

THE Messenger

First Baptist Church
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From Your Pastor

Why were angels present at the empty tomb on Resurrection Day? Did their presence make it more glorious? Such a case could certainly be made surrounding the birth of Jesus and the shepherds' angelic announcement. Were the angels at the tomb to authenticate the resurrection? Well, maybe ... sort of. I believe the event of Jesus' resurrection was of such significance, the angels were there to comfort those first followers of Jesus. The angels also ensured those first witnesses were correctly informed about what had happened at the tomb. Hebrews 1:14 says angels are "ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation." Do not allow your mind to drift off into some "new age" or "mystical" realm giving angels more standing than you should. Hebrews tells us we might very well encounter angels more than we realize (13:2). What made that tomb special is that it was EMPTY, not because angels were in attendance. However, God does know our frailty and our sin of unbelief. He is always gracious. The angels were there to remind the followers of what Jesus had already told them. Their announcement, according to Luke 24, included, "Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered His words." They should have clearly understood, but the nightmare of physically standing at Golgotha might well overwhelm us too. Even when the women delivered the wonderful truth back to the eleven, Luke 24:11 says, "But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them." Mark 16:14 records that when Jesus did personally appear to the eleven, "He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen." There are certainly times when discerning the will of God is hard! It requires much prayer, fasting, and searching the Scripture, and asking God for wisdom. However, there are some truths God makes as plain as an empty grave! I do not need angels to tell me Jesus is Lord, nor will I allow the stones to cry out because I'm silent to worship Him! He has Risen!

Your Pastor and friend, Dale

Ginger's Notes

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; And whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe?" John 11: 25-26



What a blessed time of worship Sunday! If you were present, you were one of more than 400 in attendance at our two services. Since we were not able to meet in person last Easter, this year was extra special. Jesus Christ is risen! He is RISEN INDEED!! To Him be all the GLORY and PRAISE! I pray that we keep the excitement of EASTER as we go about our daily lives!

Special thanks to the children's choir, worship choir, soloists, instrumentalists, narrator, and technical support for making Sunday a special day at FBC. It takes so many people working together each week to make our worship services run smoothly.

Worship Choir meets each Wednesday at 6:00 in the sanctuary. We will be starting new music this week. This is a great time to join choir or to come back to choir if you haven't been *singing with us for a while*.

Youth Girls Ensemble rehearses on Wednesdays at 5:00 in the choir room. All youth girls are welcome to join this group! This group will be singing May 2 in Morning Worship.

HAND BELLS!!! If you are interested in playing hand bells during the month of May, please let me know. We welcome new players!

He keeps me singing!

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Gary Duncan and family in the death of his Aunt Gladys, March 29; also to the family of Jim Weathers, who passed away April 4; and to the family and friends of Mary Haire. Mary passed away April 4. She was the wife of our former pastor, Bro. Joel, who passed away in February.

Charged

Women's Conference
Sat., April 17 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Calvary Baptist Church
Guest Speakers:
Beth Dau & Jennifer Carver

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday, April 21
6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall



Our Music Mondays singers did such a great job of opening our Easter worship service. We have enjoyed having your children participate on Mondays and look forward to them

coming back for music to be announced at a later time.

Our children and students that participate Bible Drills will have the **Church Drill this Sunday at 5:00 in the sanctuary**. Family, friends, and church members are welcome to attend and cheer on our children for accomplishing this most important task. Monday, April 12, we will host the County Drill in the fellowship hall and then separate to different areas for the drill. Only family members are asked to attend this drill. The State Drill will be at FBC Starkville on Tuesday, April 13. Unfortunately, only the drillers and leaders can attend.

We have two important events happening on Sunday, April 25. Our GA girls will be participating in the **Girls in Action Coronation** at 4:00 in the sanctuary. We brought this event back in 2019 and unfortunately didn't get to have it in 2020. Our girls are very excited about this special time to be presented awards for what they have done over the 2019-2021 missions time. They will have a reception in their honor in the foyer of the sanctuary and on the front porch. Family, friends, and church family are invited to attend.

