



STUDENT MINISTRY

Bro. Aaron Sibley

This is my last newsletter entry and I wanted to take a moment to just say thank you church. You have loved on my family and me for the last 5 years so well. You have been patient and have shaped me into a better pastor and a better man. You have helped develop my children in some of their most formative years of life. You have supported my wife and been her friend when she was so far from other friends and her family. We are forever grateful to you, and FBC Yazoo will hold a special place in our hearts. We will be continuing to follow you and how the Lord is moving. We expect to see great things as you continue to minister in this community. You are doing things that no one else in the state of Mississippi is doing. The Lord is using you to show other churches what ministry looks like and all the while people are coming to Christ. Do not give up in that endeavor. In the midst of the work it can get cloudy and seem as if no good is coming from what you are doing, but I promise that as the clouds subside you will see what God has been doing all along. He is doing Kingdom work through you.

The students of Yazoo are looking at you. They are looking for a model of what a Christian does and says. Be sure that the model they see is one that is pursuing Christ. Now more than ever these students need you. They have lead out here at FBC Yazoo in missions and discipleship, but now they need you to lead them to continue to do the work you all have been called to. So when you see a student, encourage them, ask them how you can pray for them, take them to grab something to eat, sit with them at a game, and go and be a part of a youth event. Let them see that they are a part of more than just a student ministry, but a part of the church as a whole.

It is so difficult to leave you, but if we never see you again on this side of heaven I am overjoyed to be reminded that we can praise our God in eternity together. FBC Yazoo, you are a special church.

Continue to persevere and know the Sibley's love you!



Announcements!

-Sign up for Breakaway online at fbc Yazoo.org. Deadline to sign up is September 29th. Cost is \$85. Dates are Oct. 18-20.

-Small groups are still rocking on Sunday nights 5pm-7pm. There is a meal and fellowship as well. Students can attend in the youth area.



The Leadership Team has met and will be appointing a search team to begin the work on looking for a new youth minister, in accordance with our church bylaws. Please begin praying for this process.

In the meantime, Sunday School and Sunday evening small group have a system in place with adult volunteers that will continue. The key to any youth ministry is adult volunteers, and we have some great volunteers in place. The Wednesday service will continue weekly and will be led by Tiki Broome. Tiki is a native of Clinton and graduate of Mississippi College. He has been a DNow leader for us in the past and will do a great job of working with our students on Wednesday. Wednesday service remains at 6:00, and students are encouraged to come early to "hang out" with Tiki and our other adult leaders.

The youth ministry will remain a priority in our church! The youth team will be meeting soon, along with youth parents, and events will be held as planned, including the Breakaway Retreat. Get signed up today! Mark your calendars for DNow on January 3-5.



Join us Sunday, 9/29 for a luncheon honoring Aaron Sibley for his service as our youth minister. Sign-up is required! Please call the office or use the link in the weekly email. There will be a table for cards of appreciation.



Small Groups led by Vernon Sikes, Paulette Kilpatrick, and Clint Ritchie continue Sunday nights at 5 pm! All Sunday night Small Groups are doing the "Gospel Above All" study!



Given to Date: \$168,372.28

Work on the Sanctuary HVAC Upgrade has started!

September Offering & Attendance

September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22
Sunday School 228	Sunday School 267	Sunday School 288	Sunday School 244
Worship Service 182	Worship Service	Worship Service 223	Worship Service
Budget Offering \$12,180	Budget Offering \$13,176	Budget Offering \$9,589	Budget Offering \$8,750

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

Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

- Music Ministry in memory of Tommy Harper
- State Missions in memory of Nernine Merkle
- State Missions in memory of Tommy Harper
- Children's Ministry in memory of Tommy Harper



First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve & Share Yazoo City

OCTOBER 2019 • VOLUME 4 • EDITION 10

By the time you get this, we will have worshipped together on Sunday, but as I type this article, I am in Vermont. While here I had the opportunity to hear many historical facts about the area that played a great role in the founding of our country, and I also got to visit the Haystack Prayer Meeting monument in Williamstown. Unlike other places in the area, this one is not prominent on the visit lists of America. It does not even appear on most maps. During my visit, my host and I were the only tourists there. But the often overlooked monument at Williams College marks one of the most important events in the history of the world.



