

**February 26, 2020**

- This past Sunday was such a special day at First Baptist: From the waters of baptism to new members joining our fold, from those who are so faithful in their worship to those who were visiting or returning back home... It was just a special day! I was reminded again how great our God is and how extraordinary the people of our congregation are! I would also like to express my deep gratitude and thanks for all you did Sunday for me and my family. The day was full of wonderful surprises (at least for me)! Special music, a wonderful reception, remembrances by friends, a most generous gift, placing our name on the Ministry Center and calling me "Pastor Emeritus" .... It was all very overwhelming! And I see great promise in the days ahead for our church! We have a great staff that is working hard and well together. And the two "Mikes" that are coming to lead us are the best I know in all of North Carolina Baptist life! Mike Queen, who has already started leading us in our transitional process through the Center for Healthy Churches, and Mike Cogdill, our proposed Interim (Transitional) Pastor who was the founding Dean of Campbell University Divinity School and professor. I am confident that First Baptist will continue to thrive! As I reflect on the years we have been here, I can truly echo the words of Paul in the last letter he wrote, "I thank my God every time I remember you!" (Philippians 1:3). You will always have my prayers, love and affection!

With great love and appreciation, Lee

- **MARK YOUR CALENDARS: A Series of Congregational Conversations Three Sundays this Spring - March 22, April 26, May 17 from 9:45-10:50am in the Fellowship Hall**  
The transition committee and Mike Queen, our Pastoral Search Facilitator, will host 3 all-church meetings to gather information from and about our congregation - what we love, what we value, and our hopes for the future! Each meeting will be different, so please plan on attending ALL, as we discuss our past, present, and future hopes and needs. Keep an eye out for more information coming soon...and mark those calendars!
- **MEET DR. MIKE COGDILL** Join us Sunday, March 8th at 8:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a church-wide breakfast to meet Dr. Mike Cogdill, recommended finalist for Interim (Transitional) Pastor. Dr. Cogdill was the founding Dean of Campbell University Divinity School and professor. He will fill the pulpit at the 11:00 service. There will be no Early Worship. The following Sunday, March 15, the congregation will vote on the calling of Dr. Cogdill as Interim (Transitional) Pastor.