



STUDENT MINISTRY

Bro. Aaron Sibley



I hope you have been in prayer for our students since the last newsletter. There are a few who have already been able to make connections with lost friends and family with the purpose of pointing them to Christ. We kicked off our Sunday Night Small Groups by talking about our call to share the Gospel and identifying three lost family members or friends who we all knew and writing their initials on our prayer wall. Our hope is that it is a reminder to our students every time they see it to continually pray for those people and engage them with the Gospel. You too can pray for them. There is a picture on Facebook and Instagram of the wall and also one here in this article.



Pick out a group of names and pray that they come to know Christ. Pray for the students who have committed to sharing Christ's saving work with those people.

Also in Sunday Night Small Groups we will be starting two studies. The guys will be looking at YM360's "How to be a Man." A year ago they did a similar study, walking through the New Testament and exploring what it looks like to be a man according to Scripture. This is like that one except they will be looking at Old Testament examples. They will have five quiet times to do a week and then we will gather together on Sunday to discuss what we have learned. Our girls are doing a study by Priscilla Shiers called "Defined." It will be walking through the book of Ephesians and teaching them exactly what God defines us as. Our hope is that our young women will measure themselves by the definition given to them by God rather than the one given to them by the world. These small groups are from 5-7pm on Sunday nights. We also eat a meal together and enjoy fellowship.



**BREAKAWAY
2019**

Our Wednesday nights have also been pretty awesome. After spending almost a year walking through the Old Testament, we have started a series in 1 Thessalonians. It has been amazing to see the passion and affection Paul shared for this church stuck in persecution. While their persecution was great, they were not in crisis. They trusted God for all their needs and proudly proclaimed Christ as their Savior. Like the Thessalonians, we need to proclaim Christ loudly. My hope is that our students will hear that and choose to tell all who will listen about how they have been changed by Christ.



One upcoming event that is always a great one is See You At The Pole.

SYATP will be on September 25th. We are planning a county-wide SYATP rally this year and will be bringing in a special speaker and a band. There is no cost to anyone. If you have a desire to help with the organization or implementation of this event please contact Aaron so you can get plugged in.

Another great event that is coming up is **Breakaway Retreat**. This year's theme is Rest. We want to teach our students how to rest and listen to God. The dates are **October 18-20** and the cost is **\$85**. The band leading us is Anthem Worship who were with us at D-Now this past year and Todd Core will be preaching throughout the weekend. There are several breakout sessions that students can choose to be a part of and, of course, we will have the THRIFT STORE THROWDOWN!!!! This is something you don't want to miss. You can sign up online at www.fbcyazoo.org.

**CHRISTMAS CHOIR
KICK-OFF**

**TAILGATE
PARTY**

Anyone interested in singing with us for Christmas is invited to deck out in your game-day gear and join us!

Wednesday, Sept. 4th at 6:45

It's the time of year where we begin work on our Christmas music in choir. As always, we are recruiting "extras" who will come join us for this annual project. There is no obligation to join the choir on a full-time basis (although we would welcome that) and no experience necessary. Come check us out at our Tailgate Kick-off Party on Sept. 4th at 6:45 pm in the choir room. We will share details about rehearsal times, have a first listen to our Christmas music for this year, and then enjoy a time of barbecue and fellowship together. We welcome students through senior adults! Come join us as we work together to present the good news of Jesus Christ through music to our church and community!



September is the month we collect the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering. As the name indicates, all gifts to this offering support missions in Mississippi, including collegiate ministry, disaster relief, cross-cultural ministry, prison ministry, church planting, and deaf and language ministries. Please consider an additional sacrificial gift to this offering to help "serve this people."

**CHALLENGE to
GROW**

Current total given toward the Challenge to Grow Campaign:

\$156,881.28

August Attendance & Offering

August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
Sunday School 261	Sunday School 256	Sunday School 277	Sunday School 243
Worship Service 236	Worship Service 244	Worship Service 255	Worship Service
Budget Offering \$16,230	Budget Offering \$11,217	Budget Offering \$12,033	Budget Offering \$9,300

*\$16,514.73 required weekly to meet budget.

Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

*Local Benevolence in memory of Dr. Jimmy Walker
Challenge to Grow in honor of Marie Manor
Challenge to grow in honor of Taz Ketchum
Music Ministry in memory of Dr. Jimmy Walker*



FirstBaptistChurch

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share
Yazoo City

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It has been great to see many get back in a routine and get back in church this month! Seeing new faces and more people each week is always encouraging to a pastor. The past month has also been refreshing for some other reasons:

Our new Sunday School year is off to a great start with increased attendance. We have had some people attend Sunday School for the first time, while others have returned to Sunday School for the first time in a while. As a reminder, by definition Sunday School is the “foundational ministry in the local church...” Therefore, it is refreshing to see many prioritize participation in the foundational ministry that we have. I encourage you to continue to prioritize Sunday School attendance, and I am grateful to those who teach each week.

Our Wednesday night service is focused on prayer. When we made the adjustment from a time focused on Bible study to a time solely committed to prayer, we made an important step. Unfortunately, prayer is often viewed similarly to the national anthem at a ballgame: we would not think of starting without it but it is quickly forgotten. Spending 45 minutes in prayer is a foreign concept to many, but I encourage you to join us and be refreshed yourself. Every movement of God throughout history has always been preceded by prayer. Oh, did I mention that you do not have to pray out loud if you do not desire?

The sound of children and teenagers fill our church. The preschool is full on Sunday morning! The gym and activities building is full on Sunday and Wednesday evenings! The children’s area is bustling with activity each time we gather! Children are sitting in the worship service- and taking notes. The sounds you hear are signs of life. I have been in churches where there were not children or teenagers, and it is depressing; there is little sign of life. Look around Sunday morning and be refreshed yourself.

People have missed our CableVision service. Of course, it is not a positive that we have been unable to broadcast over the cable for the past month, but it is refreshing to be stopped by people in the community and asked about the service’s absence. It is a reminder of the many people who watch each week, as well as those who

listen on the radio or watch online. I appreciate those who serve in this ministry each week to provide a service to people who would not hear the Word of God without it. If you have a knack for technology and would be interested in this ministry, you would be an encouragement to Benton Hayman!

Another step was made toward planting a church in Crest Hill, Illinois. Rain did not stop our group from serving 1,000+ people at the school’s “Locker Day.” I appreciate those who were willing to spend two days on the road to serve in this community. Eleven families with no church home filled out the survey to state they would be interested in an ongoing Bible study “right now,” while 37 families indicated they would be interested in a study at a later time. Please continue to pray for this church plant.

You continue to give to our Challenge to Grow Campaign. It is refreshing to see commitments being fulfilled! We have started the process on the first step in this project, and the flooring in the sanctuary will be completed by December 1. If you did not pledge to participate in the campaign, you can still begin giving!

Some have been willing to start new ministries. Many adults are involved in Awana, some that got involved for the first time. We will also be starting GriefShare and DivorceCare. I am grateful that Jimmie Pickens and Buffey Jennings are willing to lead these ministries. I encourage you to participate if they would meet a need in your life, and I ask that you help spread the word to others that would benefit from either ministry.

There are other things that have been refreshing as you continue to love and support one another. Isn’t God good?!

Thanks for a great month. Let’s keep it up! “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6).

In Him,

Bro. Clint



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Bro. John Yates

Proverbs 22:6; "Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old they will not depart from it."

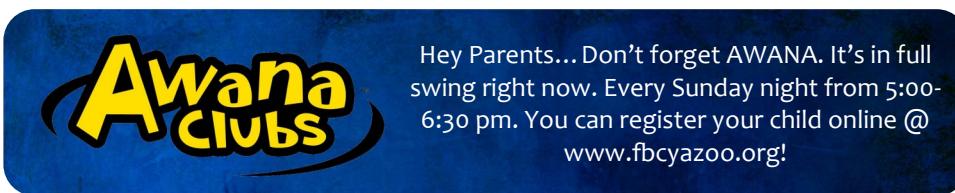
Fall is in full swing! At least that's what they keep telling me...and I suppose it is, but the 95 degree days keep screaming "Summer" to me. "They"...have you ever noticed how intelligent "they" are. Why "they" know everything and have done everything and been everywhere. "They" are truly something to behold. "They" were able to accomplish the particular task, that has you baffled, in virtually half the time and at a fraction of the costs. "They" have done it all and been everywhere.