In 1806, a Williams College student named Samuel Mills began to pray for the cause of foreign missions. Until then, the missionary organizations in the United States were solely dedicated to domestic missions, both in the Western frontier and among Native American tribes. But Mills prayed that the Lord would raise up men to take the gospel to other nations. One August day, Mills assembled a small group of spiritually minded friends who prayed together outside of campus for foreign missions. Some accounts say there was a sudden thunderstorm as they were praying, which caused the five men to take refuge under a haystack. Afterward, they continued to gather weekly for what became known as the Haystack Prayer Meeting. In answer to the prayers from among the haystacks, God established the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions, the American Bible Society, and the United Foreign Missionary Society. Through those organizations, the Lord sent many laborers into his ripened field.

Beginning this Sunday, we will join thousands of other Southern Baptists by participating in the “Who’s Your One” initiative. When you think of someone far from God, who’s the first person who comes to mind? Is it a neighbor? Coworker? Parent? Child? No matter who it is, God can use you to reach them, and we are going to spend 30 days praying together for our “one.”

As I stood at the Haystack Prayer Meeting monument and thought about our focus on “Who’s Your One,” there are some things I want to point out to us.

1. God uses people in the middle of nowhere to plead for the souls of people who are everywhere.

In our day, it is popular to talk about the culture-making, idea-shaping, world-changing work that happens in urban ministry. Urban settings offer unique gospel opportunities, but the small prayer meeting in a hayfield reminds us that the Lord has important work for people in rural places, too. Williamstown has far more trees than people, but the prayers offered there were answered in Turkey, in India, in South Africa, in Mexico, and in China. On the Last Day, a multitude from every nation will give thanks to the Lord for saints in the middle of nowhere who faithfully prayed for them.

It is easy to feel like Yazoo County is in the middle of nowhere, and some places in the county might be, but we cannot use our location as an excuse to turn a blind eye to the lostness around us.

2. God uses people who are young to stir up people of all ages.

The men of the Haystack Prayer Meeting were young—not yet enrolled in seminary, not even graduated from college. They had no worldly power or resources. They held no official position in the church. And yet, they were so moved by the desire to “effect . . . a mission or missions to the heathen” that they began to organize missionary societies on several college campuses, encouraging other students to pray for the cause of missions. After this, they repeatedly visited the influential ministers of their day, eventually prevailing on those men to form a missionary board (The American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions) for sending gospel laborers into the world.

In 1816, Haystack organizer Samuel Mills died at sea on a return voyage from Africa. His legacy included people of all ages partnering in missions throughout the world. At the time of his death, he was 35.

If you visit our youth room, there is a chalk board full of initials. These stand for lost individuals for which our students are praying. There is a spiritual depth among many of our students that is unseen in their peers, and they are intentional in praying for those who are lost. I pray that the rest of us follow their lead.

3. God uses people who are few in number to gather a countless harvest.

Most church prayer meetings are poorly attended. In a lifetime of Wednesday nights, I have rarely been in a gathering of more than a quarter of my church’s total membership. This is not good, and I pray and write hoping this might change. But the Haystack Prayer Meeting is an encouraging reminder that, no matter how small our numbers, the Lord of the harvest hears and answers our prayers. Jesus promises that when two or three are gathered to pray, he will attend every time. Brothers and sisters, take heart. The five haystack men—not even enough for a college baseball team—prayed in the name of Christ and received in reply an exponential harvest of souls.

4. God uses invisible and seemingly insignificant events to accomplish his great purposes.

My host told me that he stops students on the Williams College campus, who walk by the Haystack monument, and asks them if they know about it. He has yet to find the first. As we stood at the monument, we were entirely ignored. A landscaper on a golf cart passed without a glance, a student or two hurried down the sidewalk, a security guard asked us to move our car, a professionally dressed woman crossed the street nearby. It was just us and the birds.

In 1806 the world did not notice what was happening at the edge of campus. But the Lord did. Because of the prayers, the laborers were sent. Because of the laborers, the gospel was preached. Because of the gospel, people were saved. Like a haystack in a field, praying together can seem ordinary and unremarkable. But viewed from eternity, it is one of history’s most significant events.

Over 200 years later, the impact of that prayer meeting continues to touch the world. I pray that the next 30 days in our church will also have such an impact!

God bless,

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."

Everything is in full swing in the kids worship area! I'd like to begin by thanking those willing souls who stepped right in and help refresh our kids area. These people all work with our kids ministry in one aspect or another and love your children. Thank you so much!

With a great group of team teachers, our Sunday School provides everything you would hope. Parents, you should share our desire for your kids. Our heart's desire is to see your children grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. To see those without a personal relationship with Him come to Him in repentance and surrender and those who have made that decision to grow in their faith is our heart. Please make the little extra effort to get your kids here on Sunday morning at 9:45.

