

Mountain Echoes

Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Gatlinburg
August 1, 2018



FROM OUR PASTOR

By now church members should have received a letter outlining the process of making a pledge toward the construction of a new building to replace the one we lost in the 2016 fires. Members are being asked to pledge as you are willing and able for a three-year period (August 31, 2021) payable by weekly, monthly, quarterly or one lump sum contributions.

Pledge Forms should be completed and sealed in the envelope enclosed with your letter. Pledge forms and envelopes are also available just inside both front entrances to our current church building. You can apply postage and mail your form or place the envelope in the offering plate during worship. You can also drop off your sealed envelope at our church office during the week. Only our Financial Secretary Terri Soehn will see the forms. Terri will also keep a record of contributions throughout the three-year pledge fulfillment time period. Building Pledge Forms should be submitted between July 22 through August 19.

**BUILDING
FUND
PLEDGE**

Beginning August 20 and continuing through September 1, Building Pledge Committee Members will contact church members who have not yet responded to our pledge drive, reminding them of the effort and its importance. Contact names will be provided by Financial Secretary Terri Soehn in accordance with her list of

those who have or have not already responded to our fundraising plea. Pledge forms will continue to be received. Please note that we are requesting that members submit a pledge form even if you do not pledge an amount at this time. This will shorten the call list for the Building Pledge Committee and ensure that they do not contact members who have already made a decision about a pledge. And remember, the amount of your pledge and resulting payments need to be in addition to your regular tithes and offerings so as to not negatively affect our church budget.

On April 24th, 2015 the TN State Legislators and Governor Bill Haslam signed into law a statement proclaiming the first weekend in August of each year as the Statewide Weekend of Prayer for Tennessee Students. Local churches and others work to coordinate prayer for our schools, students, teachers, staff and administrators during this weekend as school begins each year.

The proclamation reads in part,

Praying for the students in our state is not just a privilege... it's a necessity. Students live in a tough world! Each day, students are subjected to literally thousands of offensive images and words. They also face an enormous amount of peer pressure to become part of what is considered normal by the world's standards. Without prayer, these students will not be able to stand against the insurmountable odds they will face.

For Gatlinburg FBC, this means continuing to do what we have done for many, many years, long before any state proclamations: We will be in prayer for our Sevier County Schools as they resume, this year on Tuesday, August 14. Let us offer encouragement and prayers for those involved in education, not only as school resumes, but throughout the school year. Remember Dr. Jack Parton who is not only our school Superintendent but a Deacon in our church. Remember teachers, staff, and personnel. Remember students at all levels of education as they begin a new year of study. May the 2018-19 school year be a safe and rewarding one for all!

WEEKEND OF PRAYER
OVER STUDENTS

AUGUST 4-5, 2018

Lamy

Special Thanks,

... for the flowers in the sanctuary on July 29 given to glorify God and in celebration of Allen Shirley's birthday July 31st & David Shirley's birthday July 21st.

Stewardship Report (\$10,268.46 needed weekly to meet budget)

July 1, 2018

General Fund	\$7,890.88
Youth Trips	\$2,125.00
Local Missions	\$575.00
Youth Building Rebuild	\$100.00
Mountain Hope	\$20.00

July 8, 2018

General Fund	\$7,744.00
Benevolence	\$200.00
SCFM	\$100.00
Word of Life	\$20.00
Local Missions	\$375.00
SMARM	\$100.00

July 15, 2018

General Fund	\$9,423.49
Tools	\$10.00
Youth Trips	\$370.00
Youth Building Rebuild	\$250.00

Memorial

Martha Whaley	\$250.00
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July 22, 2018

General Fund	\$5,170.00
SCFM	\$40.00
Youth Fund Raising	\$275.00
Youth Trips	\$300.00
SMARM	\$100.00
Youth Building Rebuild	\$310.00