

March 2017

Regular Weekly Sunday Services

9:45 am—Sunday School
 11:00 am—Worship Service &
 3:30 pm FAITH Teams, 5:00 pm—Awana & Small Groups

Wednesday Services

5:30 pm—Family Supper
 6:00 pm—Prayer Meeting, Children's Living
 In Side Out & Awake for Students, Ladies Bible Study
 6:45 pm—Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the week: 5 - Craig Standley, 19 - Levern Collins, 26- Bobby Barton			1 A-Team Cooks	2	3 DNOW	4
5 DNOW	6	7	8 Staff Cooks	9	10 STUDENT: GUYS' NIGHT OUT	11
12	13-15 Spring Break NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES				16-17 Student Hiking Trip	18 WMU Assoc. Meeting 9 am
19	20	21	22 Donaldson Class Cooks	23 Senior Adults Spring Fling 5:30 pm	24	25
26 Chile Mission Trip Meeting 4:00 pm	27	28	29 Covered Dish Dinner	30	31	



WATCH US LIVE ONLINE!

Sunday morning service will now be available LIVE online. You can watch the service live by going to the web address www.thewayofthecrossleadshome.com and clicking on FBC Yazoo in the Church directory box.

First Baptist Church Yazoo City

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share

328 Grand Ave. Yazoo City, MS 39194

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 U.S. POSTAGE
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

FRIDAY—CLOSED

PHONE:

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Delivered to the post office 02/28/17 , POSTMASTER please do not hold.



Small groups start Sunday, March 5 at 5:00 pm

All adults are encouraged to participate in one of the following groups:

Pressure Points: A Study of the Book of James led by Paulette Kilpatrick at her home (1905 Shoemake Rd)

Uninvited: A Bible Study for ladies about how to replace doubt, regret, and envy with truth, confidence, and praise led by Dana Guthrie on the second floor of the Education Building.

Dana will also lead a small group of the **Uninvited** study in the same location from 3:45 - 4:30 pm.

Combatting Satan's Lies led by Nick King at his home (1660 Hwy. 16 E)

The Call continuation of the discipleship series led by Vernon Sikes on the second floor of the Education Building

For Women Only (But for Men Too): What you need to know about the inner lives of men led by Steve Roark at his home (284 Woodridge)

Marriage Built to Last led by Clint Ritchie in the parlor/fellowship hall of the church.

Take It To The Limit by Andy Stanley led by A.G. & Missy Helton at their home (25 Wildwood Terrace Extn.)

Faith Team will begin meeting

Sunday, March 5 at 3:30 pm in the fellowship hall.
If you have anyone you would like our Faith teams to visit please get their name and address to Brother Clint.

I ♥ YAZOO : Our next "I Love Yazoo" Day is May 21. Mark your calendar now and please start planning now to impact someone unchurched with your class' project.

*\$19,183.41 required weekly to meet budget.

February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
Bible Study	Bible Study	Bible Study	Bible Study
Attendance	Attendance	Attendance	Attendance
244	266	261	261
Worship Service	Worship Service	Worship Service	Worship Service
Attendance	Attendance	Attendance	Attendance
275	157	274	260
Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering
\$21,876.39	\$15,005.65	\$16,125.00	\$10,659.00

This is the time of year when we collect the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions.



IN THE BATTLE FOR LOST HEARTS, WE ALL PLAY

A CRUCIAL ROLE. This is where we live. Where we raise our families. Where we work, and where we play. And it's mostly a post-Christian world. 269 million of our neighbors in North America do not know Jesus Christ. Daily, we sit next to those without hope. But together we can equip missionaries and reach the unreached in North America. Together we can equip missionaries through the power of prayer and through our financial gifts. Missionaries need training, resources and education. They need a community network. They and their families need support for the basics of living life while they build a congregation. Your financial gifts provide a solid foundation for these missionaries, their families and the churches they are building. We can't all go, but we can all give together.

Church Goal: \$10,000

Prime Timers Spring Fling

When: Thursday, March 23, 2017

Where: FBC Fellowship Hall

What: Salad and Dessert Supper

Bonus: Movie

Time: 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Cost: FREE



Bring a Salad or Dessert and join us for supper and a movie. Help us celebrate Spring's arrival and enjoy good fellowship together.

