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MAULDIN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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The Herald

Volume 2020 Issue 4

June 2020



*Facing
Our
Future*



love. share.
serve. make.

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Letter from your Pastor.....

Dear Mauldin First Baptist Family,

While our world is still dealing with the COVID-19 Coronavirus situation, we as the church still seek to fulfill God’s calling to join Him in His Kingdom work to go and make disciples. That’s why even though we’re doing things very differently than we have before, the work of the church goes on. So I thought I’d give you a few updates...

1. We opened again on May 31st! I hope you received the separate letter outlining the details and hopefully answering your questions about how everything was going to take place. Everything seemed to go really well and we are looking forward to Sunday School starting back. While our online services help keep us connected, nothing replaces being together! If you didn’t make it May 31, 2020, that’s okay, take as long as you need. But I’m really looking forward to seeing you all again soon!

2. We’re working to find a new Worship Pastor! We are so blessed to have Stuart Thompson, Sami Ninis, James Tegeler and all our band members and tech team folks providing interim worship leadership for us during these challenging times. But I thought you might want to know our Worship Pastor Search Team has continued to meet and pray about finding our next worship leader. We’ve been meeting via Zoom and have invited some ministry leaders who have experience in these matters to meet with us to share their guidance. We also created some time to hear from some of our current staff members. We want to hear from you too! Feel free to email me your thoughts, suggestions and questions at wleonard@fbcmauldin.org. We ask that you pray for us as we continue this process. We’re also reading a great book called “Worship Essentials” by Mike Harland. Would you like a free copy? We would be glad to give you one so you can be reading what we’re reading. Just ask Nadine Chasteen, our Church Business Administrator, at nchasteen@fbcmauldin.org and she will be happy to provide you with one.

3. We’re looking good financially! I know this is hard to believe, but after more than two months of being out of church and more than 1/3 of the way through the year, we are actually AHEAD of budget and ahead of last year’s pace of giving! Now granted, the economic and unemployment news isn’t too good and there may be hard times coming in the near future. Which is why our Finance Team has also continued to meet as we monitor this crisis very carefully. Our cash position is strong, but we are working to curtail unnecessary expenses should we face leaner times later in the year. We are thankful for your generous, sacrificial and consistent giving! Please continue to do so as we continue to fund our ministries and support our missionaries.

4. We’re all pastors now! Personally, one of the hardest things for me during this time has been not being able to go to the hospital when you are having surgery, or to come pray with you or minister to you during a death or loss in your family. But I’ve been so encouraged and inspired to hear your testimonies as to how you are ministering to each other within your families and small groups. Please continue to check in on each other and find ways to share the love of God with those around you.

Ministry Budget 5/03/2020		Ministry Budget 5/10/2020	
This Week	\$ 15,692.50	This Week	\$ 40,299.87
This Year	\$ 463,563.36	This Year	\$ 503,863.23
Renovations		Renovations	
This Week	\$ 400.00	This Week	\$ 780.00
This Year	\$ 13,509.00	This Year	\$ 14,289.00
Designated		Designated	
This Week	\$ 1,970.00	This Week	\$ 1,520.00
Online Attendance		Online Attendance	
Worship	566	Worship	531
Sunday School	180	Sunday School	137
		Mother’s Day Drive-In Event	434

Ministry Budget 5/17/2020		Ministry Budget 5/24/2020	
This Week	\$ 23,488.80	This Week	\$ 17,932.58
This Year	\$ 527,352.03	This Year	\$ 545,284.61
Renovations		Renovations	
This Week	\$ 660.00	This Week	\$ 410.00
This Year	\$ 14,949.00	This Year	\$ 15,359.00
Designated		Designated	
This Week	\$ 2,975.00	This Week	\$ 110.00
Online Attendance		Online Attendance	
Worship	577	Worship	749
Sunday School	243	Sunday School	233

Ministry Budget 5/31/2020		Attendance First Sunday Back 05/31/2020	
This Week	\$ 40,504.67		
This Year	\$ 585,789.28		
Renovations			
This Week	\$ 450.00		
This Year	\$ 15,809.00		
Designated			
This Week	\$ 890.00		
Online Attendance			
Worship	555	Live Worship	200
Sunday School	197		

ANNIE ARMSTRONG OFFERING
RECEIVED \$8,850.00

MFB Kids and Youth

Kids

The Kids have had some great moments of connecting. For Easter there was the Egging that happened. We loved seeing those of you who posted your pics and egged your neighbors. Hopefully it was a great way to reach out and connect with those around you. The Chalk Name Hunt went really well. It was a blessing having the teens and even a parent come help decorate, draw, create, and pray over each one of the kids in the church. If you didn't get out before the rain hit, check Facebook for the album of all the kid's names.

