



# First Baptist Church

Worship, Grow, Serve, & Share Yazoo City

JANUARY 2021 • VOLUME 6 • EDITION 1

## Happy New Year Church Family!

As 2020 came to a conclusion perhaps people were cheering its' passing and the arrival of 2021 with an extra measure of joy and vigor! Praise God that our true happiness is not dependent upon the happenings of our lives be they good or bad. True happiness in this life comes from a real, close relationship with God, through which we face each day standing on the promises of God, not the promises of mankind. Being a child of God doesn't mean life will be easy and bad things will not happen to us on this earth. Being a child of God who lives in submission to the Holy Spirit and God's word means no matter what comes my way on any given day I do not face it alone or in my own strength. As Jesus told the Apostle Paul, "My Grace is sufficient." And His grace will be sufficient regardless of what we face this year. Whether we must continue to mask up or if we find ourselves soon mask free, or whether things are going our way or not in 2021 let us all stand firmly on God's word and trust Him no matter what!

With a new year come new and renewed opportunities at FBC Yazoo. In this newsletter you will read of many opportunities for every member of this wonderful church family – from the youngest child to the most senior adult! Here are a few that I would like to highlight.

On January 17, 2021 will be the launch of the "Anchored in Christ" Sunday School Class. Tiki and I will be teaching this class together. We are excited about this weekly opportunity to meet with the men of this church and any other man that wants to come. A study we are seriously considering starting with is called, "How to Be A Man." The authors make this observation, "Manhood is in crisis. In the majority of our churches, men make up the minority of regular attenders, and many men who show up on Sunday mornings are disconnected from the work and life of the church. How can men become Who God wants them to be? And what does it even mean to be a man anyway? The truth is that it's impossible to be a man with grounding your definition of manhood in the person of Christ." Men, if you want to be a part of what we are praying will be a life-transforming time then we invite you to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:40 a.m. It will be well worth your time and effort to be here!

Deacons, on January 17, 2020 we will resume our study together, "The Deacon I Want to Be." The sessions we had in 2020 were wonderful. As one person put it, "The lessons by Johnny Hunt are great, but the discussion afterwards is even better." All deacons are invited to be a part of this study. You will become the deacon that God wants you to be. Come and join us at 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. It will be well worth your time and effort to be there!

On January 20, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., we will resume our time together in the Gospel of Matthew as we learn from Jesus how to pray. Prayer meeting can be such a wonderful time to spend in God's word and with other believers in this church learning from Jesus, sharing our hearts with one another, and together with one voice asking God to move in our hearts, in this church, in this community, and in this world. If you haven't been to prayer meeting in a long time, then the start of a new year is a great time to begin again. Please come and join us. It will be well worth your time and effort to be there!

One more thing. Even though the calendar says it is a new year a virus named Covid-19 doesn't care. This virus still remains a very real threat and therefore we as your staff will do all we can to make sure that you are as safe as possible when we meet. We want so much for all of us to be together again in Sunday School, small groups, prayer meeting, K4Christ, choir practice, and so on. Our plan is to begin these opportunities for growth in Jesus Christ on January 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. We as your staff will closely monitor the Covid-19 situation and let you know if these dates will be changed.

It is a joy getting to know you, love you, and serve our LORD heart and heart and hand in hand with each of you!

Byron





# STUDENT MINISTRY

Tiki Broome

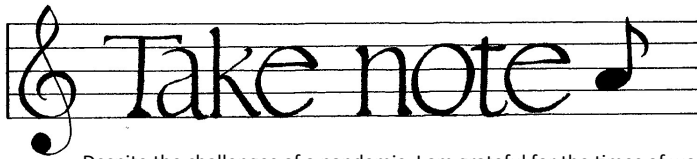
## 2021 is finally here!

I think all of us would say we are looking forward to this year being over! This past year has had many twists and turns and heartache. As we look to 2021 don't make the mistake to think that it will be drastically different. Just because we are moving into a new year, doesn't mean that things will change a whole lot. I think often as people in America we see the turn of the year as an excuse to forget the current. For us as Christ-followers, we constantly reflect and look at the things God has done and taught us. Out of those things, we learn, we grow, and we adapt. I believe 2021 will be just that for our student ministry; even in the midst of this pandemic, we have an exciting year planned! I look forward to it all kicking off with Winter Retreat. This will be a time that we will retreat to Lake Forest Ranch in Macon, MS. While we are there, we are going to take the time to dive deep and get alone with God. I will be casting vision to this and the upcoming year for us as a youth group. God has really been priming me for this year with you all. I'm really getting pumped to make some necessary changes to see our students and families grow in true authenticity and love in the faith. All that being said, I'm excited for what is planned to come. I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and will have a Happy New Year!



"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



Despite the challenges of a pandemic, I am grateful for the times of worship we had as a church during the month of December. I am grateful to our Praise Team for their contributions each week along with our soloists, accompanists, and sound/video team. Although each week seemed to bring new challenges and last minute changes, these servants powered through and served with joy.

As we enter 2021, we certainly will continue to deal with Covid and other changes and challenges, all the while knowing that God is faithful and in control. One of the changes will be the search and calling of a full-time worship pastor. It has been a privilege serving this congregation these ten plus years, but the time has come for the church to step out in faith and bring in a worship pastor. We all knew from the beginning of my tenure that this was only an "interim" and technically I was only allowed to serve 6 months to a year with the possibility of an extension or two (which is an employee policy of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board). I was graciously allowed to stay much longer but the time has come for me to step aside. I love this church and this church staff with all my heart, but my first calling is to serve all of the churches in our state as its Student Discipleship Consultant. I look forward to continuing serving you for a few more months and am excited about what God has in store for First Baptist Church.