Mom and dad, how many times has your child used "they"? Most every time this technique is implemented as an excuse or attempt to opt out of a particular task. Let me tell you of one little girl who could have used this but chose another route. "They" get this for their birthday...or ask for that...or have this kind of party..."I Want" becomes the mantra and of course we are talking about children so some of that self-focus is completely natural. However, not with this child and her special day. What did she do that was so special? On her special day (birthday) she had a party but when she invited her guests, she had one request. "All gifts are to be food items for the Backpacks of Hope Ministry." Yes, you read that correctly. Instead of what "they" typically ask for or receive, all focus was placed on helping others. I must tell you how much this act blessed and encouraged me. And I can honestly say I've not thought of doing that myself. It is sometimes easy for us, church, to lose focus and begin listening to "they" or we hear about what "they" are doing and think that maybe we need to be doing the same thing. God has a specific plan and purpose for each of us so let's keep our eyes fixed on Him and not "them".



We are continuing to collect items for this ministry. Please make sure to adhere to the specific list of items. God is continuing to enlarge this ministry and I have had several calls outside our area asking for information in how to assist and the steps to begin this type ministry in their areas. Although the list of recipients is not yet finalized (as of this article), the initial numbers look to be considerably larger.

There is still time to get your kids involved in our Wednesday night studies. We are halfway through our study on making wise choices in friendships and being the right, Biblical, friend. And, of course, our Polka Dot Girls (5th & 6th grade) are studying making good choices and basic Bible knowledge. All this goes from 6:00 - 6:45 every Wednesday evening.

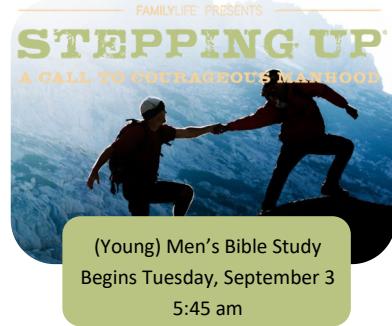
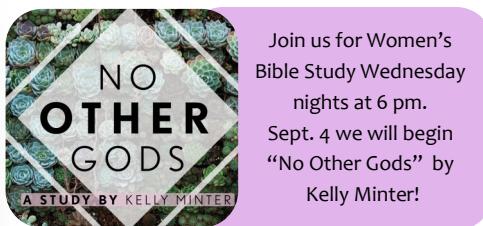


Small Groups begin Sunday, September 8, at 5 pm! All Sunday night Small Groups will do the "Gospel Above All" study! Groups will be led by Vernon Sikes, Paulette Kilpatrick, and Clint Ritchie.

Please select from any of the three groups.



September 15 is "National Back to Church Sunday." Many people who have stopped attending church are open to returning – if they are invited and welcomed. Did you know that 82% of the unchurched would be interested in coming to church if invited by a friend and yet in the last year only 2% of church members have invited someone? You are encouraged to think of those that have stopped attending church and invite them to come this particular Sunday!



September 2019

Sunday Services
 9:45 am—Sunday School
 11:00 am—Worship Service
 No PM Services during the Summer

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 	3 Young Men's Bible Study begins! 5:45 am	4	5	6	7
8 Damiens Baby Shower at 1:30 Grief Share, Divorce Care, & Smalls Groups Start!	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29 	30		Deacon of the week: 1 - Steve Coody, 8 - Phil Dixon, 15 - John Donaldson, 22 - Benton Hayman, 29 - A.G. Helton			

WATCH US LIVE ONLINE!

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



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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
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