



# First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

SEPTEMBER 2020 • VOLUME 5 • EDITION 9

Dear FBC Yazoo City Family of Faith,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord! Our God is so faithful and so great! I am so excited about the announcement the Pastor Search Committee shared with you as the church family last Sunday that God has faithfully worked through their prayerful and dedicated process to bring Rev. Byron Pickering to you as the candidate to be your next Pastor! I really believe Byron is an excellent choice to come lead and serve your church as Pastor, and if you commit to serve and unite with him under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, I believe there are great and amazing days ahead for FBC Yazoo City as an even greater force for the cause of Christ. I praise God for this blessing of bringing Byron to you, and I want to thank and celebrate your Pastor Search Committee for the faithful and diligent work they have done for your church and the Gospel of Christ. Let me encourage all of you to be part of all the “meet and greet” activities for Byron, Charlotte and their family this weekend on August 29-30, and be in worship this Sunday morning, August 30, at 11 a.m., as Byron preaches in view of a call. Then, after Byron preaches, unite with your church family to cast your vote in the affirmative to call him as the next Pastor at FBC Yazoo City.

On behalf of Dawn and myself, I wanted to write and express our great appreciation for the blessing of being your interim pastor for these eight months, and for the wonderful blessing of your friendship and fellowship in life and ministry, the chance to seek and serve God together, and to experience His work among us. You are a very special and wonderful family of faith, and we are so excited about the great plans God has for Byron and his family and your church as you continue to advance God’s will and plan in and through your church. God’s timing in this moment is perfect for me as well, because due to preaching and ministry responsibilities on my calendar for the Fall, I was going to have to be out of the pulpit multiple Sundays, and have increasingly less time to minister with you. You deserve and need a Pastor walking in faith, life, and ministry with you each day, and God has blessed you greatly in sending Byron to be that shepherd-servant to your church and community.

Please know that you will always hold a very special place in our hearts, and that we are always praying for God’s blessing on you, Byron and your staff, and for God’s glorious will to be done at FBC Yazoo City now and into the future. We feel about you like Paul felt about the church at Philippi when he wrote, “I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:3-6) God bless you, we love you, and thank you again for your love, friendship, and support.

I want to say a very special thank you to your wonderful ministry staff team—John, Jessica, Ken, and Tiki—and your church leadership and servants for this opportunity, and for their faithfulness and dedication in ministry, especially through the interesting COVID-19 journey of 2020. God has been so powerful and perfect to lead us through these unprecedented days of ministry, and special thanks goes out to your staff and leadership, and you in the church family, for your faithfulness and perseverance during these days. And now, with God leading you to Byron as your next pastor, you are entering into an exciting new day of ministry and the important next phase of your history and calling as a family of faith and servants of Christ. As Byron starts his ministry with you, commit yourself to be a blessing to him and the work of Christ in and through your church by . . . .

- Praying for him, his family, and his ministry daily.
- Be supportive, positive, and encouraging to him—not a discouragement—as he starts ministry with you and seeks God’s vision for your future together.

- Introduce yourself and others in the church family to him, and help him get to know the people he will minister to as Pastor.
- Help him to get to know the community so he can seek God’s will about how to minister the Gospel, love, and Word of Christ in your context.
- Be loving, caring, patient, and helpful to Byron, Charlotte, and their family as they make this big transition in life and ministry.
- Commit to your places of service in and through the church and be faithful and committed to serve with Byron and your staff in ministry.
- Devote yourselves to be good stewards of your finances, time, participation, and talents in support of the ministry of your church.
- Speak well of your church and staff with your words, ministry, and your testimony in the community, and always be ready to share Christ with others, grow people in faith, and invite everyone you know and meet to come be a part of your church’s ministries.
- Never put your personal wants, opinions, and grievances above the will and plan of Christ for your church. Never engage in or encourage destructive or divisive talk about your church or others, once again putting yourself above the concern for Christ in your church. These are signs of serious spiritual concerns and sickness that needs to be confessed and repented of now.
- If you have matters of church business or discussion you need to share with your Pastor or staff, do not approach them about these matters on Sundays. Sunday is for worshipping and celebrating Almighty God and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Reach out to them with these matters during the week.
- Remember also that we are still in the midst of figuring out church ministry during the time of COVID-19, and Byron will be entering a new pastorate during this difficult and confusing time. Pray for and encourage him especially in this challenge, and guiding your church through these challenging days in our world.
- Most importantly, love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself; and lead souls to eternal life through faith in Christ, and abundant life through obedience to Christ.

I leave you with another reminder and challenge from the apostle Paul as he wrote to the Philippian church: “But this one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” Forget any pains and distractions of the past by truly forgiving one another as Christ forgave us. Pursue reconciliation over any problems of the past just as our Holy God reconciled us as sinful man to Himself. Unite in and under the most important thing—the only thing that really matters—the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the pursuit and accomplishment of His perfect will for your lives and your church. Set aside all petty and personal selfishness and self-centeredness, and unite together to serve, support, and walk faithfully, graciously, and humbly with your new Pastor to see souls saved and lives changed by the power and love of Christ and His Word through the ministry of your church in your community, state, nation, and world. God bless you all!

For God’s Glory,

Dr. John Pace

Galatians 2:20



# STUDENT MINISTRY

Tiki Broome



School is finally back! Its so exciting to be able to see you all compete in sports and display your talents. It has been an unusual season, but God has proven himself faithful throughout this season. A lot of unknowns still face us, but I am in constant prayer for our students, their families, and our church family. The Lord laid on my heart this picture of family this past summer: I believe this is the direction we are headed as a core! As one family, we can grow deeper in our walk with Christ and grow outward in our influence. I'm excited to see how this school year shapes out. We will be changing a lot of things, but at the same time, we will be growing in a lot of areas. I was able to sit down with some of our youth parents and talk about the future and we are all excited to see our students grow and be challenged, along with opportunities for that to happen alongside their parents! Parents and students, I want you to know that I personally am so pumped for what's to come! This month we will finally be back in the youth space to worship and grow. On top of that, we were able to do

some small changes to better accommodate your students! Romans 5:2 states, "Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God." This scripture has been on my heart as I think about you all this school year.