Financial Report through January 2017

Total Budget Offering \$94,217.46 less Expenses \$75,376.43 = \$18,841.03

Total Approved Budgeted through January = \$80,875.40

Actual Expenses \$75,376.43 = \$5,498.97 *spending under budget*

Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

To the Capital Improvement Fund in memory of Bill Hawkins, Billy McConnell, Vickie Steele, Ann Davis, Mary Kight, Allen Winters & Roy Lee Shackelford

To the Music Fund in memory of Rebecca Hammons, Roy Lee Shackelford & Carol Sudduth
To the Youth Ministry in memory of Roy Lee Shackelford

To the Annie Armstrong offering in memory of Mary Kight, Rebecca Hammons, Roy Lee Shackelford & Carol Sudduth

To the Prime Timers Ministry in memory of Rebecca Hammons, Allen Winters, Mary Kight, Roy Lee Shackelford & Carol Sudduth

To the Cable Ministry in memory of Billy McConnell & Roy Lee Shackelford

To the Missions Fund in memory of Ann Davis & Billy McConnell

To the Benevolence Fund in memory of Billy McConnell



What a day! As I type, it is Sunday evening after our latest "I Love Yazoo" Day. I spent a couple of hours at the Double Quick, washing windshields of those getting gas. We were very well received, although many had a hard time accepting the reality that we were not taking donations or using it as a fundraiser. When we completed the windshield, we gave a card that stated that it was a "small deed to brighten your day" and it had our church name and logo. We lost count of the number of people that did not know where our church was located, many of whom have lived in Yazoo for years! On days like today where we had a good worship crowd and good participation in serving, it is easy to lose sight of the fact that we still have much ground to cover.

In high school, I was voted "most likely to succeed," which I still consider an honor from my peers. I wonder what they think now as I find myself in the pastoral ministry--far from the world of fame? But within ministry there is that desire to be "successful." But ministry "success" is usually defined differently: impacting a large number of people, having a successful church, growing a large ministry, publishing books, preaching at conferences, and the list can go on.

Please understand, these ministry goals are good, with the right motivation of course. I am thankful that God has raised up men who have successful ministries. I have personally benefited from the fruit of their labors, whether through sermons or books. While I have been blessed to preach to large groups (and we are considered a large church in the Southern Baptist Convention), I have published a book, I have preached at conferences, I am content to spend much of my time doing the work of an Andrew or Matthias. In light of this, maybe we need to define "success" differently. Maybe if you're like me, you need to find the extraordinary in the ordinary. Here are a few things to remember.

WILLINGLY SUBMIT TO JESUS. Any day you walk with Jesus is a good day. In the simple and ordinary task of reading the Word and praying we get to experience the extraordinary presence of Jesus. While we have many things competing for our attention, we must never neglect our walk with Jesus by daily submitting our wills to His. Many, including myself, need to be reminded of the powerful truth of "*He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own.*" By His mercy, we are His. Willing submission is what we need. Don't forget that the extraordinarily ordinariness of your daily submission to Jesus is what provides you the ability to make an eternal impact in the lives of others.

LOVINGLY LEAD YOUR FAMILY. Loving your spouse and children is your first ministry. What a shame it would be if we spend our time taking care of others while simultaneously neglecting our families. Serving your spouse and shepherding your children will create more of an impact than having the most "successful" ministry, in my opinion. In the ordinary of changing diapers, paying bills, and washing dishes we find the simple rhythms of life that grant us the opportunity to make an eternal impact in our families.

As we lead our family, we must remember the spiritual leadership required. I am amazed each week at the number of children that determine whether or not their family attends church. "Little Johnny didn't feel like coming. Little Janie won't stay in the nursery and I did not want to fight that today. Teenager John stayed out too late and I just didn't want to deal with him." I could go on and on of examples I see in our church. We need parents to be parents and make the unpopular decisions that will lead to spiritual growth in their families.

HUMBLY SERVE WITHIN THE CHURCH. I know what you are thinking: "Here he goes again with the serving talk! We just heard that sermon. Again!" I cannot quit reminding us of the priority of serving as long as it is so prevalent in Scripture. We are simply called to serve His people in the local church. We all know people that are willing to "serve" (I use that word loosely) when the spotlight is shining or there will be some sort of benefit. But also serve in the ordinary ways; pick the dead bug out of the floor, wipe off a table after the Wednesday meal, say "good morning" as a door greeter, and being the first to say, "will you forgive me." Serve the church by delivery of meals to our senior adults on Thursdays. In the mundane times of life, we can do extraordinary things for God's Kingdom. Serve the church by your ordinary example.

FAITHFULLY STEWARD YOUR INFLUENCE. God has given us an opportunity to use our lives to influence others. But sometimes we can overstep our influence by not faithfully stewarding what God has already given us. Seeking to be a "big deal" when we're not is embarrassing and shameful. The "big deal" is Jesus not us. Jockeying for a new position, climbing the ladder, or getting a seat at the table out of selfish motives is antithetical to the gospel of King Jesus. If God chooses to expand your influence, then faithfully steward that opportunity. But in the meantime faithfully steward your influence, no matter how big or small, by pointing people to Jesus. Be faithful to what God has given you (see the Parable of the Talents).

