



First Baptist Church Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

MAY 2021 • VOLUME 6 • EDITION 5

Wonderful Church Family,

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations ... Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, 'Behold, I have put my words in your mouth (Jeremiah 1:5, 9).'" The LORD came to me about 33 years ago and I too heard God calling me into ministry. Once I knew for certain it was the LORD calling – I responded, "yes, LORD, I will follow You in whatever You call me to do!" Over the coming years, God honed that call to being a Preacher/Pastor. What an awesome responsibility! Like Jeremiah, I wondered what do I say? How do I know I am hearing from the LORD? I am so fragile and imperfect. I take great courage from the LORD's words to Jeremiah – "Do not be afraid ... I have put My words in your mouth."

I take my role as "preacher" very seriously. Every week I pray – "LORD, what do You want to say to the people of FBC Yazoo? You know their hearts. Fill my heart with Your words." When I preach, I do believe the words that are being spoken through this very weak, imperfect vessel are God's words to each of us.

How do I come to that place in my mind and heart? I spend hours digging deep into God's word, praying over the passage, listening as best I can to the Holy Spirit, and writing what I believe are God's words to God's people. I ask God's Spirit to prepare my mind and heart through the week, and for Jesus Christ to preach His words in and through me. I speak until I hear Him say, "that is enough." At the same time, I am mindful of and seek to remain in the time allotted to communicate that message.

I have had the opportunity to preach in a number of places in this world – at times with an interpreter. Length of the message or the length of the service was never an issue in these places. I have been in many services that have lasted 2 to 3 hours! For some reason, length is an issue in the United States, but not in all places or local churches. For some it is sermon length. For others the issue is service length. At some point in the history of the local church in the United States the numbers 12:00 noon on Sundays have been given great significance. For some to go beyond those numbers is well ... not good.

I heard of a man in one church who would hold up his arm, the one with the watch on it, to let the preacher know, "from this point forward you are in violation of your allotted time." My response to such an action, "I am glad God doesn't hold a stopwatch on me."

When I listen to someone else preach I want to hear everything God has prepared in that man's heart to communicate to me. I go to worship with my heart wide open to be filled with truth – regardless of how long the preacher preaches or the service lasts, and then to respond as the Holy Spirit leads. To me, whatever time it took was time well invested. That time was not too much to give to the Savior Who has saved my wretched soul.

That brings us to present day. God has called me to be your Pastor. God has called me to proclaim and live out His truth to you. I understand for some the length of the message is too long and for some the services are too long. My love for each of you is growing. I intend to be your pastor for long time. The question becomes, what are we going to do?

Over the past few weeks your staff has prayed and thought through what can be done to maintain meaningful worship opportunities while also seeking to keep within the allotted time frame for Sunday morning worship. Here are steps we are taking.

- I will do my best to balance what I believe God desires to say while being mindful of the time in which the service is to usually conclude.
- Your staff will continue to work closely together in providing opportunities for meaningful times of worship through psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, prayer, and worship through the preaching of and response to God's Word - while being mindful of the time allotted for the service.
- A slight change in the service time will also be helpful. We will begin at 10:50 a.m. instead of 11:00 a.m.
- This should enable the services to usually conclude by the appointed time.
- When people are moved to pray at the altar, trust in Jesus Christ as Savior, or become a part of this wonderful fellowship, this may take us beyond the allotted time. May we rejoice that God is working and people are responding!
- I understand the new beginning time encroaches into Sunday School's allotted time. Sunday School actually begins at 9:40 a.m. but most classes do not get started then. The men of the Anchored in Christ class will need to arrive earlier and Tiki and I will need to get started with the teaching a few minutes earlier. If all classes make this adjustment it should allow the choir members to gather when needed and for all to be in the sanctuary by 10:50.

Both the radio and TV ministries are being informed of the change.

Thanks for hearing my heart. Please pray each week for God to fill my heart and my mouth with His words. When you come on Sunday ask God, "Speak to me through Your Servant and help me to respond!" Get ready. When God's people have that kind of hunger for God and His word - great things are going to happen!

Byron



STUDENT MINISTRY

Tiki Broome

School is almost out! How exciting! I am so excited for what's to come in the next few weeks: Graduation recognition, Camp, Mission Trips and so much more! Like I said, a whole lot is on tap for First Yazoo Students. Graduation recognition is Sunday, May 2nd. I'm excited to preach and send you all off on to new adventures.

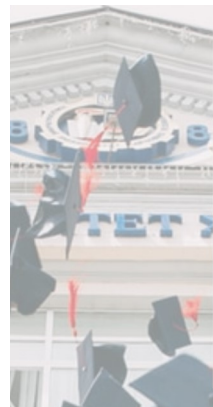
This is the time of year that we all retreat to the beach or "vacation." I don't know about y'all, but it seems that I always need a vacation from my vacation. I want to encourage you as we do activities and bible studies this summer, be a part & get involved!! Major growth in our spiritual life can come when we invest in the things of God. So as we look to summer, let's be mindful of growth and invest in our faith.

