



1 VIRGINIA STREET
BRISTOL, VIRGINIA 24201

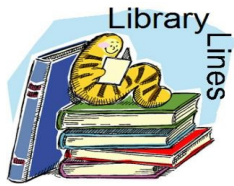
THE FIRST WORD

March 2020

First Baptist Family,

With Ash Wednesday behind us, we have officially started our Lenten journey together. As you know, Lent is a period of forty days, excluding Sundays, that calls us to self-examination, repentance, self-denial, and prayer. It is a time in which we are encouraged to be more intentional about our relationship with Christ. There are two particular events this month that I think will help in that regard. On Thursday, March 12, the church is helping to sponsor a Community Poverty Simulation along with the United Way, the YWCA, Bristol's Promise, and Family Promise of Bristol. Initially, the simulation was going to be held in our Fellowship Hall, but there were fears that it would not be large enough given the number of participants who have already signed up. Therefore, it has been moved across the street to the gym at the YWCA. It will be from 1-4 p.m., and church members are invited to attend. I will be there, and I hope you will join me. It will be a powerful and thought-provoking experience. The second moving event I would like to bring to your attention is the King Lecture we are hosting on Monday, March 23 at 7 p.m. Every year, King University schedules a Holocaust survivor to speak during the lecture series, and this year the Holocaust Survivor lecture will be at First Baptist Bristol. The lecturer's name is Peter Gorog. This is the most well-attended lecture they have every year, so I would recommend getting to the church a little early if you plan to attend. While Lent is a time of preparation and repentance, the Sundays during Lent are a time of celebration, and we will have no shortage of that this month, either. We will have our monthly Family Breakfast at 9 a.m. on Sunday, March 1. Come join us for a good, filling breakfast and check out a Sunday School class if you are not already plugged into one. Then on Sunday, March 29, we are having a family fun night. We will be going to the local roller-skating rink from 5-7 p.m. Even if you don't skate, do not let that deter you from coming. There are plenty of seating options, which is where you'll find me! All in all, March is shaping up to be a great month in the life of the church. There are opportunities for fellowship and celebration, and we have more somber activities that fit perfectly within the season of Lent. I hope you will take advantage of some of these opportunities to become more rooted in the life of the church. I think you'll be glad that you did.

Grace and Peace,
Kris



The Flyaway Kite by Steve Bjorkman is the perfect children's book for March.

A little boy had a kite that he loved. The pair enjoyed many adventures together. However, one day the kite made a terrible decision that changed everything. Could it survive in the world by itself? In the story, the author paints a clear picture of redemption, capturing the essence of God's redeeming grace. There is a lesson here for adults as well as for children.

FIRST MONDAY

For our March First Monday trip on March 9, we will visit Freiberg's German restaurant in downtown Johnson City. We will also enjoy a little shopping. All of Freiberg's authentic German dishes are made from scratch. Some of the dishes take hours to prepare and cook. If they sell out of a particular dish, rest assured they have a vast selection of menu options that are



Bring a Friend to our 1st Sunday Breakfast Sunday, March 1

First Baptist Bristol offers breakfast every first Sunday of the month. This is a great opportunity to introduce others to First Baptist Bristol. Complimentary breakfasts begin at 9:00 a.m. in Rosser Hall. Hosted by the Membership Team with assistance from Chef Harry. Be sure not to miss it!

sure to become anyone's favorite! If you would like to attend this event, please contact the church office by email at info@fcbbristol.org or call 276-669-8191, or sign up on the website at www.fcbbristol.org. The bus will leave at 10:30 a.m. We hope you can join us for an enjoyable time!

Art Wall Display

Thanks to everyone who has displayed art on the Art Wall located between the breezeway entrance and the CLC area. There is still available space for more art. Contact Rose Sorrell at 423-646-3114 to have your art displayed.

Churchwide Fellowship Event

Churchwide Roller Skate on March 29 at 5-7 p.m.
Come out and join us for the First Baptist Bristol Roller Skate at 210 Skateway Drive, Bristol, TN 37620. Concession is available.

Join us for the **Community Poverty Simulation** on Thursday, March 12 at 1-4 p.m. at the YWCA, 106 State Street, located across the street from First Baptist Bristol. Designed to help participants understand what it's like to live as a low-income family or individual trying to survive from week to week. This event is sponsored by First Baptist Bristol, YWCA, NETN, & SWVA. Hope to see you there!

The King University Lecture is scheduled for Monday, March 23 at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary. This year's lecture will feature guest speaker, Peter Gorog who is a holocaust survivor. This is one of the most well-attended lectures they have every year. Please be sure to arrive a little early to get a seat if you plan to attend.



Notes from Leigh...

There is no such thing as something BIG.

I heard a discussion recently about the subject of "big" things. The speaker said that there are no big things because everything is made of a lot of "small" things. Let's think about that for a moment.

How often do we hesitate to attempt something because it seems "too big"? How many times have we decided to not even try? How could our thinking change if we considered the small steps we could take instead of only thinking of the end product.

For instance, with financial debt – we can't pay it all off at once. But, we can set a budget and pay one debt off at a time. In health improvement – we can't lose all the weight we need to lose or just begin running a 5k; we must train in small steps. Also, in our spiritual life – having a

meaningful relationship with God requires small steps of prayer, scripture reading, and discipleship. These small steps lead us into a deeper relationship with God and with our church community.

I want to encourage you during this Lenten Season to take some small steps – in your spiritual life and in any other areas that you feel God is calling you to something "big". God is faithful and He wants to use all of us for His Kingdom. He will equip us; we just have to take one small step at a time!

