

# The Messenger

Weekly Publication of First Baptist Church, Clanton, Alabama (205) 755-3840  
"Leading others to know Jesus Christ"

Rev. Matthew DeBord, Pastor

April 12, 2018

## Treasuring His Word...

### From the Pastor's Heart:

"As for the saints who are in the earth, they are the majestic ones in whom is all my delight" (Psalm 16:3).

Please remember Blu and Darbi Tidwell as they make the transition of their family's life back to the United States. What a marvelous example of devotion to Christ we have in them and the work they have done with the New Day Orphanage in Zambia. Please listen to their own words that follow:

To all those who love and support and pray for New Day, Darbi and I want to let you know that after many, many months of praying and seeking God's will, we feel it is time for us to move back to the States and follow God's calling to minister among our own people. We will be leaving New Day in August of this year. I know there will be lots of questions, so here are three things we want everyone to know about our move.

1) We are extremely thankful to God for the time He has allowed us serve in Zambia. We have fallen in love with the people and especially the children of New Day. Since college graduation, we have spent 11 of our 15 years in Africa. Our children have grown up here. We have seen God do amazing things and wouldn't change it for anything.

2) The goal of raising Zambian children to know Christ and make Him known to other Zambians has not changed. Having seen the effect this ministry has had on our children has left us more convinced than ever that this is a worthwhile goal that honors God and will expand His kingdom.

3) New Day will continue to operate. Wes and Laurie will still be here and our very capable Zambian staff will have to pick up some extra responsibilities as the ministry moves forward, but we've always believed that New Day is bigger than ourselves. We will still be involved from the States by assisting and helping the orphanage in whatever way we can to make sure it will continue.

I am continually amazed at how many people love and pray for New Day. God is obviously doing something very special here. We would ask that you continue to lift up the ministry here, Wes and Laurie, and the staff. And also our family as well, as our children will have to make a lot of adjustments when they leave their "home" to start again in the States.

Wes and Laurie will be taking a short furlough from April 24 - July 26. They will be visiting a few churches, spending time with family, and praying/interviewing with some possible future New Day team members. Please pray for them as they prepare for furlough, as they get some rest in the USA, and as they pray about the future and how God wants to use them to lead New Day.

## TIDWELL FAMILY ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION



### Deacons of the Week:

Brison Mote  
John Sullivan

### Church Security:

Bill Nelson  
Jack Popwell

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, April 15, 2018

8:15 a.m. - Orchestra Practice  
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. - Morning Worship  
6:00 p.m. - Evening Service  
7:00 p.m. - Youth Snack

### Wednesday, April 18, 2018

4:30 p.m. - Handbells  
5:00 p.m. - Family Supper  
5:30 p.m. - AWANA  
5:45 p.m. - Prayer Meeting  
6:30 p.m. - Choir Practice  
6:30 p.m. - E3 Student Ministries

### Tuesday, April 17, 2018

11:30 a.m. - Keenagers  
6:30 p.m. - Stitch 'N Pray

Peace by Piece will meet every 1st and 3rd Friday @ 9:00 a.m. in the Campbell Bldg.



Keenagers will meet

April 17th @ 11:30 a.m.  
The entrée will be meatloaf.