

FBCC to host emphasis series for betterment of city

Special to The Clinton Courier

First Baptist Church Clinton (FBCC) began an emphasis entitled *For Clinton* to take place throughout 2019. It began January 13 at the morning worship service at 100 E. College Street. The church's pastor, Dr. Greg Pouncey, will be preaching a series in the morning services through February 10 which will encourage members of FBCC to make their city a better place based upon the instructions found in Jeremiah 29:1-14. Sunday morning services begin at 9:30 a.m. On Sunday evenings at 6, the church will provide tools necessary for its members and guests to work for the good of their city.

Each Sunday morning, the pastor of FBCC will preach on a different point of emphasis. The points of emphases in the *For Clinton* theme include the following:

- Build strong families
- Pound the brick streets
- Build strong churches
- Create praying communities
- Establish worshipping communities

On January 13, the church conducted a panel discussion in the chapel to provide tools for residents of Clinton to build strong families. Audience participation was included in this discussion of family life.

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Board begins new year with project updates, grants

The board authorized opening an account at BankPlus for proceeds from bonds to be held according to Senate Bill No. 2002, which is legislation stipulating the use of BP Settlement Funds. Funds from the settlement are disbursed at the discretion of the Department of Finance and Administration for certain projects. The City of Clinton anticipates receiving \$1 million in proceeds from this legislation. Terms of the legislation require the City to have a separate account for the funds, which the City has discussed using for street and infrastructure repair.

In other business, the board approved:

- \$427,602.22 to Adcamp, Inc., for Pay Estimate #4 related to the 2018 Street Paving Improvements project (001-215-723);

On January 20 at 6 p.m., the church will offer many ways to get involved in mission projects and emphases that will benefit Clinton. This meeting will also be held in the chapel.

Other Sunday nights include an emphasis on building stronger churches (January 27 at 6 p.m.) and a night of prayer for the city of Clinton (February 3 at 6 p.m.). The *For Clinton* preaching series will conclude with a *Night of Worship* on February 10, where all residents of Clinton are invited to come and express thanksgiving to God for their city. This Sunday evening service will move back to the sanctuary to accommodate the community. The service will be led by Will Bishop, interim minister of worship at FBCC and Worship Collective professor at Mississippi College. The message will be delivered by Dr. Greg Pouncey.

"Jeremiah encouraged the exiles in Babylon to 'seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare,' (Jer. 29:7)," said Pouncey. "The word translated 'welfare' is the Hebrew word 'Shalom.' As FBCC seeks the peace of our city, we hope that peace permeates all of Clinton."

Both members and guests are invited to participate throughout the *For Clinton* emphasis.

- Payment of \$94,850.10 to Diamond Enterprise Inc., for Pay Estimate #4 related to the 2018 Clinton (Water) Tank Rehabilitation project (400-650-761);

- \$98,917.51 to Layne Christensen Company for Pay Estimate #7 related to the Continental Tire Water Well Improvements project (400-650-764);

- Payment of \$16,824.00 to Southern Electric Corporation on the Parkway Lighting Improvements project (001-215-724).

The next meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15, in the Municipal Courtroom, 305 Monroe Street. To watch the meeting via Livestream, visit www.clintonms.org and follow the link to the City's Facebook page.

Speaker Philip Gunn to run for re-election in 2019

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Speaker of the House Philip Gunn (R-Clinton) recently announced his intent to run for re-election for the Mississippi House of Representatives-District 56, a seat he has held since 2004.

"I am honored to have served the residents of District 56 for the last sixteen years," said Speaker Gunn. "During this time, I have worked very hard to improve the quality of life in my district and for the entire state of Mississippi."

My wife and I have decided that the best thing for our community is for me to run for the legislature again. I look forward to continuing to work with my constituents."

Speaker Gunn played a major role in securing Continental Tire to open a plant in Clinton, in relocating the Department of Revenue to Clinton, in continuing to provide the highest level of education funding to the Clinton school district and in securing \$1 million

for infrastructure needs in Clinton.

Before being elected to the House of Representatives, Speaker Gunn

served on the Clinton Public School Board. He is a former Elder at Morrison Heights Baptist Church in Clinton and former Chairman of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Board of Trustees in Louisville, Kentucky. He is an attorney at Wells, Marble, Hurst PLLC in Ridgeland, Mississippi.

In 2012, Gunn was elected Mississippi's 61st Speaker of the House of Representatives. He currently chairs the

Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and is a member of the House Rules and Management Committees. Gunn leads the House Republican Caucus and served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Republican Party. Gunn lives in Clinton with his wife, Lisa. They have four children, daughter Meredith and sons Alex, Andrew (Jessica) and John David. They have two grandchildren, Axel and Aiden.



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