Spring Break was a ton of fun this year. Our students spent time loving on children in the community and connecting with them and their families, in the hopes to build relationships with them that could point them to our church family. Of course we also played a little paintball where they learned their youth minister wasn't afraid to light them up! Our hiking trip got rained out but that has been rescheduled for April 21st. Students and adults interested in going should let me know so I can arrange to have enough vehicles to ride. It is an opportunity to see the only place in Mississippi with over 8 waterfalls on one hike.

Our Sunday night bible study on James is halfway through and we have had some awesome testimonies from students who have said they have been challenged to love like Christ and live an authentic faith in their day to day lives. Even though it's halfway through, your student can join in now. That bible study is at 5 on Sundays.

Small Groups and Awana

will meet, without interruption,

April 8, 15, 22 and 29.

The final session of the semester is **May 6.**

Our quarterly business meeting is Sunday, April 15, following the morning service. A fried catfish lunch will be provided, with donations accepted for the Chile mission fund.

One item of business at our business meeting will be a proposed amendment to our constitution regarding the annual deacon election process. This will be presented at the meeting, with a time for questions and discussion. A group of our deacons have worked on these changes over the past couple of months, and all of the deacons recommend that the church adopt this new process.

The following **Sunday, April 22, there will be a special-called meeting at the end of our worship service to vote on this matter without any further discussion.**

BUILDING SPIRITUAL GIANTS

Luncheon is **APRIL 29 AT NOON**.

All parents who have children at home are invited to attend.

Registration is required at fbcyazoo.org.

Steve Roark will lead this session.

Deacons meeting April 8 at noon.

**$17,217.11 required weekly to meet budget.*

March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25
Bible Study Attendance	Bible Study Attendance	Bible Study Attendance	Bible Study Attendance
249	198	245	243
Worship Service Attendance	Worship Service Attendance	Worship Service Attendance	Worship Service Attendance
241	220	254	255
Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering
$15,241.00	$15,939.32	$15,571.00	$11,055.50

Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

To Benevolence Fund in memory of Gloria Humphries & Homerline Clower

To the Capital Improvement Fund in memory of Bobbye Perry

To the Annie Armstrong Offering in memory of Homerline Clower

Financial Report through February 2018

Total Budget Offering **$141,023.17** less Expenses **$143,154.71** = **-$2,131.54**

Total Approved Budgeted through February 2018 = $157,324.31

Actual Expenses **$143,154.71**= $14,169.60 *spending under budget*

First Baptist Church Yazoo City

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share

Volume 3 , Edition 4 **April 2018**

Worship. Grow. Serve. Share. These priorities remind us of the mission that we have been given as followers of Jesus. As you read this newsletter, you will see opportunities to be involved in the mission of the church. If we are honest, though, we often do not embrace God's mission. We see opportunities and expect someone else to do what we excuse ourselves from doing. Why do we do this? Because, frankly, we have our own mission. We have our own way of calling the shots. We decide what is meaningful or worthwhile and order our lives accordingly. Some people's life mission is to pursue entertainment and comfort. For others it is security or wealth. For others it might be rising up the corporate ladder or being the most respected mom in the school. We like to be the boss of our own lives.

In light of this, it is not surprising that Jesus' first words in His earthly ministry were, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near!" (Matthew 4:17). Repent, because the kingdom already has a King, and you and I are not it!

In 21st century United States, we do not exactly have the perfect context for king and kingdom language. For the vast majority of history, however, the language of monarchy would ring with weight, because it is exactly what they lived in. In their world, if a king decreed something, it happened. No questions asked. If a king wanted something to become a law, it became a law. There was no system of checks and balances to make sure the king did not become a tyrant.

We have the privilege of living under a perfectly good, perfectly wise King whose every decision is for our benefit and eternal good. Throughout His ministry, Jesus' message resounded with the truth that His kingdom had come, and that it was a kingdom of good news—not a kingdom of oppression and corruption. Who wouldn't want to live in that kingdom and be part of its mission?

