# CELEBRATING **O**YEARS DR. JAMES WALKER

If you would like to participate in giving to James, contact Kristi Seeley (719-1501 or seeley007@hotmail.com).



## **OUR FINANCIAL REPORT**

Receipts May 10 Weekly Budget Goal Year-To-Date Receipts Budget Requirements To Date	\$ 22,182.65
Building Fund Receipts May 10 Building Fund Receipts 2014-20	

Nichols Youth Fund Loan\$ 10,735.90
Hollingsworth Music Library Fund Loan\$ 28,165.22
Robertson Transportation Fund Loan\$ 69,633.43
Gray Fund Loan <u>\$136,828.96</u>
Total Internal Loan Balance\$ 245,363.51

### SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Enrollment	887
Members present	
Visitors	
Visitors Total	



O

(Returned Service Request)



WWW.UNDERTHESTEEPLE.COM

THURSDAY NIGHT REBROADCAST

May 21 - Milton Bradley

Lindsey Strongosky (4) THANK YOU to our leaders: Mary Kathryn Kittrell, Meg Howarth, and Wendy Fuller

\*Scholarship recipient / Numbers are years of participation.



Cleveland, Mississippi 38732 101 North Bolivar Avenue FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Cleveland MS Permit #85 **PAID** ostage US

# **Under The Steeple**

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 10, Issue 17 May 18, 2020

First Baptist Church 101 North Bolivar Avenue Cleveland, Mississippi 38732

Phone: (662) 843-2701 FAX: (662) 846-7392 Website: www.underthesteeple.com

### Dear Church Family,

One of the things that you have probably started to hear lately is the news that other churches in our area and across our state are beginning to reopen their doors for corporate worship. Therefore, as a church we want to pray for these churches, their leaders and members, that God would grant them protection and much joy as they gather together to worship our Savior.

Because of this, I know that many of you perhaps are wondering about "when" we too will reopen. And to be honest and completely transparent, I don't have a definite answer to that question. What I do know is that our leadership here at the church (pastors, ministerial staff, and deacons) are committed to seeking wise counsel, serving you well, and working together. We have had much discussion about possible dates, as well as "how" we can reopen safely when we choose to do so. Of course, we will continue to pray and do our best to stay in step with the Holy Spirit over this important decision and will communicate any changes to our schedule through our mailout, website, and Facebook.

This week I came across a verse that the Lord used to speak to my heart and I want to share it with you. In **Romans 12:12** the Apostle Paul writes:

### "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

In context here Paul is speaking of our love for one another. Therefore, we should read this command as attitudes that we are to have in ministry to one another. In light of that, Paul first calls us to be "*joyful in hope*." So church, may we continue to encourage one another to be hopeful in this difficult season. To trust that God has a plan and purpose. That what the enemy means for evil, God means for our good (Gen. 50:20). He then calls us to be "*patient in affliction*." May we all resist the temptation to ask "HOW can I get out of this?" but instead ask "WHAT can I get out of this?" Yes, we pray this will all be over with soon. But rather than always praying for deliverance, may we learn to pray for endurance and patience as God has his way in us. And then lastly, we are to be "*faithful in prayer*." Church, let's be diligent in praying for one another. Please know that there are people all around us who are confused, angry, upset, devastated, scared, frustrated, and spiritually lost. And so may we not grow weary in praying for all, especially for those who need to hear the gospel or simply be reminded of the gospel today.

Well, there's your sermon for the day. I love you, church, and miss seeing you! As always, if we here at the church can serve you please let us know. God bless!

"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you." Isaiah 26:3.



In Christ. Brad Beckinth

Brad Beckwith (Lead Pastor)

