
We've got a love
The world is desperate for
We will lead
And take to Your streets

*Now's the time for us to rise
And carry hope and let love shine
And show this world that mercy is alive
Now's the time for us to rise
And carry hope to hopeless eyes
And show this world that mercy is alive*

We're not afraid
We will abandon all
To hear Your name
On lips across the world
We will run
In the wake of Your love

Fill our hearts with Your compassion
Let our love be active here
Fill our hearts with Your compassion
Let our love be real
Be real

Scripture Reading (John 17:20-23) | Chuck Powell

²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

First Love

Austin Davis | Elyssa Smith | Kari Jobe | Steffany Gretzinger

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I'm returning to the secret place
Just an altar and a flame
Love is found here
In our sacred space
I hear Your voice I see Your face

*You're still my first love
You're still my only one
You're still my first love
You're still my only one*

There's a table just for You and me
Break the bread and pour the wine
Perfect union
Nothing in between
I am Yours and You are mine

I feel my heart beating out of my chest
I wanna stay forever like this
May the flame of my heart always be lit
I wanna burn forever like this

Your love is wild
Your love is wild for me

Pastoral Prayer | Pam Neal

Sermon | Brent McDougal

Unity in the Spirit: It's What the World Needs | John 17:20-23

Ordinance of the Lord's Supper

Living Hope

Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham

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How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

*Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
 Your buried body began to breathe
 Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
 Declared the grave has no claim on me
 (REPEAT)
 Jesus Yours is the victory whoa
 Jesus Christ my living hope
 Oh God You are my living hope

Worship Through Offering | Brent McDougal

Spoken Benediction

Please drop your offering in the Offering Boxes by the doors.

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**Today is the first Sunday of the month. We will receive our Community Care/
 Benevolence Offering, which allows us to meet critical needs in our community.**

Please drop your offering in the Offering Boxes next to the doors.

	May '21	Fiscal YTD	Last Week's Attendance
Revenue (all sources)	\$146,508	\$1,714,173	
Expenses	<u>\$135,160</u>	<u>\$1,482,948</u>	Worship Total 301
Excess/Deficit	\$11,348	\$231,226	(does not reflect at-home viewers)

SPOTLIGHTON

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Together, we lead others in praise and glory to God, blend our individual talents into one unified voice, are dedicated to pursuing excellence at all times and deepen our relationship with Jesus.

- Mission Statement of the First Baptist Knoxville Sanctuary Choir -

We are thrilled that after 15 months, the Sanctuary Choir is back! This volunteer choir of committed singers seeks to honor God and serve our church through the gift of song. As a part of the Music Ministry of First Baptist Knoxville, the choir views themselves as servant leaders of the church and as a place where they can disciple, love, encourage, and challenge one another to be all that Christ has called them to be.

Each week the choir strives to grow in their abilities as musicians and spiritually as Christians. They seek to encourage congregants to sing by modeling good singing and to worship by being lead worshippers. The choir is committed to bringing their very best attitude, voice, and heart to God each week. The talents and abilities they embody are gifts from God, used for His glory and the affirmation and edification of the church.

The weekly prayer of the choir is to be a voice of God's Holy Spirit speaking and singing to one another and to our church.

Servant Leadership

Each individual in the choir is a servant leader. Jesus was the perfect model of a servant leader, and we look to Him as our example and guide. Singing is an intimate artistic expression. There are no instruments or other mediums we use to create our art – it is inherently personal. Choral singing requires humility as we intentionally blend our voices with the individual voices around us. We voluntarily give up our autonomy for the sake of something far more powerful than a single voice. There are few other places in our world where we are willing to give up our individuality in this way, making this a great spiritual practice.

Worship is vertical and horizontal. Sometimes we sing as the voice of the people to God. At other times we sing as the voice of God to the people. And still, at other times, we sing words of challenge, instruction, or encouragement to one another. One of the greatest roles we have the honor and privilege of playing is that of a comforter. We sometimes get to sing the Words of Truth over and on behalf of those who cannot bring themselves to utter the words they so desperately need to hear. It is through these holy moments that the choir are ministers of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Thank you, Choir, for being Jesus to our church family, our television congregation, and our community.

SERMONNOTES

"UNITY: IT'S WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS"

JOHN 17:20-23

Some people wonder, "Can we really have unity when we have so many different opinions?" It is true that we have different perspectives on all kinds of issues. We can't settle for a kind of false unity, saying that we are unified, while underneath the surface, there are cracks that could cause the whole building to collapse.

But could it be that the key to unity is found not in overcoming or setting aside differences but in revering Jesus' words and starting to pray as He prayed?

Here are a few phrases from Jesus' prayer in John 17. Let them soak in. Ask yourself, "Do I really believe that what Jesus prays is possible?"

"All of them may be one..."

