

Letter from Pastor Denver

Dear Church family,

In the last four years, your giving and serving the Lord has produced much fruit. Even through this last year dealing with COVID-19 God has blessed us. I would like to address the reasons I believe God has blessed and why we need to grow and why we may not be growing as we should.

1. The reasons I believe God has blessed us:

- A. You have been faithful in your tithes and offerings.
- B. When many felt the need to stay home, we used social media more.
- C. We never stopped having services (with only a few weeks in the parking lot).
- D. We have given more to missions than any other time in the history of the church.
- E. We have been faithful in preaching and teaching the Word.
- F. As you know I believe in transparency, I also believe that strongly that deacons, church ministry staff (pastors and children directors), finance team, counters, financial secretary and treasurer must tithe and if not resign (paid or volunteer). Individual that cannot handle their money biblically have no business touching, handling or working with God's money.

2. Why do we need to grow:

- A. It is Biblical, new testament churches in the Bible grew.
- B. This church will not survive if we do not grow spiritually or physically/financially.
 - The average life expectancy in the US is 79 years of age.
 - 1. We have 359 members, 93 (47 children) and 10 assoc. members equaling 462.
 - 2. We have 11 over the age of 90, 41 over the age of 80, 93 over the age of 70, 127 over the age of 60 and 87 are under the age of 18 (after 18 they do not stay here).
 - 3. The over 60 years of age give approximately 2/3 of the tithes and offerings.
 - 4. 79 is the average age a person goes to be with the Lord, think on this:
 - a. In 5-10 years approximately 40 will be in heaven.
 - b. In 10-15 years approximately 90 will be in heaven.
 - c. in 15-20 years approximately 125 will be in heaven.

Note: With only around 200-250 in person, live stream, online and Sunday evening viewers you can see the effect on our church if we do not continue to reach people.

3. What factors may be hindering our growth:

- A. Spiritual dullness, apathy, lack of prayer, lack of commitment and lack of service.
- B. Hard Feeling against others in the church that have not truly been forgiven and laid/left at the cross.
- C. Unwillingness to let go of things of the past in our lives and the church.
- D. Unwillingness to be sold out to God and allow His Holy Spirit to have full control of our lives.
- E. Unwillingness to spread the gospel (get out of our comfort zone).
- F. Unwillingness to change the way we do things in the church, even though they have no Biblical reference.
- G. Unwillingness to change because we like it the way it is and want it our way.
- H. Stop caring more about what people think and care more about what God's word says and what we must do to reach our community for Christ.

I love this Stithton Baptist Church and you, *Pastor Denver*



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Handed out on February 7th business meeting.

Calendar dates for 2021 as of now

Changes made in the last 4 years.

1. Outside of main building: bought 562 and 574 Dixie Hwy buildings and newly shingled roof on both, handicap ramp at main entrance, 10 spruce trees removed (over 30’ high causing damage to roof), bought two storage buildings, poured slab and installed walk-in refrigerator, built stage for outside services and cleared off island areas in parking lot.
2. 100 New Street: moved Esther’s Closet to back side of 574 Dixie Hwy building, minor remodel of upstairs area changing over to gas stove and installing washer and dryer (gas) where stairway was, remodeled downstairs kitchen with new cabinets, sink, washer and dryer, new floors in kitchen and dining room, installed ¾ bathroom and many miscellaneous items. Now the building houses two staff members and their families.
3. Inside of the main building:
- A. Kitchen: replaced stove and warmer, Installed new fryer, ice maker, and 2 commercial convection ovens.
 - B. Gym area: replaced all gym lights with LED lights using 1/10 the wattage, installed 5 showers in men’s restroom and 5 showers in ladies’ restroom.
 - C. Senior Adult wing: moved all senior adult classes to the wing, moved flowers (taking up 4 rooms in the church) to small room at the end of hallway, removed the library and made one room a men’s, and women’s restroom and the other into a small classroom.
 - D. Adult rooms: 3rd floor as needed, also now have a class in multi-purpose room.
 - E. Youth rooms: new carpet, paint and wood decorative wall built.
 - F. Children wing: wall removed to make an area for children’s church, painted and an additional restroom installed. 5 flat screen TV’s installed for teaching and live streaming. Security check in system for parents and children.
 - G. Sanctuary: the following new items installed/replaced: flooring, main projector, microphones, in ear monitoring system, 3 cameras, sound board, 12 individual hearing devices, a 13’ Christmas tree, computer, software and too much more to list.
 - F. General: 14 flat screen TV’s installed (3 for security, 3 for directions and information, 3 for teaching and 5 for live streaming/teaching), approximately 1000 lights changed to LED with approximately 800 more to go, from 4 security cameras to over 20 installed, 2 defibrillators installed, 195K btu on demand hot water heater installed to be used in conjunction with previous hot water heater (can now use one or the other or both at the same time), painted a few hallways, and have replaced 8 air conditioner/furnace units.
4. Salvations and additions to the church: 67 Salvation baptisms and 104 other additions for a total of 171.