As we continue our various ministries, the kids begin a new Wednesday night series, "Kingdom Tales". We will go right to the throne room of King Earl the Undecided. The king must decide the best way to solve a problem in the kingdom. To do so, the king seeks the counsel of the kingdom's two most trusted advisers. We will see how to develop the noble character God wants everyone to have.



AWANA has a new format and continues to teach, more effectively, God's Word. Instead of doing as much as possible in a book each week in order to gain "points" at the risk of remembering little, the new format focuses on one verse each week. The idea is retention. Storing up God's Word in our heart. This program meets each Sunday evening from 5:00-6:30 pm in the Activities Building. Our younger groups, age 2-4 meet in the preschool area. It's not too late to get your kids "In the Word". Come join us!



The Backpacks of Hope Ministry, as of this article, is reaching and feeding 67 hungry children each weekend and if last year was typical, I look to have an increase before it levels out this school year. We praise God for this "hands on" work of God and I am thankful to each of you for your continued support. Please be diligent and pick up an extra item or 2 every time you go the grocery store. I don't mind you calling me and asking me if there are any items on our list that we could particularly use that week and might be low on. You've been faithful and have blessed so many families. Let's keep this going.

Once again, we have a great opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ with our Fall Festival. As we have stated in the past, it's important to me that if we are truly holding such a large festival with the intent to provide children an alternative to Halloween, then in all honesty, this must be held on October 31st. To hold this event any other night, for our convenience, would be a waste of time and resources. So, I encourage you Sunday School classes, to begin collecting your prize candy for your respective games. You will find a choice of games in your Sunday School box that I would love you to choose from. We want to do some different games than in past years or at least add some new ones and your classes can really help with this. Also added this year is a "trackless train" for preschoolers along with a 40' inflatable obstacle course. Add the mechanical bull from last year and our own giant inflatable slide and it will be another great night with our community. Everything kicks off at 5:30 and goes until 7 pm. We need your help so make your plans now!



Quarterly Business Meeting- Sunday, October 20 at noon

The business meeting will be held in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. The 2020 budget will be voted on at this time, with the proposal distributed to the church October 13.



Yazoo County Baptist Association Annual Meeting- October 14 at 7:00

Mississippi Baptist Convention Annual Meeting- October 29-30

If you are interested in serving as a messenger to either of these meetings, please see Bro. Clint.

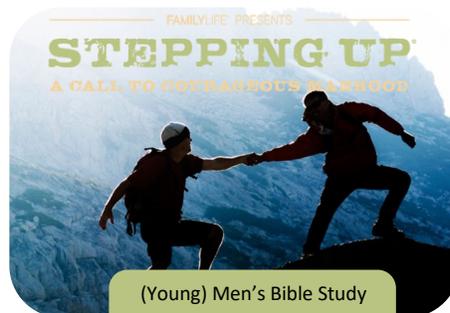


We will kick off the "Who's Your One" initiative next Sunday with distribution of the prayer guides, then will join in prayer for 30 days together, beginning October 1.

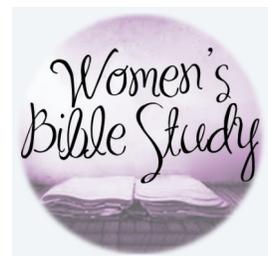


Benevolence Offering- Sunday, September 29

Our benevolence offering will be collected this Sunday at the end of the service. This money is used to meet needs within our church and community. Recently, \$750 from this fund was given to buy cleaning supplies for those affected by the flooding in Holly Bluff. A train ticket was purchased with this money to help a lady in an abusive relationship reunite with her family in Milwaukee. Your gift makes a difference!



(Young) Men's Bible Study continues Tuesday mornings at 5:45 am



Women's Bible Study Wednesdays 6 pm.

October 2019

Sunday Services
 9:45 am—Sunday School
 11:00 am—Worship Service
 5:00—Adult & Youth Small groups & AWANA

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
Deacon of the week: 6- Roger Jones, 13 - Taz Ketchum, 20 - Nick King, 27—Tim Manor		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 	19
20 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 		

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.



First Baptist Church Yazoo City

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share

328 Grand Ave. Yazoo City, MS 39194
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED to PO Box 780 Yazoo City MS 39194

Office Hours
 Monday - Thursday
 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
FRIDAY - CLOSED

Phone:
 662-746-2471

Website:
www.fbcyazoo.org

Email:
clint@fbcyazoo.org
john@fbcyazoo.org
aaron@fbcyazoo.org
khall@mccb.org
jessica@fbcyazoo.org