



First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

DECEMBER 2023 • VOLUME 8 • EDITION 12

Christmas greetings Church Family,

During the next week, if you have not done so already, please complete the “Bylaws Review Form” and mail or bring it to the church office. Every member of this local body of believers is important. Every member’s view is equally important. In the next few days spend some time thinking through the Bylaws and asking God for His leading. May we together cry out to our Father, “Almighty God, how do you want us to function as the local body of believers known as FBC Yazoo City?”

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The church body, in a business session on November 26, 2023, engaged in healthy discussion regarding the proposed budget for 2024. The decision was made to extend the discussion of the budget to December 13th at 6:00 p.m. Please make plans to be present for this discussion. Please understand that the purpose of this meeting is for discussion. No vote on the proposed budget will be taken at this time. A vote on the proposed budget, with no discussion, will take place following the worship service on December 17, 2023.

During this Christmas season let’s be reminded of the true reason we celebrate! It is a terrible and sobering reality – everyone ever born into this world is a sinner against God. I am. You are. They are. All are. “ALL have sinned and fallen short [missed the mark] of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).” The news gets worse, “For the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).”

God makes it abundantly clear that He is holy. In His being, in Who He eternally is, God IS absolutely without sin, wickedness, evil, immorality, or anything else that could be called wrong. When God created Adam and then Eve, they were created holy, without sin. God gave Adam and Eve the ableness to make choices – even to choose to disobey. Disobey they did. Adam and Eve chose to sin. The choice to sin plummeted the entire human race into sin and eternal spiritual death. Through Paul, God tells the Christians in Corinth, “For as in Adam all die (spiritually and physically) ... (1 Corinthians 15:22, Genesis 3:19).”

As long as sinful mankind remained sinful, sinful mankind could never be in relationship with Holy God! Nothing on earth existed that could make sinful mankind to again be without sin. No animal sacrifice was sufficient (Hebrews 9:13). No human sacrifice was sufficient – because all have sinned. Sin cannot make payment for sin.

What is needed? A perfect sacrifice, a sacrifice that is absolutely holy. Holy can make payment for sin. But who, what human being could be such a holy sacrifice?

No such person existed on earth. God was fully aware of that fact.

God for eternity had an amazing plan to make payment for the sins of mankind. Holy God would become a man Himself and make payment for the sins of mankind (Revelation 13:8). God reveals to us in His word that this God-man, Who would/and did make the payment for the sins of mankind, is Who we know and understand is Jesus Christ.

- John 1:1-2 – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”
- John 1:14 – “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
- John 1:29 - “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Here is the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!”
- John 3:16 - Jesus said, “For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”
- Romans 5:8 - “But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!”
- Romans 6:9 - “We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.”
- Romans 10:9 - “... if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”
- Romans 6:23 - “the free GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, God becoming man, Immanuel - God with us! At Easter we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ our LORD! Jesus Christ truly is God’s perfect GIFT to mankind! “Thanks be to God for His indescribable (inexpressible) GIFT (2 Corinthians 9:15).”

There is no greater GIFT a human being can ever receive than the GIFT of salvation in Jesus Christ! I hope and pray that you have received this GIFT of salvation, of forgiveness of your sins, by God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ!

This December ask God to lead you to someone who needs God’s GIFT. In grace and love open your heart to this person. Tell him or her about Jesus Christ, thus giving this person the opportunity to receive the greatest GIFT ever given – eternal salvation of his/her soul, the GIFT from GOD that keeps on giving forever and ever!

Rejoicing together,

Byron

Hello Students and Parents!

I hope you are all gearing up for Christmas! It will be here before you know it! I have a couple things to let you know about in regards to this month. First, being we will have our Christmas Party that is set to be at the Manor's home. The date is TBD, but I will be sending out updates via text and social media. Next, our OCC Boxes have been shipped and we will be getting you your tracking numbers soon for where your boxes end up. Thirdly, I want to give a shoutout to Sarah Bailey and Adalai for stepping up and leading our worship for Wednesday nights. I'm looking forward to what this will add to our Wednesday night worship experience. Lastly, I will be very soon sending updates and finalizations for DNOW and Summer Calendar! So be on the lookout for that.

I pray that you all have wonderful Christ-filled Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In the journey, be strong, be steadfast, be willing. Love each and every one of you with all my heart.

-Tiki Broome



Kid's & Adult Choir Rehearsals:
12/3 - 4pm
12/6 - 6pm

OUR CHURCH'S GOAL:
\$9,000

100% of your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® enable gospel transformation among the unreached.

imb.org/lottiemoon

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Christmas Eve | 5:30pm

During our Thanksgiving Lunch, we collected \$21,202 for the Annual Harvest Offering. These gifts will go toward the 2023 budget deficit.

Join us for our multigenerational Christmas Presentation

Wonderful

Sunday, December 10th in the Sanctuary @ 10:50am!

At the beginning of November, a letter was sent to all members of FBC containing our current Constitution & Bylaws, along with a form for recommendations & amendments. If you did not receive your copy via USPS, please let Jessica know! Every voice in this church body matters. This is your opportunity to make your voice heard. All forms should be returned to the office no later than December 7th.