Blessings, Leigh

2020 FBC Lent Schedule

1st Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 1	"The Not-So Secret Garden" Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
2nd Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 8	"From Darkness to Light" John 3:1-17
3rd Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 15	"Journeying Through the Wilderness of Sin" Exodus 17:1-7
4th Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 22	"The Judging of Books & Covers" Samuel 16:1-13
5th Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 29	"A Life Rattle" Ezekiel 37:1-14
Palm Sunday Sunday, April 5	"When the Lord Needs It" Matthew 21:1-11
Maundy Thursday Thursday, April 9	Drop-In Communion Service 6-7 p.m.
Good Friday Friday, April 10	Tenebrae Service 6 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 12	Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. Worship Service at 11 a.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Youth and Church-wide Yard Sale Fundraiser on March 6-7 at 8 a.m. Please contact Ben at 423-217-8934 for pick up or delivery of items. Funds raised will go directly to off-set the cost of Youth Mission Trip & Youth Camp.

Easter Egg Hunt on April 11. We will have an Easter egg hunt party for First Baptist Bristol kids and the community from 2-4 p.m.

Graduate Recognition Sunday on May 10.

Vacation Bible School on June 7-10 for First Baptist Bristol kids and community.

Youth/Adult Mission Trip to Mission, TX on June 13-20.

We will be helping a family in Mission, Texas to get into a home and sponsoring a 4-day VBS at a local church. Required registration, \$50, medical release form, and 9-hr fundraiser work and train hours towards cost of trip.

First Baptist Bristol Picnic on June 28.

Terrific Tuesdays on June 30 and July 14.

Youth Summer Camp - "Uni-diversity 2020" July 20-25 at the Maryville College in Knoxville. Registration fee of \$50 and another \$125 balance (due by June 25) as long as they participate in eight hours of church service to members of the community. Set up your service times through Ben at 423-217-8934 any time between now and camp trip. If anyone needs to help with the registration or balance payment, this can be worked out. Just let Ben know! If a student chooses to not work eight hours of church service to offset their cost of camp, they will be responsible for paying the \$365 cost of camp to Uni-diversity. (*FBC never wants a youth to be restricted from participation because of financial commitments.*) **To Register by website or phone:** Registration is open now until March 15 with a \$50 deposit. After March 15 The cost of registration goes up \$35 to include a late fee.



If you would like to place an Easter Hydrangea in the sanctuary during the Easter season, please fill in the information below and return it to the church office. Cost: \$15 per hydrangea. Final date to purchase your hydrangea is Friday, April 3.

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

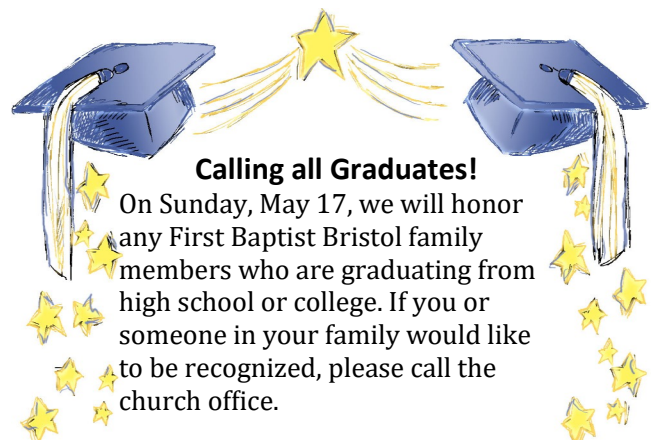


On Thursday, April 9, you are invited to come into our sanctuary any time between 6-7 p.m., to receive silent communion. Many people come and sit for a few moments in silence before coming to the table to receive the bread and cup.

Flowering of the Cross . . .



Please join us for our annual Flowering of the Cross on Easter Sunday, April 12. The cross will be located on the front steps of the church. Please bring some of your favorite spring flowers from your garden to decorate the cross which symbolizes Jesus' resurrection. Pictures will be taken during the Sunday School hour. If you forget your flowers, the church will have some available for your family.



Calling all Graduates!

On Sunday, May 17, we will honor any First Baptist Bristol family members who are graduating from high school or college. If you or someone in your family would like to be recognized, please call the church office.

Our Staff

Rev. Kris Aaron
Rev. Ben Ondrak
Mrs. Jackie Burnette
Rev. Leigh Clark

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Pianist
Minister of Music

Mr. Dennis Thomas
Mrs. Marcine Robinette
Ms. Terri Thomas
Ms. LaVerne Brown

Sexton
Parish Nurse
Church Administrator
and Financial Secretary
Administrative Assistant



Church Phone : 276.669.8191

Fax: 276.669.5082

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

E-mail: info@fbcbristol.org

Website: www.fbcbristol.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1 Virginia Street
P.O. Box 116
Bristol, VA 24203



Daylight Savings Time begins March 8.
Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour.

FBC Minister On-Call Schedule

Feb. 29 - Mar. 1	Terri Thomas, 423-963-7576
Mar. 7-8	Kris Aaron, 803-225-0795
Mar. 14 -15	Ben Ondrak, 423-217-8934
Mar. 21 - 22	Kris Aaron, 803-225-0795
Mar. 28 - 29	Kris Aaron, 803-225-0795

Usher for the Month of March

Head Usher: Richard Bowman, 276-791-7094

Deacon of the Week for March

March 1 - Gene Eller
March 8 - Steve Talbert
March 15 - Tom Makres
March 22 - Nelson Gwaltney
March 29 - Harry Scanlan