- Feb 11 6:30pm Glory Sisters Valentine party at Debbie Copelands house.
- Feb 13 8am KOZ meet in back parking lot.
- Feb 13 10:30am Ladies ministry meeting in Cove.
- Feb 13 6-10pm Parents night out (free babysitting/childcare).
- Feb 20 10am SIS meeting in Cove.
- Feb 21 6pm Stuffing 15,000 door knocker bags in the gym, we need your help.
- March 6 9:30am Distribute door knockers (more dates will be scheduled).
- The following three date are for the AIM Conference:
The AIM Conference was created after a zoom meeting with several pastors, commenting that they wish there was training for our churches in the association in the areas listed. We encourage anyone at Stithton that serves in these areas or would like to know more about them should attend.
- March 7 at AIM Conference at Franklin Crossroads 5-6:30pm, Secretary/Administrative, Revitalization, Youth/Children.
- March 14 at AIM Conference at Stithton 5-6:30pm, Personnel Team, Mentoring, Young Adult and Prayer.
- March 21 AIM Conference at FBC Hodgenville 5-6:30pm, Finance, Audio/Visual, Senior Adults, and Women’s Ministry.
- March 13 KOZ 8am meet in back parking lot.
- March 18-21 Women’s retreat
- March 27 10am SIS meeting in Cove
- April 9 5:30pm KOZ overnight event
- April 11 Glory Sisters having a pottery day, more info. to come.
- April 17 10am SIS meeting in Cove
- May 1 12-2pm Derby Tea for all ladies in the church.
- May 8 8am KOZ meet in back parking lot.
- May 15 10am SIS meeting in Cove
- June 1-4 VBS
- June 11 & 12 Bluegrass Challenge graduation
- June 21-26 World Changers
- Late summer/early fall, Next Door Project (like a back yard bible club) in neighborhoods.
- Journey Makers (widow and never been married) will start up again after COVID-19 is over.
- More home groups and Sunday School classes added.
- More discipleship (one on one and group) added.

Key
Glory Sisters = Young Ladies
Journey Makers = Widows and never been married
KOZ = Kids Outdoor Zone Boys 8-18
SIS = She is Strength, girls 8-18

January 8, 2021

Hello, Stithton, Baptist Church Members and Friends,

Thank you for your continued and generous support of the ministries and staff of SBC. Your giving report for 2020 is in the main hallway by the offices.

You can check your W-2, 1099s or other sources of income and see if you have given your tithe to God (I believe the tithe is before taxes – I love God much more than the government). I want to see God's blessing on our church families and not a curse on them (Malachi 3:8&9, James 4:17). If you need additional verses, please see: Luke 12:15 & 34, Deut. 8:17 & 18, Ps 24:1, 1 Timothy 6:9 & 10, 2 Corinthians 9:6-13, Malachi 3:6-10, Luke 21:1-4, Hebrews 7:8 and James 1:22-25.

As pastor of SBC, I am not aware of individual giving nor have I seen your personal giving record. I received a list of 217 numbers representing the giving amounts of each individual/family to prepare the report, the 2020 amounts listed below is all giving for the 2020 calendar year.

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Up to \$1,000:	73	63	107
\$1,001-\$2,500:	29	29	44
\$2,501-\$5,000:	34	33	29
\$5,001-\$7,500:	10	13	20
\$7,501-\$10,000:	9	9	5
\$10,001-\$12,500:	2	2	4
\$12,501-\$15,000:	4	2	4
\$15,001-\$17,500:	0	1	1
\$17,501-\$20,000:	0	1	1
\$20,001-\$22,500:	2	0	0
\$22,501-\$25,000:	0	1	0
Over \$25,000:	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total families/Individuals giving:	164	153	217
General Fund Giving:	Not avail.	\$542,377.34	\$553,159.54
Designated Giving:	Not avail.	\$136,915.58	\$ 67,618.48

Could God be asking you to give more as we continue to expand our ministries?