We loved seeing all of you who came to pick up the Church Take Away Boxes. Hopefully you enjoyed all the fun activities and Bible studies. Great seeing those Flat Jesus' showing up all over the place.

This summer we've got some fun activities planned for Terrific Tuesdays which starts on June 9th. VBS is still on the calendar for the beginning of August. However, a decision will be made closer to the time as we see how things progress this summer. We want to make sure your kid's safety is a priority.

Youth

The Youth have also been trying to connect and build relationships during this unique time of transition in many ways. We've spent many afternoons with other staff and parents cleaning up and organizing years of stuff and junk. It's not done yet, but we've made a major dent.

We've also had a few activities. One of the weeks it was really hot, there was a spontaneous Water War at the church back parking lot. There was also an attempt at hiking that got cut short due to some fast moving storms. It was definitely memorable and fun.

There's been a lot of girls showing up to the events so to get the guys involved and connected a bit, we did a guys BBQ. We ate some great food, played some games, and enjoyed getting to know each other better.

Tuesday evenings starting June 9th, we'll do a time of Bible study and hanging out. Doors open at 5:30. We'll enjoy a Bring Your Own Dinner at 6 and then start Bible Study at 6:30. When we finish, probably around 7 depending on discussion, we'll hang out, play games, light the fire pit, etc till 9.

Kids and Youth

This summer we have some great activities planned! Here's a link to the calendars to see what's happening: <https://bit.ly/mfbsummer2020>

Make sure you're following us on social media to get the latest info about events throughout the summer. Due to the current situation of things, these activities are planned; however, they are subject to change due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. There may also be spontaneous events that happen when the opportunity arises.

Facebook: [facebook.com/mauldinkids](https://www.facebook.com/mauldinkids); [facebook.com/mauldinyouth](https://www.facebook.com/mauldinyouth)

Instagram: @mauldinkids; @mauldinyouth

Tory J. Almond, Student Pastor, Mauldin First Baptist

NOTE FROM YOUR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

If you have an email and are not getting the church emails sent out each week and would like to receive them, please either email me at nchasteen@fbcmaldin.org or call me at the office and let me know so I can update the system with your email address. Also, if your address has changed in the past few years, please let me know.

THANK YOU!! Nadine

5. We're ministering to our Senior Adults! Speaking of checking in... We felt led to do something for our Senior Adults (70+) to let them know that we love them and miss them... so we got a little creative and had a Senior Drive Thru on Saturday, May 30th from 2-4 pm. We did a drive through at the church for those who could make it to receive a gift card from one of our local businesses and restaurants. We just wanted to have the chance to tell you face to face (6 ft. away of course!) that we love you and miss you! Some could not come by so we delivered to as many as possible on that Sunday, May 31, 2020. We made "doorstep" visits while observing social distancing. If we missed you, please let us know. We want you to know that we love you!!

6. We're facing our future together! Our future is uncertain, but isn't this always true? But God is never uncertain! And He calls us to go forward into the future He has planned for us. That's why we're starting a new sermon series on May 31st called "Facing Our Future". I can't promise you what's next or how everything is going to turn out... but I can promise you God is working "all things together for the good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28. God creates everything, including the future, so He doesn't need us to do anything... but He includes us because He has created the future with us in mind... He has a place and a purpose in it... for you and for our church. These are uncertain times, but they are exciting times! And I'm excited to share this time with you! Looking forward to reconnecting with all of you and stepping into the future He has for us together!

Loving, Sharing, Serving, Making,

Wade



From your Discipleship and Senior Adult Pastor:

From your Discipleship Pastor

The old gospel hymn “O Happy Day” has been resonating in my brain of late. It was such a happy day getting back together for worship and I’m so looking forward to singing “O Happy Day” getting our Sunday School Classes back as well and trusting it will be, in the words of another gospel song “Soon and Very Soon.” We have been working through many issues with many variables and daily changing set of guidelines and have a plan that I think is fairly stable. You will be hearing more of the details in the following days. Upside of it all is we plan on starting to phase Sunday School back in a limited fashion beginning June 14 – here again you will be notified definitely by email soon.