2024 BUDGET BUSINESS MEETING
 We will meet Wednesday, December 13, 2023 @ 6pm in the fellowship hall to continue discussion about the proposed 2024 budget.

November Budget Offering				
Nov 5	Nov 12	Nov 19	Nov 26	Online Gifts
\$11,312	\$7,647	\$9,602	\$20,665	\$13,341

Gifts were received for the following designated funds:
 Backpacks of Hope in memory of Glenn Alden Pickering



Project 226 Kids Ministry would like to take this time to thank FBC for all the wonderful support of the ongoing ministries.

We realize there are many things pulling at our hearts and wallets this time of year so we deeply appreciate each and every gift.

We ended up with nearly 100 shoeboxes sent to Samaritan's Purse. The 53 Backpacks of Hope kids also each received a large box of cereal along with "extras" in their weekend backpack to help with Thanksgiving and thanks to your generosity; the Christmas break packing was even covered!!

THANK YOU FOR GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO SEE THESE NEEDS MET!!



It's finally here...and what a blessing it will be for us all! We will all enjoy fresh new arrangements of some of our favorite Christmas hymns. On top of that, all ages will be participating from our Children's Choir to one of our students doing the narration and the Worship Choir and soloists. It will prove to be a memorable presentation.

Sunday, December 10th at 10:50 am. Please make your plans to be here and invite others!

COMING SUNDAY DECEMBER 17. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS NOW THIS EVENT HAS BEEN ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS FOR PROJECT 226, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY. FOR OUR ENTIRE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY, BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM CONSISTS OF A BREAKFAST OF PANCAKES, BACON, ACTIVITY SHEETS AND A PROGRAM REMINDING US ALL OF THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS.



EVERYTHING KICKS OFF AT 9:30 AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

BACKPACKS OF HOPE

Thank you for your support in the cereal donations! We collected enough for both Thanksgiving & Christmas!!

Next up, We need single-serve Mac-n-cheese & vienna sausages!

We are so grateful for those of you who donate food or give designated offerings regularly. We are constantly asked what is needed most. The easy answer is "everything". But to help those of you who ask, we will be posting 2 items each week in the Sunday bulletin that are needed most. This will help you help us. Again, this is a powerful ministry that is making an impact for the Kingdom and we are so very thankful you have joined us in this effort.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY
Christmas Party!

Friday, December 8th
5:30pm
Fellowship Hall

Bring a finger food & a wrapped \$15 Christmas gift for a fun gift exchange!

We are so grateful for our Church Staff! Please help us show our appreciation for them by way of a Christmas Love Offering!

Mark your envelope and/or check "Christmas Love Offering."
Gifts will be received through December 17th.

Thank you, Leadership & Finance Teams

AS THE END OF THE YEAR APPROACHES, PLEASE MAKE NOTE THAT ANY CONTRIBUTIONS YOU WISH TO HAVE APPLIED TO YOUR 2023 GIVING STATEMENT MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFERING ON OR BEFORE SUNDAY, DECMEBER 31ST. IF YOU ARE GIVING ONLINE OR BY TEXT, PLEASE ALLOW 3-5 DAYS FOR THE TRANSACTION TO PROCESS IN ORDER TO BE RECEIVED BY THE CHURCH BY DECEMBER 29TH. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTONS OR NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMAION, PLEASE CONTACT JESSICA IN THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 662.746. 2471 OR JESSICA@FBCYAZOO.ORG.

DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

LifeGroups—9:40am
Worship—10:50am
K4C & Adult Bible Study—5pm
Youth—5:30pm

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Men's Prayer Breakfast—6:30am
Supper—5:15pm
Youth, Elevate Kids, & Prayer Meeting—6pm
Choir Rehearsal—6:50

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the Week: 3—JD Rees, 10—Billy Reed, 17—Pat Rush, 24—Kyle Wever					1	2
3 Choir Rehearsal @ 4pm Final Sunday Night Activities for the Semester	4	5	6 Final Wednesday Night Supper for the Semester Choir Dress Rehearsal 6pm	7	8	9
10 Christmas Music Presentation! 10:50am	11	12	13 2024 Budget Business Meeting—6pm	14	15	16
17 Breakfast @ Bethlehem—9:30am	18	19	20 Only Prayer Meeting & Choir Rehearsal	21	22	23
24 Candlelight Service—5:30pm NEW YEAR'S EVE 31	25 	26	27 NO PM ACTIVITIES	28	29	30

WATCH US LIVE ONLINE SUNDAYS AT 10:50!

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!



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:

Byron Pickering, Pastor
byron@fbcyazoo.org

John Yates, Pastor of Worship
& Family Ministries
john@fbcyazoo.org

Tiki Broome, Pastor of Students
& Communications
tiki@fbcyazoo.org

Jessica Wever, Office Manager
jessica@fbcyazoo.org

Noah Bottrell, Children's Coordinator
noah@fbcyazoo.org

Facebook:

Yazoo City First Baptist Church

