



First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

MARCH 2021 • VOLUME 6 • EDITION 3

Wonderful Church Family,

February 14, 2021. We were ready to move full steam ahead with the restart of Sunday School, the beginning of the Anchored in Christ Sunday School for men, K4Christ, and small groups, and THEN sleet began to do its' slippery work. Delayed yet again. Iced in for a week. On February 21st we were ready to move full steam ahead AGAIN! Two hurdles stood in our way. Because of the ice it was too dangerous to be walking to and from the buildings and we had no power! Sunday School would be delayed yet another week. We were determined we would have the worship service – even in the dark.

Praise God the power came back on (an answer to prayers). If not for some very hard-working men shoveling ice, there would have been no safe pathways into the sanctuary. Thanks guys. In spite of an iffy beginning, God blessed us with a great time of worship and fellowship. It was great to see so many people longing to worship God, hear the Word, and just be with one another again!

Be it a Covid storm, an ice storm, or personal storms, the past year has been filled with chaos, upheaval, and uncertainty. I invite you to think through something with me. We hear the words, “cancel culture” often these days. May we as a church stand guard against that attitude creeping into our thinking when it comes to gathering together. It should be very exceedingly difficult for us to ever cancel opportunities for spiritual growth and worship. It should be very difficult for mom or dad to turn to their kids and say we are not going to “church” today – in effect canceling the plans to be with God’s people!

Come with me up to the high mountains of Honduras. Our mission team was on our way to a worship service. Our mode of transportation – small pickup trucks. I and others on the team were standing up in the bed of a truck holding onto cattle bars for dear life. A very strong storm seemed to come out of nowhere. The dirt road turned to mud as water poured down the mountain. A thought flashed into my mind, “ain’t nobody going to be coming to “church” in a storm like this.” When we arrived at the church building and walked in, I was overwhelmed with how many people were packed into that place - more hungry for God than for comfort. I repented of my thinking. Though soaked to the bone, I stood up to preach.

In the USA we don’t expect people to endanger their lives to get to “church.” In the USA we don’t expect people to gather in wetness and cold. In the USA we don’t expect people to risk their jobs, or status, or life and limb to gather for worship. When you see God’s people gathering in the early church that is exactly what they were doing. For many, going to the Church gathering meant the possibility of loss of status, loss of job, loss of life. The value of those things paled in comparison to gathering with other believers to worship the ONE, Jesus Christ, who had rescued them from eternal death! A watching world watched the behavior of

those Christians, saw how real God was to them, and then they too became followers of Jesus Christ. What do lost people see in us and our commitment to God and our commitment to gathering together?

Please don’t misunderstand me. The last thing I would ever want to see is someone slip coming into or out of the sanctuary, or to catch a virus that might be floating through the air, or worse. This is why we are taking every precaution to make sure those things don’t happen. Yet, when Covid numbers increase, the ice comes, the storms get strong, the rain pelts down, someone asks, “are we going to cancel services?”

It should greatly bother followers of Christ to ever “cancel services.” Men and women have given their lives so that we can meet. More important God Himself in human form, the Word made flesh, gave His blood so that we can exist as His Church and gather together. It should be very hard for us to conclude as a church, or even as individual followers of Christ, “we are going to cancel.”

Bad weather comes. Some people just can’t come. That is fully understood. It warmed my heart to see all the people who could come make the effort to gather. Viruses rage. Some people just can’t come or perhaps shouldn’t come. That is fully understood. I think it brings a smile to God’s face when His children who can come choose to gather with other believers – perhaps with masks on and sanitizer in hand – but they come because they can and there is no other place they would rather be.

God’s people have been meeting under dangerous circumstances for thousands of years. They haven’t let the threat of persecution, sickness, rain, snow, or death deter them. Many of you grew up with the mentality, “when the church doors are open we are going to be there.” It seems we are losing some of that conviction. Current mentality seems to be, “if it is safe, if there is no danger, if there is nothing else more pressing, then I will be there.” Again it should be extremely difficult for a church body or any one of us to “cancel” any opportunity for people to grow in the LORD and worship Him. DO NOT MISUNDERSTAND. I am not saying be reckless. We will continue to take every precaution that we can. Each of us must follow what we believe to be the leading of the Holy Spirit. It should never be an easy thing to “cancel” any opportunity for worship or spiritual growth.

I never ask anyone to do what I am not first willing to do. Will you and your family make a renewed commitment to our LORD? Unless it is just impossible or unwise for you in your situation to gather with other believers – I make the choice now – when there are opportunities for worship and growth - I and my family will be there! We hope to see you on February 28th!

In His Love,

Byron



STUDENT MINISTRY

Tiki Broome

MADE NEW

2ND CORINTHIANS 5:17
D NOW 2021

“Yo VIP, let's kick it Ice, ice baby Ice, ice baby” What a month! We had so much unexpected weather! I know for many of you, you felt trapped and bored during the great snow-pocalypse of 2021. I look forward to what's ahead for us. We will finally be meeting back in person at the church on Wednesday nights; Sunday nights will remain at my home for now. We are beyond pumped for DNOW this month!!! Our theme this year is “Made New.” (2nd Corinthians 5:17) Throughout the weekend we will look at the simplicity of what the Gospel is and how it truly affects the way we live our lives. This weekend students will take a deep look into their faith and the actions that come with it. There are two things you can do to support us: First, you can pray pray pray.

Our youth need an awakening of what it means and looks like to follow the one true King. In a world that is littered with social media and distractions, our kids need to have a foundation to stand on. The second, encourage a youth that you know to sign up! Students sometimes need that push!

Join me in fervently praying for our students and the weekend ahead.