One of the upsides of the quarantine is that we started streaming Sunday School on line each week which we will continue at least through August. A team, representing our entire age spectrum, has been put in place to order a sense of continuity within the leadership. I’m grateful to the team leaders who have agreed to serve: Shirley Adams will be leading 1st Sundays, Colten Woodside, 2nd Sunday, Eric & Mindi Steele, 3rd Sundays, Barry Ray, 4th Sunday and John Center and I will be serving as back up.

Thank those of you who have led classes during the quarantine. Each of you did a fantastic job going outside of the box and your comfort zones to help us keep current with The Gospel Project. Job well done.

From your Senior Adult Pastor:

A big thank you to the many volunteers who helped in our 70+ drive through and delivery of gift cards the final weekend in May. And, an extra big thanks to LaVona Center and her team who did such a fantastic job of organizing it. I’ve received cards, emails and other notices of how well appreciated the thoughts and contacts were.

We are still not sure what we will be doing for Sonshine Fellowship throughout the rest of the summer, but will try to have some type person to person/group to group events happening.

Have a great day in the Lord!

Bill

MEMBER CARE OPPORTUNITIES

Recent Hospitalization: Gwyn Balcombe, Betty Thompson, Teresa Coggins, Joy Paterson, Nita Childers, Tim Bailey, Grace Doss, Goldie Harper

Nursing Care/Assisted Living:

Bob & Jill Brown, Bill Barbour, Mary Sue Barbrey, Loraine Absher, Dot Davis, Ray Henderson, Robbie Jones, Marilyn Grey, Sara Jumper, Doris Landrum, Mary Welborn, Ann Watts

Sympathy: The church family extends our sympathy to Linda Johnson and her family in the death of her mother, Barbara Kohler; to the Andersons in the death of Sally’s father; to Beth Owens and family in the death of her mother, Elizabeth Snow; Barbara Smith and family in the death of her daughter, Emily; to Tony Phillips and family in the death of his sister; to Ann Black in the death of her brother.

Live Sunday School Began Last Week.

Below is the schedule that will be in effect until August. More information will be provided to you in the coming days.

Classes Scheduled to Meet Sunday, June 21, 2020 at 9:30 AM

These classes will meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

Carlton Owen	Choir Room	Dot Creel	A 38
Dudley Verdin	A 266-268	Keith Taliafero	A 37
Pat Chapman	A 273	Nettie McKinney	C 120
Becky McCrary	A 275	Margaret Ayers	Class in C 120
Barry Ray	C 230	Curt Shaw	D 213
Ronnie Colson	D211		
Ron Haught	D 210		
Sisters In Christ	D 216		
Ann Strom	D 218		

Classes Scheduled to Meet Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 9:30 AM

These classes will meet 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

Legacy	Choir Room
Barbara Smith	A 266-268
Vitality	A273
Sue Poole	A275
Young Families	C 230
Helping Hands	D211
Singles	D 210
Everybody	A33-34
Witness	C 120

Online Sunday School is continuing at 9:45 AM

Ministry Budget 4/05/2020		Ministry Budget 4/12/2020	
This Week	\$ 20,460.25	This Week	\$ 38,247.84
This Year	\$ 349,824.26	This Year	\$ 388,072.10
Renovations		Renovations	
This Week	\$ 1,180.00	This Week	\$ 875.00
This Year	\$ 9,939.00	This Year	\$ 10,814.00
Designated		Designated	
This Week	\$ 1,675.00	This Week	\$ 4,920.00
Online Attendance		Online Attendance	
Worship _____	1440	Worship _____	1357
Sunday School _____	277	Sunday School _____	274
Ministry Budget 4/19/2020		Ministry Budget 4/26/2020	
This Week	\$ 11,982.75	This Week	\$ 47,816.01
This Year	\$ 400,054.85	This Year	\$ 447,870.86
Renovations		Renovations	
This Week	\$ 290.00	This Week	\$ 2,005.00
This Year	\$ 11,104.00	This Year	\$ 13,109.00
Designated		Designated	
This Week	\$ 700.00	This Week	\$ 170.00
Online Attendance		Online Attendance	
Worship _____	940	Worship _____	986
Sunday School _____	193	Sunday School _____	240