Sincerely,
Pastor Denver Copeland

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Changes made in the last 4 years continued.

5. Missions/Ministries: We have started giving monthly to a missionaries in Germany and in Africa, the following church plants: The Grove, The Vine, The Valley Church (Cincinnati) and Clarity Solutions. Our Cooperative Program giving has increased 184.89%, our associational giving has increased 800% and our total mission giving has increased 388%

6. SBC Rental Properties: Painted 4 units, installed door to close off inside stairway, many new lights and flooring in one unit.

7. Ongoing and new missions/ministries: Ongoing-Operation Christmas Child (OCC), VBS, Security Team, SS, Bus ministry, Women's Retreats, Esther's Closet, Super Seniors, Mission Hope for Kids and Home Bound mailings.

New Ministries-Glory Sisters, Journey Makers, Backpack Blessings, She Is Strength (SIS) girls 8-18, Kids Outdoor Zone (KOZ) boys 8-18, Affordable Christmas, Next Door Project, truelife.org evangelism cards and World Changers.

8. Attendance: Attendance went up in 2017 and has lowered by about 8 average in 2020 due to COVID.

9. Finances: God has blessed us and continually blesses us. Besides paying all of our bills and salaries, we have paid down the original church loan from \$395,000 to \$199,000. Thank you all for your giving!!

10. Vehicles: We were given two vehicles, used them two years and gave them to another church/ministry, we also purchased a 9-passenger handicap small bus and still use it as needed.

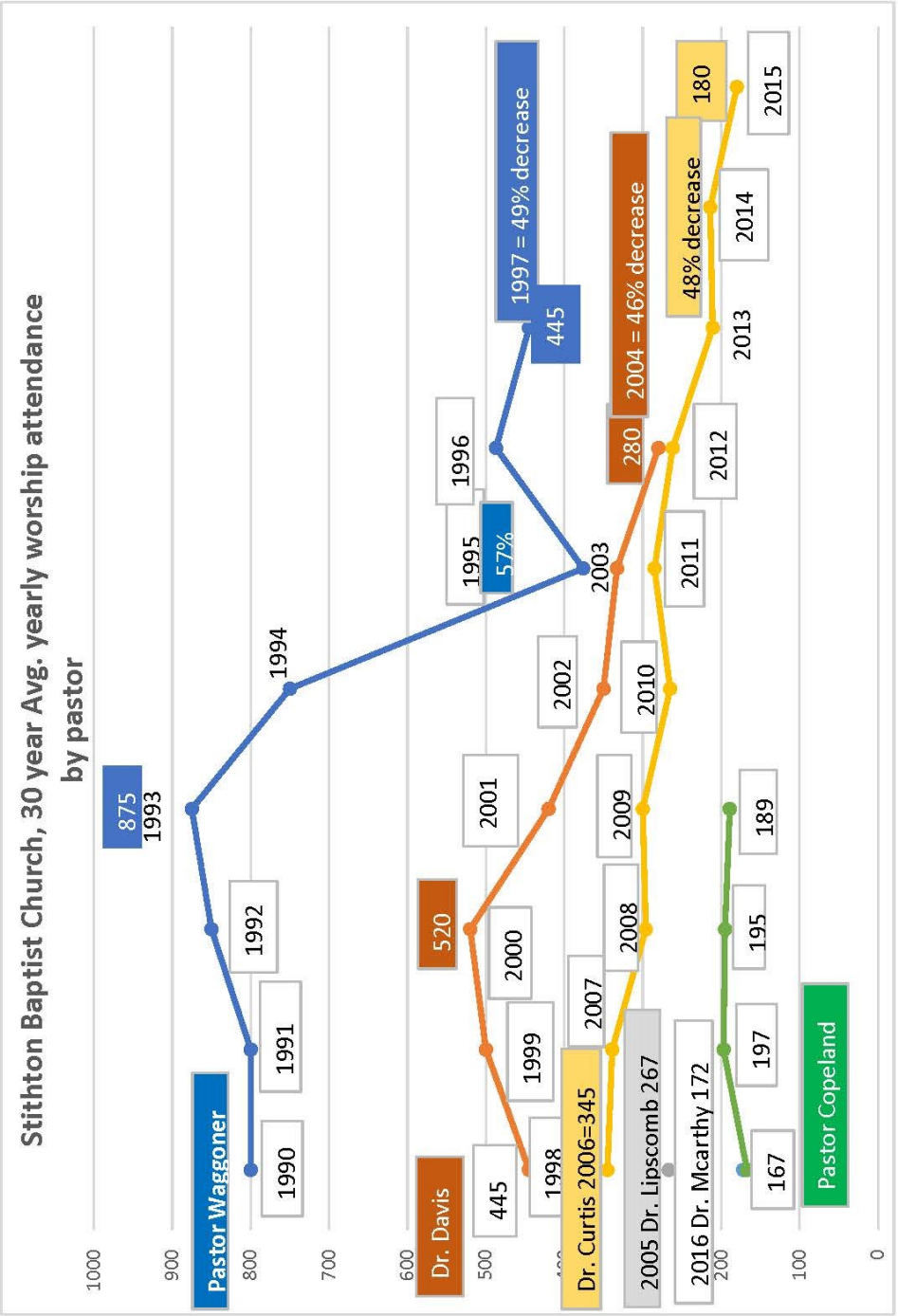
11. Personnel: Four years ago, we had 4 full time employees, today we have 4 full time employees, 2 25-32 hours a week employees, 3 10-20 hour a week employees and 3 10 hours or under, 1 volunteer staff and the budget for staff base salary has only raised \$10,000 since 2018.