1. Have faith in knowing that God has everything in his hands.
2. Rejoice and have peace in knowing that God is going to do great things in all our lives this year.

I pray that you all have a safe and fun return to school! Below is our weekly general schedule for the school year.

**Daily Devotions -Monday - Friday posted on instagram @fbystudentministry**

**Wednesday Night Worship @6pm**

**The After Party - Immediately following Wednesday night worship (location will vary weekly)**

**Sunday Night Bible Study @6pm**



Tiki Broome

Be Strong, Be Steadfast, Be Willing

1 Corinthians 15:56-58

**CHALLENGE to**  
**GROW** Given to Date:  
\$396,038.53

**SIGN UP FOR OUR**

**TEXT ALERTS!**

**TEXT FBCYAZOO TO 844.787.8660**

## August Offering

<u>August 2</u>	<u>August 9</u>	<u>August 16</u>	<u>August 23</u>
Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering	Budget Offering
\$9,127	\$17,692	\$6,016	\$6,550
Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow	Challenge to Grow
\$1,580	\$2,910	\$1,500	\$910

**Online Giving thru 7/21**

\$10,562

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



## SUNDAY SCHOOL RESTART UPDATE

Thank you adult Sunday School teachers for your prompt response to our survey about restarting Sunday School. We are hoping to start soon, but for now we will continue to put this on hold. While many are ready to start back, we do need a little more time to put in place proper cleaning and disinfecting protocols, plus we still are in need of teachers in the Preschool division and can't provide for them at this time. We have been blessed with many young families but we need to be able to provide for their young children. So for the next few weeks, our attention will be focused on bringing in a new pastor to shepherd us. Please continue to be patient as we continue to navigate these unusual times.

## WORSHIP CHOIR UPDATE

We had planned to restart choir in mid September, but after surveying our members, a large majority do not feel comfortable returning just yet so we are pushing back our start date to October 7th.

**Gifts were received for the following designated funds:**

*Capital Improvements in memory of Sue Simmons*

*TV Ministry in memory of Sue Simmons*



# 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."

## WANTED!

### LOOKING FOR Preschool Sunday School Teachers

#### Benefits Include:

- > Instant Hero Status
- > Exercise
- > Unlimited High Fives
- > Free Crayons
- > Doing something of eternal significance in a child's life

We need some help in our Children's Ministry. As I mentioned in the Aug Newsletter, we need a teacher in our 1 year old classroom. There is a very good and dedicated worker in the room but we need someone along side him to teach the lesson.

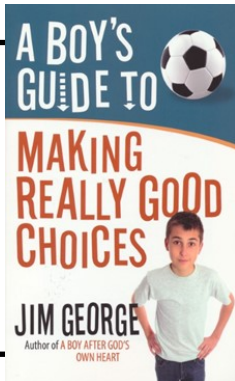
Along that same line, we need a teacher and a worker in our 2 year old Sunday School. As you are probably aware we have a date to possibly start Sunday School back up on campus (September 13). God doesn't see a real need without meeting it. So, I ask you...has God been dealing with you? Could it be that you have felt God pressing you into this service? You've felt it but have tried to use various excuses to do everything else in hopes that the pull would ease or go away completely. You will receive a blessing beyond words if you will give the church office a call and talk with me, for this valuable opportunity.

You've played a video game but have you ever thought what that game would look like from the inside?

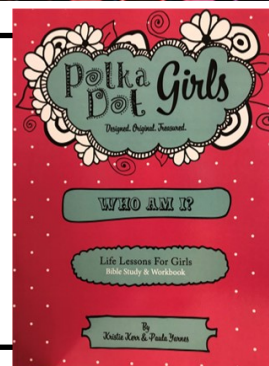
PowerUp continues every Wednesday this month for ages 4 through 4th grade. 4's and 5's meet in the preschool area and grades 1-4 meet in the kids worship area. 5:45 each Wednesday we will kickoff with music and the Bible GameShow followed by the evening's lesson. Parents, please take some time to invest in



your child's spiritual well being by getting them here each Wednesday Night.



Something special for your preteen is up and running again. If your child or friend's child is a 5th or 6th grader, we have a special curriculum just for them. Each Wednesday night we have a lesson geared for where they are. This can be a tough age filled with many changes and our teachers feel led to invest in this age. Take advantage of this time. We meet in the kids worship area beginning at 5:45 each Wednesday night.



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."

## DEACONS MEETING

FOR THE NEW ACTIVE DEACONS COUNCIL

Sunday, September 13 | Time: TBD

# September 2020

## Sunday Services

9:45 am—Sunday School-Zoom/FB Live  
9:00 am—Worship Service in Fellowship Hall  
11:00 am—Worship Service in Sanctuary

## Wednesday Services

6:00 pm—Tune in live on Facebook Live  
Youth—check Instagram for updates  
Kids—6pm in the Education Building

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Breakfast honoring Dr. John Pace & family	7 	8	9	10	11	12
13 Deacons Meeting	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## WATCH US LIVE ONLINE!

Sunday morning services are available **LIVE** online. You can watch the service by going to [www.fbcyazoo.org](http://www.fbcyazoo.org) and clicking on the "Live Stream" on our home page. We are also Live on Facebook each week!



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**

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## Facebook:

Yazoo City First Baptist Church

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