

The Messenger

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

Rev. Matthew DeBord, Pastor

January 11, 2018

Treasuring His Word...

From the Pastor's Heart:


"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).

In the 1800s, there was a minister who was going two miles into a neighborhood where very few could read, to spend an evening in reading to a company who were assembled to listen. He said, "I was about to return by a narrow path through the woods where paths diverged, and I was provided with a torch of light wood, or "pitch pine." I objected; it was too small, weighing not over half a pound. "It will light you home," answered my host. I said, "The wind may blow it out." He said, "It will light you home." "But if it should rain?" I again objected. "It will light you home," he insisted.


Contrary to my fears, it gave abundant light to my path all the way home, furnishing an apt illustration. I often think of the way in which doubting hearts would be led safely along the "narrow way." If they would take the Bible as their guide, it would be a lamp to their feet, leading to the heavenly home. A man told me one day that he had 2 objections with the Bible. I answered him in the words of my good friend who furnished the torch, "It will light you home." - from the American Messenger - 1881.

We would never venture out into a dark forest in the middle of the night without a flashlight. Then why do we so often burst forth into this world of spiritual darkness without a constant stream of the light of God's word? I mean even when we have lived in our own house for years and years, and the electricity goes out at night, we do not continue to carry on our normal household living in the dark. We use a flashlight to get around all the while longing for the lights to come back on so that we can see everything clearly. Therefore, no matter how long we have walked in this world as a Christian, why would we ever come to the point of deciding that we no longer need the light of Christ to get us through the day?

As the above encourages us to walk closely with the Living Word, our Lord who is the Light of the World, we walk here side by side with many brothers and sisters in Christ. To help us know one another better, we are doing a new Pictorial Directory. This will be a great tool for us as we share ministry together in working for our Lord in His kingdom. Please take the time to help us get all your personal information updated in our church records, and then sign up for your photograph. You can do this on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall before or after the worship service. Or you can contact the church office during the week.



We will be taking pictures for the new church directory on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, Monday, Feb. 5th, Tuesday, Feb. 6th, and possibly Wednesday Feb. 7th if all other dates fill up. Every Sunday morning throughout January someone will be available in the Fellowship Hall before and after Worship Service and during Wednesday night supper to take your updated contact information and to make your reservations for photos. You can also contact Dana in the church office to update your information and make your reservations. We will need volunteers to serve as Host/Hostesses during photo sessions, if you are interested, please contact the church office. Thank you in advance for your participation in updating our Church Directory.



Deacons of the Week:

Ronnie Porter
Joe Mims

Church Security:

Gordon Smelley
Richard Moore

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 14th

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

Wednesday, January 17th

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, December 16th

6:30 p.m. - Stitch 'N Pray



WMU will have a Round Table meeting Thursday, January 11th @ 9:00 a.m. in the CLC.

Please make plans to join us.