"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



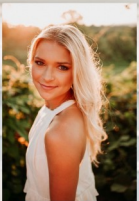





UPCOMING EVENTS

GRADUATE RECOGNITION - MAY 2ND
JAMBALAYA FUNDRAISER - MAY 16TH
CAMP TENNESSEE - JUNE 13-18



Congratulations CLASS OF 2021

Proverbs 3:5-6
Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your path straight.

Nick Bradford, Ann Stewart Cader, Anna Kate Griffin, Livi Howell, Noble Newton, Ivy Sowell, Connor Stevens, and Jewell Vandevere

READY SET RAISE JAMBALAYA FUNDRAISER SUNDAY MAY 16TH

\$12/plate | See a student for a ticket | proceeds will go to assisting youth for summer missions and camp | pick up plates at noon

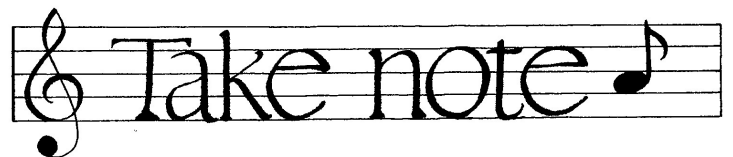
April Offering

April 4	April 11	April 18	April 25
Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering
\$32,931	\$12,665	\$10,453	\$11,480
Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow
\$1,845	\$5,715	\$945	\$4,240

Online Giving thru 4/28

\$10,901

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



You know who you are. Week after week you sit in the congregation and love to lift your heart in worship to the King of Kings; you love the music and the choir and on more than one occasion, you have felt the Lord impress on you to be a part of the worship choir. For many reasons, you've put it off. Well, now is the time! Choir rehearsal will begin Wednesday May 5th at 6:50 sharp!

If you are new, there are many veterans in the choir room that will be happy to show you the ropes. If you are one of those veterans, this is a call to you to remain faithful. You are needed and God isn't through with you!

Along with our new service time (see the pastor's article) we all need to be conscience of our time as we gather in the choir room following Sunday School. Let's aim for being in the choir room ready to run through the mornings music by 10:35. I look forward to what God is going to do through your worship leading each week.

Blessings,
John

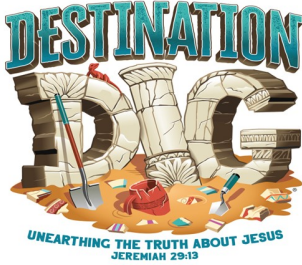
Gifts were received for the following designated funds:

Capital Improvements in memory of Warner Rean Hilderbrand
Backpack Ministry in honor of Gerry McGraw



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Bro. John Yates



June 28—July 2, 2021 from 8:00 am—12:00. You don't want your children to miss this opportunity to experience Jesus IN THE OLD TESTAMENT! That's right, we will dig into the Old Testament to see the prophecy of Jesus and follow that prophecy into the New Testament fulfillment. What an exciting thing to see...Jesus in the Old Testament.

Unfortunately, we need teachers and helpers. Please consider pitching in this special week of VBS and changing the life of a child.

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Summer Day Camp | Here at FBC | July 19-21 | 8am—5pm | \$50

Deadline to Register June 6 | Forms are available are in the Children's Area

God Gets The Glory We all know about Abraham, Moses, David, and Esther. The heroes of the faith. But the Bible is filled with stories of men and women who – although you may not know their names – served God in big ways. Objective: Kids will learn that you don't have to be famous to do big things for God. "So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20:16 NIV



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Yes, Yes Yes!!! It's Summer Blast and it begins the first Wednesday in June. All through the summer there will be a special activity each Wed. More details to follow so stay tuned.

MAKE NOTE
BEGINNING
SUNDAY, MAY 2ND,
WORSHIP
WILL BEGIN AT 10:50!
TIME CHANGE!



Baby Dedication
Sunday, May 9th



**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**

Thursday, May 6th
12 o'clock
join us at the
courthouse steps!



2021 ANNUAL
OFFERING

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 9th, we will collect a special offering for the Baptist Children's Village. Please consider giving toward this incredible ministry.





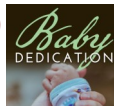


may 2021

Sunday Services

9:40am—Sunday School
10:50 am—Worship Service
5pm—thru May 2nd

Wednesday Services

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 	3	4	5	6 	7	1 8
9  	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Jambalaya Fundraiser	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 	31	Deacon of the week: 2—Mike Williams, 9—Bobby Barton, 16—Steve Coody, 23—Mike Davis, 30—Phil Dixon				

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!



First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

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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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