

First Baptist

110 North Main Street
P.O. Box 28
Loretto, TN 38469
Phone: 931-853-7171

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Focus

*Touching Loretto, Lawrence County and
the World with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!*

Church Staff

Bro. Sammy Wallace, Pastor
pastor@fbcloretto.org
Bro. Clayton Wilbanks, Music Minister
clayton@fbcloretto.org
Angie & Kenneth Parker,
Youth/Children
kapyouth@fbcloretto.org
Becky Urban, Secretary
fbcoffice@fbcloretto.org
Visit us at: www.fbcloretto.org

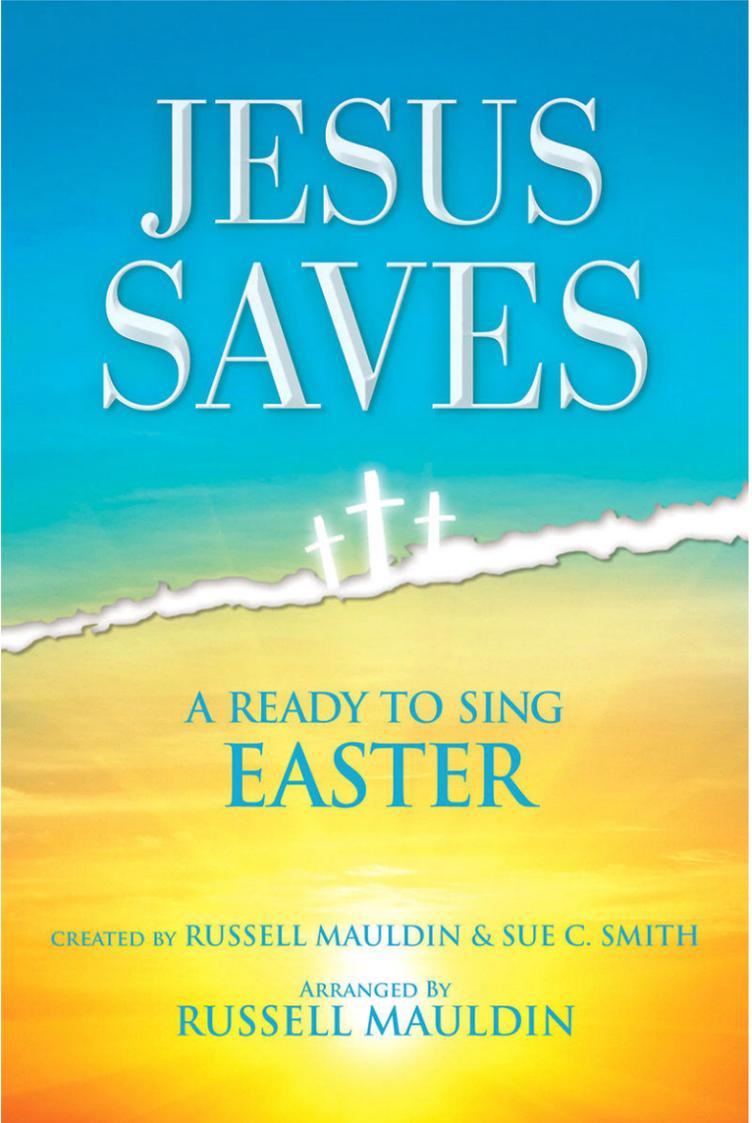
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Loretto, TN 38469
Permit # 28
Non-Profit Organization

First Baptist Loretto

February 27, 2018

FIRST FOCUS

Easter Musical



JESUS
SAVES

March 25

10:30

am

A READY TO SING
EASTER

CREATED BY RUSSELL MAULDIN & SUE C. SMITH

ARRANGED BY
RUSSELL MAULDIN



*Come help celebrate
Lenzie Flemings
90th Birthday
March 3
2-4 pm
FBC fellowship hall*

Easter Egg Hunt!



March 31
12-2 pm
At
Loretto City Park
Ages 2-6th grade
Hotdogs, chip, drinks, prizes



Wow, it is already **March!** Boy, is time flying. There is less than two months left until my retirement begins. I have been

working every free minute I can find, hoping to get our house remodeled prior to April 30. We have removed some rotten floors in the old washroom area, rebuilt the closets adjoining that area, removed and refinished the popcorn ceiling (except for painting), reconfigured the two bathrooms and sewer connections, and replaced the old waterlines that were rusted. Most of what we have left to do includes refinishing the bathrooms, painting the ceilings and walls, reconfiguring the utility room, and gluing new hardwood down in most of the house. Of course, all of that is just so that we can get moved in – more is needed on the outside. Again our new address will be 6555, Ricks Lane, Tuscumbia, AL, 35674.