12. Revivals: We have had several revivals in the last 4 years compared to only 1 in prior years. We have had revival services with many of the association church yearly.

13. Social Media: Our website has had in excess of 380,000 views, Facebook over 1,000 likes, streaming on Facebook, You Tube, website and to TV's throughout the church. Weekly podcast and Bible studies and much more. Right Now Media (over 20,000 Biblical based videos) for every Member/attendee, Devohub App (daily devotionals for everyone), Planning Center App (will become the only App we use for information).

14. Services on local TV: Almost exactly 4 years ago our services started airing on Sunday evenings, many of our home bond members watch.

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The easiest way to read the chart is by following each color.

YEAR	2013	2014	2015	2016	4yr Avg.
Resident Members	232	248	215	169	216
Baptisms	9	12	4	11	9
Other Additions	29	25	7	5	17
Worship Attendance	211	214	180	172*	151
Undesignated Receipts	\$433,021	\$404,762	\$395,034	\$401,893	\$ 408,677.50
Cooperative Program	\$2,069	\$6,233	\$5,617	\$19,205	\$ 8,281.00
Associational Gifts			\$500	\$1,095	\$ 398.75
Total Mission Expenditures	\$18,268	\$15,579	\$18,731	\$20,403	\$ 18,245.25

Church Trend Profile, 2013 - 2020 Membership & Program Congregation: Stithton, Radcliff

	2017	2018	2019	2020	4yr Avg.	increase/decrease
Resident Members	263	330	308	330	308	increase of 92 42.60%
Baptisms	22	14	26	5	17	increase of 8 11%
Other Additions	24	27	22	31	26	increase of 10 34.60%
Worship Attendance	167	197	195	189	187	decrease of 7 -3.60%
Undesignated Receipts	\$463,587	\$496,335	\$552,756	\$526,309	\$ 509,746.75	\$ 101,069.25 24.73
Cooperative Program	\$13,470	\$24,078	\$28,250	\$28,570	\$ 23,592.11	\$ 15,311.11 184.89
Associational Gifts	\$1,275	\$3,411	\$4,310	\$5,400	\$ 3,599.00	\$ 3,200.25 800%
Total Mission Expenditures	\$69,047	\$92,329	\$121,616	\$73,374	\$ 89,091.50	\$ 70,846.25 388%

*2016 avg. worship is higher than I believe it actually was due to the exit of people after pastor Curtis left (all figures since then are correct).
2020 Covid has really effected our number of baptisms this year and average attendance (we have used guidance from KBC).
All figures are from the Annual Church Profile (ACP) and not by calendar year.
Calendar years Undesignated (General Fund/budget): 2019 = \$542,377.34, 2020 = \$553,159.54
In every way, God has richly blessed us thank you all for your faithfulness.

Great Praise! January 1, 2020 we were -\$16,539.99 on December 31, 2020 were + \$5,296.06
We made up the above \$21,836.05 and even though we were \$23,116.52 below our budget for the year, we curved expenses to make it.

All three pastors here over 5 years dropped almost 50% from the highest avg. worship attendance to lowest avg. worship attendance.
Dr. Waggoner saw tremendous growth from 1991 - through the early 1990's

2019 & 2020 year was Aug 1 - Jul 31, almost all other years were Oct 1 - Sep 30.

2016 was only about 130 going into 2017 = 179 (179 = 179 ACP).