



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

JANUARY 2023 • VOLUME 8 • EDITION 1

Church Family,

The older I get the more I realize how incredibly valuable relationships are. Have you ever wondered why relationships are so important? The only reasonable explanation for human beings caring about one another as they do – God made us that way. Relationship is the reason God created mankind – to enable men and women to enjoy a love relationship with Him and then one another forever.

When God created Adam and Eve they enjoyed an amazing relationship with Him and one another. They messed up. They bought into a lie and chose to sin which broke their relationship with God. Their sin precipitated physical death to mankind, chaos in this world, and eternal separation from God. That is really bad news! We are all in the same boat - “All have sinned (Romans 3:23).” We have all chosen against God and “the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).”

Here is some really good news! God was not taken by surprise when humanity turned against Him. Before God ever said, “let there be,” He had a plan for mankind’s sins to be removed – “from the foundation of the world Jesus Christ was slain (Revelations 13:8).”

God does not want mankind to die in sin and be separated from Him forever! There was only one solution to this problem. God would have to clothe Himself in flesh, like His own creation. God tells us in John 1, “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made [including mankind] ... and the Word became flesh.”

We have once again celebrated that Jesus Christ was born into this world to do something for mankind we could never do for ourselves! Jesus came to die in our place, to make the necessary payment for our sin!

Jesus, God in flesh, was born without sin and never sinned while walking this earth. Jesus went to the cross not because He had sinned but because I, you - all of mankind had sinned against God. Why did God take such a drastic measure? LOVE. God did this to make it possible for mankind to have an eternal relationship with Himself. God tells us in the Bible ...

- **"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 (John 3:16)."**
- **"But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8)!"**
- **"God made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21)."**

As we celebrate at Easter and hopefully every day of the year, Jesus did not remain dead! Jesus rose from the grave! From the birth of Jesus without sin - to payment for our sins on the cross - to being raised from the dead having conquered sin and death – this is the Gospel message! Anyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus Christ as Savior – that person enters into a relationship with God that is forever! God makes it possible for sinful mankind to spend eternity in a relationship with Himself and also with one another! God is an amazing gracious God!

As we learned in December – this is the plan God has been working since before the foundation of the world. To all who trust in Jesus – a command is given (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1). Jesus says *keep working the plan* – telling people this Good News! Mary and Joseph joined God in being determined to live out His plan with every breath. It is now our turn to continue to live out God’s plan!

Ask God each day of 2023 to help you live out His plan. God give me a heart that trusts and obeys You and Your Word by the power of the Holy Spirit, no matter the cost, and no matter how inconvenient! Ask God to lead you to encounter someone whom you can tell this best of news that he or she may enter into an eternal love relationship with God Almighty!

I am looking forward to another year of growing together in our relationships in Jesus Christ, building stronger relationships with one another, and reaching beyond these church walls to build relationships with those around us so they too may be in a true relationship with God Almighty now and forevermore!

In His Love,

Byron

# Happy New Year!

First off I want to personally thank all of you for investing, volunteering, serving etc. this past year with our students! I am so grateful to have the parents and families we have. Y'all truly are the best. I pray this year can be better than the previous; seeing more students follow Christ and grow in their relationship with him! Some previous announcements you need to make sure you don't miss: SUPER SUMMER & SUMMER CAMP registration are open!! So, if you haven't signed up, you need to go ahead and get registered. Information on Disciple Now Weekend will be coming your way very soon so be on the look out for sign ups for that as well! Love you all and I look forward to another productive and fun year with our students!

-Tiki



## BACKPACKS OF HOPE

F E E D   T H E   K I D S

- Instant Oatmeal
- Cereal Bars
- Pop-tarts
- Single-serve containers of Ravioli
- Single-serve containers of Mac&Cheese
- Single-serve containers of Soup
- Vienna Sausages
- Ramen Noodles
- Jerky Sticks
- Crackers
- Cookies
- Granola Bars
- Fruit Snacks(No Fruit Cups)

Please remember: NO PEANUT BUTTER

As this school semester begins, please don't forget about our Backpacks of Hope Ministry! Our stash is currently dwindling and we are desperate for your donations! Thanks for your continued support in this awesome ministry as we reach the community!