Just as FBC, Loretto has begun the process of finding a new pastor by establishing a new Pastor Search Committee, I have been talking to some small churches in Alabama about their Bi-vocation Pastorate positions (in my case - preach and retirement rather than preach and secular job). **I pledge to pray for you as you seek a new pastor, and ask that you pray for me as I seek to pastor in a new and different way.** Remember it is my plan to retire from the full-time pastorate, not the pastorate. So don't be surprised if a Pastor Search Committee from one of the small churches shows up some Sunday.

Don't forget that **Daylight Savings time begins on March 11.** You will need to move your clocks forward 1 hr before going to bed on Sat Night.

Bro. Sammy



As a Christian, isn't it great that in the midst of change in our world, we have a constant reminder in God's Word that He never

changes. ***"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*** Hebrews 13:8

There will be many changes in our lives and in our church life. Some good changes and some not so good. We're reminded that, ***"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters."*** Psalms 23:1-2

Knowing that God is our Shepherd, we should have no fear in what lies ahead. We're to trust Him no matter what comes our way and we're to be at peace. Jesus feeds us from His Word and it is nourishment to our souls. He leads us to places of relaxation and comfort. Sheep were important, but they weren't good at taking care of themselves. They needed a shepherd to keep them healthy and safe. Maybe that's why the Bible compares US to sheep so often. Sheep won't lie down unless they feel completely safe and comfortable. Sheep won't drink from running water, they will only drink from still waters. Shepherds used a "rod" to fight off predators and a "staff" to rescue sheep. We are blessed to have Jesus Christ as our Shepherd and to watch over us day and night. He provides all our needs now and in the midst of change. I'm so thankful for His presence in my life!!

Blessings to you!

Bro. Clayton



With so many to-dos, we often get caught up in busyness and forget to look beyond it. What would happen if we decided to look past the list and focus on something greater? Jesus taught us to love. As John explains, "This is how we have come to know love: He laid down His life for us. We should also lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has this world's goods and sees his brother in need but closes his eyes to his need—how can God's love reside in him? Little children, we must not love with word or speech, but with truth and action" (1 John 3:16-18).

The call for believers is the same today as it was then: Love God, love others, and share the good news—right here, right now. We have the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus, taking love throughout the continent and shining light into dark places. We can do this by praying for the lost, giving to gospel ministries, witnessing to those around us, and reaching out in compassion.

March 4-11, 2018 is the Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer. As you have your quiet time, pray for the following missionaries and thousands more that are on the mission field in North America (Prayer guide is on our website). Also, ask God to open your eyes to the people around you that you can minister to by sharing Christ's love (in word or deed).

Our Youth will be taking the items that were brought to the Baptist Children's Home in Brentwood on March 20th then on to the Bridge Ministries to feed the homeless in Nashville.

March 31, 2018 is our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. My prayer for this year's hunt is that it is more than a fun time for children, but that we can make it more about Christ.

In Christ Alone,
Angie and Kenneth Parker

WMU
March 13
6 pm in fellowship hall




Serving on Pastor Search Committee: Jeff Green, Tony Odoneal, Greg Brown, Lee Boyd, Vic Pusser, Micah Turner, Eric Criag



First Baptist Loretto and church family would like to extend their sincere sympathy to the families of:
Bobby Brodie
Mary Ann Springer
Erma Lee Phillips



Don't forget to set your clock up on March 10

Senior Adults

Senior Adult lunch will be Tuesday, March 6 at Panda Express in Florence. Leave church at 10:30 am. Senior Adult Supper will be Thursday, March 8 Dining at Fish Crell in Anderson. Leave church at 6 pm.




Thank you have been received in the church office from:
Tiffany Turner
Micah Turner
FCA at South Lawrence School
Debbie McClanahan for Widows Banquet



Community Easter Egg Hunt, March 31, 12-2 pm at Loretto City Park, shelter #2. We need eggs filled with candy, or candy to stuff eggs at church by March 25.



Please Pray For:

- Our Nation
- Government Leaders
- Schools
- Teachers
- Church Leaders
- Pastor Search Committee



100%
of your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering* supports North American missionaries.

NATIONAL GOAL: \$70 Million



Our Goal: \$1500.00