May The Lord bless you and keep you;
May The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
And may The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”

-Tiki Broome



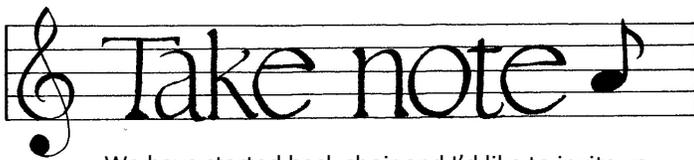
Super Bowl 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS
D NOW - March 5-6th
AMAZING RACE - March 20th

 **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

D NOW is March 5-7th! We are looking for volunteers to provide snacks for the students and our Hospitality Room! If you can help, please contact Amanda Barton 662.571.3207

THANK YOU!



We have started back choir and I'd like to invite you to consider joining us each Wednesday at 6:50 in the Choir Room on second floor of the Education Building. We will continue to practice COVID safety by spreading apart and wearing masks when not seated. We still have many of our regular choir members who are not able to return yet, so we need some new members! God has gifted his people with spiritual gifts and special talents and abilities to be used for His glory and the building up of the church. You may not feel you are gifted in the area of music, but if you enjoy singing and music, you should put it to good work. I would like to get our choir built back up before we begin the transition to a new Worship Pastor, which is going to be an exciting journey for the church!! God has great things planned for First Baptist Church and His plans are perfect!

Ken Hall

the BENEVOLENCE offering

Thank you to those who gave towards the 5th Sunday Benevolence Offering 1/31/2021. We collected \$663.

CHALLENGE to GROW Given to Date: \$465,835.53

January/February Offering

<u>Jan 31</u>	<u>Feb 7</u>	<u>Feb 14</u>	<u>Feb 21</u>
Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering
\$6,626	\$15,746	\$1,230	\$9,550
Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow
\$10,580	\$2,395	\$240	\$1,400

Online Giving thru 2/24

\$10,519

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

Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

- Capital Improvements in memory of Eddie Purvis
- Capital Improvements in memory of Rita Middleton
- TV Ministry in memory of Rita Middleton
- Local Benevolence in memory of Rita Middleton
- Backpack Ministry in memory of Rita Middleton
- Local Benevolence in memory of Rita Middleton



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."



Here's to getting back to routine. Routine...I've never been a fan of "routine" for it's own sake for sometimes routine can lead to somewhat of a rut. But for what we have experienced this past year and beginning of this year, I am ready for routine. How about you? The opportunities put in place to aid in the spiritual growth of children need to be up and running to help your children develop the foundations of a Christ-led life. Sunday School, K4C on Sunday nights and Elevate on Wednesday nights. The gift God has given you in responsibility of your child's spiritual growth is truly one of the greatest investments you could give them. Please commit, now, to get your children in these wonderful programs.

IMPORTANT NOTICE | Summer Camp 2021 | July 18-21 | Registration Deadline March 10

We are currently requesting that you please contact the office regarding Summer Camp. We are trying to gauge interest. We will hold our own camp at Lake Tiak-O-Khata in Louisville, MS, on July 18-21. Your response, by March 10 will determine what we do from here. (completed 2nd grade—6th)



Cost is \$185. No money is due now, but the need for your response is so important. If you would like your child/children to participate, please contact John or the church office asap.

Backpacks of Hope



Spring Break is the week of the 14th this year. That means that on Wednesday, March 10, the Backpacks of Hope Team will be packing large backpacks filled with as much food as it can hold! This is where you come in. Please be diligent in your contributions. Any items on the approved list would be deeply appreciated. While you're at it, don't forget that regular-sized box of Kid's Cereal. That week, each child receives one box in addition to their normal pack!



Instant Oatmeal, Cereal Bars, Pop-tarts, Single-serve containers of Ravioli, Mac-n-Cheese, & soup, Vienna Sausages, Ramen Noodles, Jerky Sticks, Crackers, Cookies, Granola Bars, and Fruit Snacks. Please remember: NO PEANUT BUTTER

HELP WANTED

Thank you to those who have signed up to fill in at the office during Jessica's absence with Maternity Leave. There are still some available slots if you can spare some time to come help! Mondays-Thursdays, March 2nd-April 22nd. There are calendars for March & April set up in Jessica's office. If you are interested in helping out please swing by and sign up! Or get in touch with Jessica; call at 662.746.2471 or email at jessica@fbcyazoo.org. Please make note: Jessica's last day is Monday, March 1!

BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, Feb. 28th @ 4:30
in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Night Activities

YOUTH

Activities Building
6PM | AFTER PARTY TO FOLLOW

ELEVATE KIDS

Kids Area
Education Building
5:45 | NURSERY-6TH GRADE

PRAYER MEETING
& BIBLE STUDY
Fellowship Hall

6PM

LADIES BIBLE STUDY
Rm 208
Education Building

6PM

BACKPACKS OF HOPE

Kitchen
Education Building
5:45 PM

CHOIR REHEARSAL Choir Room

6:50 PM



March 2021

Sunday Services
 9:40am—Sunday School
 11:00 am—Worship Service in Sanctuary
 5pm—Youth, K4C, Small Groups

Wednesday Services
 6:00 pm—Prayer Meeting
 Youth—in the Activities Building
 Kids—in the Education Building

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 DNOW
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14  NO PM SERVICES	15	16	17 HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY NO PM SERVICES	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28  PALM SUNDAY	29	30	31	Deacon of the week: 7—Taz Ketchum, 14—Mike Kilpatrick, 21—Dan McLeod, 28—Jimmy Phillips		

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. We are also Live on Facebook each week!



Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED to PO Box 780 Yazoo City MS 39194

Office Hours

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

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Yazoo City First Baptist Church

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