Historically, during a time of war, kings would set off to battle for their people against the given enemy. If the king was defeated, his people would either become slaves to the enemy or be killed. Messengers would run back to the city yelling, "Run for your lives!" However, when the king and his soldiers triumphed, he would send back a messenger to let the people know that the enemy had been defeated. The messenger would yell, "Good news! Good news!" This could have literally meant freedom from impending slavery or death. This news from the messenger is the same word we now use as the word "gospel," which in its simplest form means, "good news."

The message of King Jesus is the gospel. Our King has gone before us and defeated the enemy, therefore imparting to us victory over the slavery of sin and death. This is no everyday good news—this is life-altering good news, and we who have been reconciled to God have now been given the privilege of spreading this good news to a world that is in desperate need of it. The good news of the kingdom is that God does not leave us in a state of sinful devastation, but calls us to turn from our sin and to look to Him for hope and restoration.

Jesus is a King who got down into the mess of humanity, who went to ultimate lengths to seek and save the lost and restore people back into His kingdom. I look forward to celebrating His resurrection Sunday morning!

God bless,
Bro. Clint

P.S.
Thank you for your acknowledgement of my anniversary as your pastor! I am deeply indebted to you for the love you have shown to me and my family. It is my honor to serve you! "I Love Yazoo" has become more than a slogan to me!

Easter is a great time to "Invite Your One." Who do you need to invite to celebrate resurrection of Jesus? Check out the church Facebook page for an invitation you can share to invite someone to sit with you Sunday morning.

A special thank you for all who donated toward our Bed Time Bag project. Your generosity will be such a blessing to others and with your help we were able to put together 65 bags that were delivered to our local DHS office. They were thrilled to have them and appreciate them so very much.

If you are signed up to help in VBS this year, please put Monday, April 30 on your calendar. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. and we will have a night of training for all teachers and workers beginning at 6 p.m. That night you will receive your T-Shirt and curriculum. There will be a representative from the State VBS Leadership Team to go through your curriculum with you to help you be more effective.

Maybe you have not signed up to help but have been thinking about doing so. We could still use you as a teacher or worker in VBS this summer. Our date is June 4-8, 8 a.m.-12:00 noon everyday. Come to the training and check it out!

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING®
anniearmstrong.com

The North American Mission Board (NAMB) exists to help every church take its next step in missions and encourage every believer to live on mission.

NAMB's mission field is the United States, Canada and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa. This region contains diverse ethnic groups, languages and religions. Approximately 269 million people in North America do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Through your gifts to the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®** and the **Cooperative Program**, NAMB supports more than 5,000 missionaries and more than 3,800 chaplains who serve in difficult places where the gospel is often not welcome. Through **Send Network,** we help Southern Baptists plant new churches. In the last 100 years, SBC churches in proportion to population has dropped. By partnering with churches to train and deploy church planting missionaries, NAMB's goal is to help Southern Baptists plant 1,200 new churches annually in cities, small towns, college campuses and military communities.

Donations to the Annie Armstrong Easter offering can be made through April 8.

Are you interested in being part of a short mission trip in May?

May 23—26 we will be taking a team to Crest Hill, Il. If you would like to be a part of this missions opportunity please contact Clint at clint@fbcyazoo.org. More details will be available over the next few weeks.

VBS TRAINING

FBC will be hosting the Yazoo County Baptist Association VBS training

April 30

Supper will be served beginning

at 5:30 pm

Training will begin at 6 pm.

April 2018

Regular Weekly Sunday Services
9:45 am—Sunday School
11:00 am—Worship Service
5:00 pm—Awana & Small Groups

Wednesday Services
6:00 pm—Prayer Meeting, Children's & Students Bible Study
and Ladies Bible Study
6:45 pm—Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 **Deacon's Meeting - noon** Last Day to give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 **Business Meeting & Chile Mission Lunch—Noon**	16	17	18	19	20	21 Student Hiking Trip
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Building Spiritual Giants Luncheon **Local Benevolence offering**	30 **Association VBS Training**					

WATCH US LIVE ONLINE!
Sunday morning services are available **LIVE** online. You can watch the service live by going to www.fbcyazoo.org
And clicking on the "Live Stream" on our home page.

FirstBaptistChurch Yazoo City
Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED to PO Box 780 Yazoo City MS 39194

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

FRIDAY—CLOSED

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Delivered to the post office March 28, 2018. POSTMASTER please do not hold.