

Good News



May 3-9, 2020

A Word from Pastor Eric

This week, Diane Adams shared this quote with me from *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren.

In overlooked moments and routines, we can become aware of God's presence in surprising ways. How do we embrace the sacred in the ordinary and the ordinary in the sacred?

I am aware we are moving towards new patterns of ordinary in a world that remains unfamiliar. Venturing out to the grocery store is one of the most ordinary of tasks. We have our grocery list, we walk down a familiar aisle, we purchase our goods and we finally walk the bags to place in our car. Ordinary. Familiar.

Yet, now each trip to the grocery store contains new changes in a world I never expected. A few weeks ago, few people wore masks, now its more uncommon to see someone without one. One week I walked into the store and there were directional arrows on each aisle to keep shoppers from passing each other. The next week, a screen shielded me from the cashier. The ordinary today is simply more change not less.

Which brings me back to the quote above. When change is the expected experience, it gives us more opportunity to be surprised by God's presence. We can embrace the sacred around us because we are able to see it more clearly. The longer we walk this journey into the unknown ramifications of pandemic, the more accustomed we are to the beauty of new things.

This week let me invite us to embrace the sacred in the ordinary parts of our lives. Look around each day and ask the Lord, "where will you surprise me today?" I have not doubt you will be.

And ... if you are feeling lonely, frustrated, stressed out, tired, done with all of this, remember ... you are not alone. Take time to connect to your CARE ring. And when needed, reach out to me. We can Facetime, talk on the phone or even have a prayer over Zoom. Together, we WILL make it through these days.

You are loved.



Pastor Eric



This Week in Living Room Worship

This Sunday, May 3, we will celebrate **Doing Life Together ... Apart** by focusing on our church as God's People. Pastor Eric will introduce a new term for us to consider: Sacred Partners.

Also in worship, we will hear a prayer from Russell Clifton and a piano solo by Eve Lipoff.

Here is this week's Order of Worship:

<https://fbcgainesville.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/OOW-5.3.2020.pdf>

Remember to find our Living Room Worship ONLINE:

FBC Worship can be found on Sundays at 8:00 am in the following places:

- Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_Ogqg5UQl4OkGjR7_HDVEw?view_as=subscriber
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Church-of-Gainesville-FL-224911824189421/>
- Website: <https://fbcgainesville.net/sermons-2/>
- Email: sign up to receive the link here: www.fbcgainesville.net/newsletter-sign-up
- Roku TV: If you own a smart TV or use ROKU for streaming, you will find a Youtube app on these devices. Simply search for our FBC Gainesville FL page and find the videos you want to watch.

Bible Study/Small Group Opportunities

- Sunday morning Video Bible studies are released each Sunday morning at 8:00 am. This week Tim Swain will be teaching!
- Join our Men's Bible Study each Monday night at 5:30 via zoom. Contact Eddie Baker for a zoom request: bestdaysstartwithu@gmail.com.
- Join our Women's Bible Study each Thursday morning at 9:30 via Zoom. Contact Betty Ann Franks (franksba@bellsouth.net)
- Several Bible Study Groups are meeting via Zoom each week. Contact Pastor Lynn to see if your class is meeting online.
- Prayer and Bible Study with Pastor Eric: Wednesdays @ 7:00 via Zoom and YouTube LIVE. **YOUTUBE LIVE IS NEW. PLEASE JOIN US ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND NOT FACEBOOK.**

Zoom Meeting Details

Zoom allows you to meet face to face online with Pastor Eric as we pray together and as he teaches. To Join Zoom Meeting:

Click Here: <https://zoom.us/j/871161219?pwd=RWM4QIFUd2xFdVpGc2szelU0cHNCUT09>

Meeting ID: 871 161 219

Password: fbcgzoom

Youth and Families

Hello Youth and Families,

Hope everyone is staying safe! Due to the Corona virus the church's online presence is rising and evolving! We now have an updated Facebook page specifically for youth and youth parents! The name of the page is First Baptist Youth Group. I have added the link to the page down below to make it easier to find and like the page. We already post our weekly lessons there. We will be adding sneak peaks to our lessons and daily devotionals. Hope to see you all online! If you need anything, be sure to reach out to me at (352) 281-8091.