*"May they be one father **just as you are in me and I am in you...**"*

*"**I have given them the glory** that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one."*

*"...that they may be brought to **complete unity...**"*

*"**Then the world will know** that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."*

We're supposed to believe that all believers have been given God's glory to become perfectly one, just like the Father and Son. The world will know who Jesus is when they observe our perfect union. They'll know they are loved by their Heavenly Father. This is God's plan to bring unity to the world. Therefore, unity should be our promised land! The stakes are high because this is about the world knowing Jesus.

Pray that God's _____ would rest on His people as we work together with one mind and heart.

SERMONNOTES

“For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ.” (2 Corinthians 4:6, NIV)

Pray that people outside the church would see our unity and recognize it as the _____ of God.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.” (John 3:16-17, NIV)

Pray that God would use First Baptist and other churches to bring _____ to our city and world.

“With all wisdom and understanding, He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment — to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth and under the earth.” (Ephesians 1:8b-10, NIV)

How is God speaking to you? What do you need to do in response?

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray for Bridge Church

Each week we pray for one church in our city. Today we lift up a church in the South Knoxville community. Please pray for the strength and encouragement of Bridge Church in their mission to be a ministry of reconciliation that seeks to call lost and broken people into relationship with God and one another and experience newness of life in Christ Jesus.



COMMUNITY

VBS: Volunteers Needed

July 12-16 | 9 am - 12:15 pm | 3 years-5th grade completed

We currently have over 130 kids pre-registered for our VBS! With this number, we need many more volunteers. We still have classes with no teachers and other groups are stretched very thin with adult leaders. We urgently ask you to pray about stepping up last minute. The majority of these children are coming from other churches or do not have a home church. We must be faithful to these families that God has sent our way and be ready to share God's love with their children! Please email Susan ASAP at statum@fbcknox.org to get involved!



DISCIPLESHIP

Additionally, our VBS set build begins this Tuesday. If you enjoy a good project, good fellowship, and can help on any of the following dates, please email Richard at rbuerkle@fbcknox.org.

Tuesday, July 6: 1 pm - 7 pm

Wednesday, July 7: 1 pm - 5 pm

Thursday, July 8: 1 pm - 6 pm

Fishing Photos

Worship Arts Camp: July 26 - July 30, 9 am-Noon | 1st - 5th grade completed

Calling all Fisherwomen and Fishermen - This is a church-wide invitation for you to share your "big catch" photos with us! We want to include your finest fishing photographs as part of our Worship Arts Camp "Fish Tales" program. Please email your photos to tboone@fbcknox.org no later than Sunday, July 25. Everyone is welcome to share!



WORSHIP

Also, mark your calendars and join us for the church-wide presentation of the musical "Fish Tales" during our Friday Night Fish Fry on June 30, at 6 pm. Let's show our support to our kids at Worship Arts Camp!

Wednesday Activities Return & Bible Study Break

We are thrilled to announce that our regular Wednesday activities are relaunching in August! Mark your calendars and plan to join us on August 18th as Wednesday Night dinner, Bible study, and children's missions and choirs resume once again! In preparation for this comeback, we will not hold Wednesday Night Bible study throughout July and the first two weeks of August. We are so excited and looking forward to Wednesday evening fellowship with you!



COMMUNITY

Every Bed Every Day: Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who provided cards for the KARM Every Bed Every Day program. We received 317 prayer cards over the month of June! These cards will be a source of encouragement for so many who are struggling and without hope.



MISSION

We Need Your Help

To be the welcoming church for those who come to First Baptist, we need some additional places to greet and welcome visitors. Please let Pam know at pneal@fbcknox.org if you would be a part of this new **Connection Team**. We are looking for **Parking Lot Greeters, Lobby Greeters, Information Desk Workers, and Escorts** for taking visitors to worship or Sunday School. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and serve our church. For more information, please contact Pam.



COMMUNITY

Mask Policy Update on the Children and Preschool Floors

We appreciate your patience and compliance as we have continued to require masks for adults and children in these two areas. With VBS and Worship Arts Camp coming up, we have re-examined our policy and made the following changes:

- Beginning Sunday, July 11, masks will no longer be required on these two floors. They are optional for anyone still desiring to wear one. Our teachers have been vaccinated but will make that choice for themselves.
- Masks will be optional for both VBS and Worship Arts Camp but not required.



COMMUNITY

This decision comes with great prayer and discussion. With most of the children returning to school less than a month after these two events with no mask requirements, we believe the time is right to adjust our policy.

Contacts

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Minister Emeritus

Coming Up This Week

Monday, All Day

Office Closed for the 4th of July

Tuesday - Thursday, 1 pm, Trentham Hall

VBS Set Build

Wednesday - Friday, Various Locations

Youth Missions

Wednesday, 7 pm, Sanctuary

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, 6 pm, In-Person/Virtual

Committees & Councils Meeting Night

Thursday, 7:30 pm, In-Person/Virtual

Church Council

VISITING?

Let us know you're here!



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First Baptist Knoxville

Main Number | 865-546-9661

To reach the Minister On Call, please call the main church number and when prompted for an extension, choose option 9.



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