Ken

The Christmas decorations in the sanctuary didn't magically appear. They were the result of several days of more than 25 volunteers putting them together and then taking them down and putting away for next Christmas. A special thanks goes to George Anna Griffin for recruiting workers and supervising the entire operation. Also, several men spent a lot of time on ladders and gave us some breathless moments hanging wreaths and lights outside the building.

## THANK YOU!



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

Challenge to Grow in memory of Thelma Jane Turner Lewis Hillhouse  
Lottie Moon in memory of Gene Neely  
Lottie Moon in memory of Lida Downs  
Lottie Moon in honor of RL & Beth Sigrest  
Capital Improvements in memory of Raymond Long  
Capital Improvements in memory of Paul Adams, Sr.  
TV Ministry in memory of Paul Adams, Sr.  
Lottie Moon in memory of Phillip Dixon  
Challenge to Grow in memory of Paul Adams, Sr.  
Challenge to Grow in memory of Sue Simmons  
Challenge to Grow in memory of Nancy Cobb  
Challenge to Grow in memory of Lee Raden  
Lottie Moon in memory of Steve Gordon  
Lottie Moon in honor of John & Patty Yates  
Lottie Moon in memory of Lee Raden  
Capital Improvements in honor of Charline Killebrew  
Challenge to Grow in memory of Paul Adams, Sr.  
Capital Improvements in honor of Church Staff

## December Offering

<u>Dec 6</u>	<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Dec 20</u>	<u>Dec 27</u>
<b>Budget Offering</b>	<b>Budget Offering</b>	<b>Budget Offering</b>	<b>Budget Offering</b>
\$40,134	\$8,551	\$12,926	
<b>Challenge to Grow</b>	<b>Challenge to Grow</b>	<b>Challenge to Grow</b>	<b>Challenge to Grow</b>
\$1,435	\$2,185	\$2,990	

### Online Giving thru 12/29

\$10,229

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





# 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."



"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

As I sit here and write this article, I can't help but wonder...what's ahead? After all, 2020 was a year for the books, wasn't it? I rejoice in the 7 children baptized and another in the wings waiting for scheduling to work out.

Although this past year proved to be my most difficult year of ministry, I praise God for lives changed and those I've seen grow in the Lord. Those I've seen take on responsibilities on Sunday morning, evening, or Wednesday night, have been a real blessing.

No, I don't know the future, be we all know Who does. Let's move forward, following His leadership, as best we can and as He leads us, let us hold tightly to the One who loves us most.

Beginning January 20th, @ 5:45 pm, our Wednesday night program will start Spy Chase. Spy Chase will immerse your children into a world of espionage, intrigue, and fun. In Spy Chase, your children will join "P.R.O.P.H.E.T.," a secret spy organization. Their mission is to protect the teachings of the Bible from the Villainous League of Bad Guys. Your children will join the P.R.O.P.H.E.T. team on their mission by helping them solve the puzzle to keep the world safe. Along the way, you will learn about some real prophets, like Isaiah, Elijah, and others. So get ready for the most interactive Elevate experience yet...Spy Chase!



Kids 4 Christ is a new, fun, and exciting program we began this past fall. For children ages 5 yrs-6th grade, this program includes crazy games, snacks, a Bible Lesson and a Mission Project. Make plans now for your children to participate. It all starts back up Sunday, January 17th at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

## Backpacks of Hope



We need it all, friends. Yes, after a Thanksgiving Holiday packing and a Christmas Holiday packing following close behind, our shelves are decimated. I would say the priority would be the first 5 items listed below. Obviously, the other items are

needed as well, but those things are the "extras" we give (snacks). While important and helpful, it's the "entrée" items needed most. Please help. The children will be going back shortly and our weekend packs will begin!!

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 **THANK YOU!**

It has come time to begin the search for a Worship Pastor! As set forth in the bylaws, Byron and the Leadership Team have met and assembled a team of seven individuals listed below to form the Search Team:

Roy Harris  
James Langley  
Jennifer McBride  
Mary Sibley McGraw  
Lynn Montgomery  
John Newton  
Jessica Weaver

Each has agreed to serve upon a 3/4 affirmative vote from the congregation. The vote to approve the team as a whole will take place on January 3rd at the beginning of the 11am Worship Service.



We need your help in the Christian Service Center! Volunteers are needed to assist customers on Thursday mornings from 10-12 each week and one Saturday morning per month from 10-12. COVID has sidelined

several of our workers and we need new faces to join the team! It is a wonderful experience and you will get a blessing each time you come. If you are interested in helping, please call Glenda Smith at 662.571.8988 or call the church office at 662.476.2471.

SIGN UP FOR OUR

# TEXT ALERTS!

TEXT FBCYAZOO TO 844.787.8660



# january 2021

## Sunday Services

9:45 am—Sunday School Starting Jan 17th  
11:00 am—Worship Service in Sanctuary  
5pm—Starting Jan 17th

## Wednesday Services—beginning Jan 20th

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deacon of the week: 3—Mike Williams, 10—Bobby Barton, 17—Steve Coody, 24—Mike Davis, 31—Phil Dixon					1 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Sunday School & Sunday Nights Resume!	18 	19	20 Wednesday Night Services Resume!	21	22	23
24 Deadline to sign up for Winter Retreat! 31	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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