We will collect our 5th Sunday Local Benevolence Offering Sunday, January 29th!

### December Budget Offering

Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 25	Online Gifts
\$17,461	\$7,277	\$14,384	\$17,602	\$11,583

SIGN UP FOR OUR

**TEXT ALERTS!**  
TEXT 'FBCYAZOO' TO 844.787.8660

Scan the QR Code to

**GIVE ONLINE**



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

- Capital Improvements in memory of Vernon Sikes
- Capital Improvements in memory of Kathleen Griffin
- Capital Improvements in memory of Warner Rean Hilderbrand
- Capital Improvements in memory of Eddie Purvis
- Capital Improvements in honor of Charline Killebrew
- Backpacks of Hope Ministry in honor of John & Patty Yates
- Youth Ministry in memory of Beth Ann Anderson
- Music Ministry in memory of Vernon Sikes
- Music Ministry in memory of Ruth Henley
- Capital Improvements in memory of Paul & Thelma Adams





Kicking off on Wednesday night, January 11!!

Twitch, the newest employee at Berry Blast Theme Park has a lot to learn about what makes a great park employee. In order to be the best Berry Blast has to offer, Twitch has to master joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, and love. It's a good thing he has Bernie to train him. Grab your tickets and get in line as Bernie helps Twitch face life's difficulties using the ultimate fruit, the Fruit of the Spirit.

Starting back up on Sunday night, January 8th, Kids For Christ (K4C)!! This is a fun and innovative program that combines Bible lessons with music and Service Projects. One goal, among many, is to teach kids to think beyond themselves...living the life of Christ in all they do.

For ages 4k—6th grade, we meet in the Kids Worship Area (Education Building) each Sunday from 5:00 pm-6:30 pm.



Right now I am reflecting on the beautiful season of celebration we just completed. And so many gifts were used to His honor and glory. The decorating team and all the help made our worship area and fellowship hall so festive and beautiful. Those working with the kids presented us with such a cute musical presentation and our worship choir did an exceptional job lifting up the Lord in celebration of His great promise! Thank you, Lord.

Here we are, now, beginning 2023. At the risk of redundancy, I simply want to encourage you to give the Worship Choir a try. What do you fear? Acceptance? That can't be it for this group would welcome you with open arms. Talent level? Do not use that excuse for our Worship Choir runs the full gamut of abilities. What everyone has in common is commitment and dedication to give back to the Lord. You like to sing and you've thought about it but have been hesitant. Isn't it time to give praise back to the Lord for all He's done for you? We will start our rehearsal schedule back up on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:50 in the choir room. See you there! John



### **Young Adult/Young Married Wednesday Night Bible Study!**

Kicking off, Wednesday, January 11th at 6 pm.

James had a unique earthly relationship with Jesus, but his letter clarifies what the Christian life should look like for us all. The Book of James is filled with practical wisdom for Christians,

calling us to live out genuine faith through good works, but it is also rooted in rich theology. Perhaps more than any other book in the New Testament, James emphasizes the application of Christian belief.

This 13-session study examines the core message of James: the relationship between faith and works. In our own ability, we cannot stand in the face of adversity. Without faith we could never find the strength to trust God. We would never be able to see above the trials we meet and to keep our eyes focused on the King while counting our trials as joy. This is the essence of James. We don't work to be saved; we work because we are saved. Faith apart from works can never be sustained.

## **BBQ Lunch & BUSINESS MEETING**

Sunday, January 22, 2022  
Fellowship Hall

# January 2023

## Sunday Activities

Sunday School—9:40am

Worship—10:50am

PM Activities—5pm

## Wednesday Activities

Men's Prayer Breakfast—6:30am

Bible Studies & Prayer Meeting— 6:00

Choir Rehearsal—6:50

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Office Closed	3	4 No Activities	5	6	7
8 Sunday Night Activities Resume	9	10	11 Wednesday Night Activities Resume!	12	13	14
15	16 	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 	30	31	Deacon of the week: 1—David Warren, 8—Kyle Wever, 15—Bob Barrington, 22—Bobby Barton, 29—Larry Davis			

### 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](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**

**Phone:** 662-746-2471

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### Facebook:

Yazoo City First Baptist Church

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