In *My Utmost for His Highest*, Oswald Chambers writes, "The true test of a person's spiritual life and character is not what he does in the extraordinary moments of life, but what he does during the ordinary times when there is nothing tremendous or exciting happening." Who we are in the "ordinary times of life" reveals who we truly are in Christ. Finding joy in the mundane. Experiencing Christ in the chaos of life. The "extraordinary in the ordinary" starts by focusing less on the tasks and more on the simple rhythms of life itself. From the living room to the workroom, the coffee shop to the back porch, Jesus is with us. As believers we must find "success" in the simple grind of life. In this we become...

Extraordinarily ordinary for the glory of our extraordinary God!

Bro. Clint



It was a great month in February for our kids' ministry. On Wednesday nights we went through a series on the foundations of our faith. Cornerstone Construction Zone covered what we as Christians believe and hold as the very base foundations. On Sunday the 26, the kids

ministry put together *Bedtime Bags*. These bags had personal items such as a toothbrush and toothpaste, a small flashlight, coloring book with colors, a small stuffed animal, etc. These bags were given to DHS to be presented to a child who is being rescued from a home. We thank the Lord for our parents who helped us teach their children to think outside themselves.

This month we will be focusing on *Friends*. John 15:14; "You are my friends if you do what I command." Do everything you can possibly do to get your kids to our Wednesday night Bible Study, each Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m.

Hopefully, at this point you have registered your child (*completed grades 2 – 6*) for summer camp, June 26-28. We have limited space and if you haven't registered, please call the church office and we will see if any space is available.

VBS is right around the corner and as always, we are looking for volunteers. If you know that you will be available to help June 5-9, please let me know. If you will teach or assist in a classroom and have an age you would prefer I will do what I can to place you there.

Lots to do and keep up with so make sure to "like" our kids Facebook page; Project 226 to keep up with the latest news!

- John

Chile Mission Trip Meeting

Sunday, March 26 at 4:00 pm

for anyone interested in being involved in a summer trip or a trip next January. Please be in prayer for our missionaries, Chad and Ruthanne Lynch, as they return from furlough this month.

Thanks to everyone who has accepted the 5% Challenge.

There is still time to accept this challenge. All you have to do is give 5% more of your regular tithe. For instance, if you give \$100 a week, the 5% Challenge would take your gift to \$105. The 5% Challenge is designed to fund new and emerging ministries. Our Leadership Team has started working on a "Vision 2020" that will require additional funding. Please be in prayer for this process, as we hope to give an update at our April business meeting.

Prayerfully consider accepting the 5% Challenge.



WE WILL HAVE A GIDEON PRESENTATION AT THE END OF OUR WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SUNDAY MORNING (MARCH 5). WE WILL COLLECT AN OFFERING FOR THIS MINISTRY AS WE LEAVE. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY.

From The Minister of Music



For over 30 years Carol Sudduth served as the pianist of First Baptist Church. She was extremely gifted musically and could play anything you placed in front of her or anything she heard. She had a special touch on the piano and could stir our hearts with the notes she played. Her talent and love for music was only surpassed by her love for her Savior, the One she played for. It wasn't just talent and ability that made our worship music so special, it was that love she had for Jesus. We all have been heartbroken to see her struggle with cancer, but even then, she remained positive and fixed her eyes on Jesus. Carol's faith became sight on February 17 when she won the battle and had her first glimpse of glory. We are grateful for the legacy she left us. All of us have been given unique gifts and abilities by God to use to serve the body of Christ. May we all be faithful with these gifts and abilities and use them for His glory until our physical bodies will no longer allow us to do so.

I'm sure you have noticed that Kathryn Merkle is no longer playing flute in our services. The Merkles have moved to Alabama to be near their daughter and grandchildren. She is going to be missed by all of us. She not only was musically talented, she also did the layout for our words on Sunday mornings and assisted Buffey when needed in the tech booth. She has worked in our church office in the past and within the past few months she completely inventoried and reorganized our music library. Many other things happened because of her, but most people never knew it because she served behind the scenes in such a quiet and humble spirit. If you would like to drop her a note, I have her address and will be happy to share with you.

First Baptist is blessed with many gifted musical servants. Lori McGraw has stepped into our pianist position and Hayley Drennan continues to play flute solo in our services. Gaye Sikes blesses us on the organ each week where she has sat since the 1970's. If someone has a hidden talent, we would love to have someone back on the synthesizer where Lori had been playing. You do need to be able to read music and play piano. And someone with experience on the drums would be awesome too! If any of these interest you, contact me and let's talk.

Keep Singing!
Ken Hall



Our Webster Elementary Adoption has been approved and is in full swing.

If you agreed to adopt a classroom and have not heard from your teacher, please let Brother Clint know as soon as possible.