With Love,

Olivia King
Youth Ministry Coordinator

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Baptist-Youth-Group-205766456132136/>

Operations Updates

And the People Gave

Thank you for everyone who generously gave to FBC this week when no literal offering plate was passed.

April 2020

Tithes & Offerings: \$40,335.92

Year to Date: \$156,832.92

Budget Spent to Date: \$157,524.72

The Nehemiah Plan

Wall Repair & Repaint

Goal: \$200,000.00

Given: \$123,121.00

And the People Engaged

Over the coming weeks and months as we begin to worship both online and in person, we will be evaluating various ways to measure the engagement of our church in God's Mission in the world. Online analytics and actual attendance will be limited in telling us how we are growing in our love for God and love of neighbor. Below are some analytics to describe how people engaged our online ministry this week.

Unique Viewers of the Worship Service: 110

(Some churches are using 2.14 people/unique view to gage their online audience. This would mean we had 234 people in worship on Sunday)

Hours Watched: 44 Hours

Average time watched: 17 Minutes

Facebook Analytics

Unique Viewers of the worship Service:

340 People

Estimate Reach: 607

Beautiful Feet Serving Gainesville

Thank you for your response to the need for donations to support our local missions partners during this time of social distancing. As we move forward, we need your help in a different way. How can we continue to be Beautiful Feet in other ways from the comfort of our homes? Maybe you have been working on a project and want to share it with others. Let's get creative! Send your ideas and suggestions to brenda.cohen@fbcgainesville.net or call Brenda at 352-538-2884.

Deacons of the Week

April 26 – May 2

Liz Piazza: 352-665-2275

Ben Mather: 352-256-8540

May 3 – May 9

Sandra Sharron: 352-665-3249

Josie Brooker: 352-316-3718

Birthdays

May 3 – May 9

- 3 Libertad DelValle
- 5 Mike Smith
Annette Granville
- 6 Joyce Kai
- 8 Lynn Williams
- 9 Paul Bowers
Evan Nipper

April 2020 Memorial Donations

Glenna Bennett

William & Aura Wilson

Herbert Brownlee

Skeet & Stephanie Baldwin
Don & Susan Balloon
Paul & Sharon Bowers
Bob & Pat Lape
Mary Salvamoser
Sandra Sharron

Giving to First Baptist



- Send your offering via **US Mail** to the church office. Lots of folks use this one! Our mailing address is: 14105 NW 39th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32606



- **Automatic Draft** from your bank (usually free service.)

Online Giving



- Give through our **website** www.fbcgainesville.net You can set up a regular donation charged to your bank account, credit or debit card.

- **Text to Give.** Use your smartphone to give your offering.

Here's how:



Text... **FBCGAINESVILLE** **\$(amount you want to tithe)**... to **73256** to give to Vanco Tithes & Offerings using your text messaging (*Tithes \$25 – suggested location and amount*). *Standard text message rates do apply.* First time, you'll get a registration link · After that, it's automatic!

Questions? Call Elizabeth at 376-4681

Connecting to FBC

During these weeks when we do not see each other physically, we are working even harder to stay connected. Here are the steps to stay connected to FBC.

Sign up for our Email Newsletter

Each Sunday morning at 11:00, we will send out the link to our video Worship Service.

Sign Up Here: <https://fbcgainesville.net/newsletter-sign-up/>

Sign up for QuikKast.

We use QuikKast to send quick, short announcements to the whole church and to smaller groups within the church via email, text or phone call. To sign up, please call the church office at 352. 376.4681 or email Elizabeth.byrd@fbcgainesville.net.

Sign up for Facebook

Facebook will be our streaming service. Pastor Eric will use it on Wednesdays for our prayer and Bible Study. Facebook Live allows us to interact with you in real time. If you are not connected to Facebook, this will be a good time to sign up. To get messages from the church, please search for First Baptist Church Gainesville. Hit the "Like" button and you will get notices when we go live.

FBC Website

Each week, we will use this page to inform our church members of opportunities, changes, and events in which we can participate. Make this page a weekly go to spot online. www.fbcgainesville.net

YouTube Subscription

Each week's bible study and worship will be release on Youtube. Subscribe to the First Baptist Church Gainesville channel to se all of these

videos. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_Ogqg5UQI4OkCjR7_HDVEw?view_as=subscriber