Our RAs will participate in the annual **Virgil Baker RA Derby** this year and their time will be at 5:00 on Sunday, April 25, in the Fellowship Hall. There will be snacks for them and family and friends are invited to attend this special event.

The end of the year activities are always so fun and exciting for our children.

Working for Him, Thea Kay

First Students

Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering,
since He who promised is faithful.
Hebrews 10:24

Weekly: Student Worship – We will be back upstairs tonight for student worship at 6:00pm. We'll be starting our bible

study in the book of James.

Student Girls' Choir – The girls meet every Wednesday with Madison in the choir room at 5:00 pm.

Student Bible Drill – Our final Bible Drill meeting of the school year will be this Wednesday, April 7 at 5:00 pm. We will have a full practice drill to prepare for our **church drill which is Sunday, April 11.**

Upcoming Events:



SNAC –SNAC will be April 18th from 5-8 for a basketball tournament. Students can create their teams this Wednesday. Each team will have at maximum 10 people but must have at least 5 students. The tournament will be round robin style, with each team getting to play 4 games. The games will be half-court games. I encourage parents to come and support our kids and cheer them on! Our last SNAC of this school year will May 23rd.

7th Grade Day Trip – To cap off their first year in youth, our 7th graders will be taking a day trip on Saturday, May 1st, to SkyZone Trampoline Park in Ridgeland, MS, eat lunch, do an escape room, go to the Northpark Mall and then eat dinner before heading home that evening. We will leave at 8:00am and the students will only need money for their food.

Senior Recognition Sunday: We will celebrate our seniors on Sunday, May 2nd. Seniors will have a table in the hallway in front of the fellowship hall to decorate in their honor. The tables will be up on Sunday, and we will have a lunch for students and their families after the morning worship service. Parents, tables will be available on Saturday beforehand for you to decorate. We also ask that you email a picture of your graduate to Bro. Gary.

Student Summer Camp – June 14-18th Centrifuge @ Panama City Beach. Start praying for the 39 people who are attending camp this year. Pray for our safety, pray that COVID does not prohibit camp, and pray most of all that student's will be open to the Gospel and come home changed by the power of Christ to have an impact here in West Point. If you have not received your packet of camp information, please contact Bro. Gary.

Upcoming Bible Studies: In April and May, our youth will walk through the book of James. I love the book of James because it contains practical Christian truth that everyone can apply to their lives. Some of my favorite verses in James are James 4:7-8, "Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." Then this summer, our student leadership team is going to lead our bible study time on Wednesday activities by discussing the Fruits of the Spirit. I'm greatly looking forward to this time of being taught by our students.

Wednesday Night Meal

Please make (or cancel) your reservations by Noon on Tuesdays.

To make reservations, call the church office, or email or text Beth or Melissa. Reservations should be made or canceled by noon each Tuesday. Sorry, no standing reservations. Dine-in only.

<p>APRIL 7 Hamburger Steak Rice and Gravy Green Beans Biscuits Brownies</p>	<p>APRIL 14 BBQ Chicken Fried Squash Potato Salad Roll Strawberry Cake</p>	<p>APRIL 21 BBQ Sandwiches Slaw French Fries Chocolate Pie</p>
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TITHES & OFFERINGS		
April 4, 2021		APRIL 4, 2021
Undesignated	28,002.00	SUNDAY SCHOOL
Reimbursements	618.00	ATTENDANCE
Child Care	4,332.50	221
Total Operating	32,952.50	
Designated	1,756.62	TOTAL
Total Deposit	34,709.12	WORSHIP ATTENDANCE
		487
MARCH ONLINE GIVING		
\$9,860.40		

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Meal and Youth Girls' Ensemble - 5:00 p.m.
Children's and Youth Bible Drill - 5:00 p.m.
Mission Friends, GAs, RAs - 6:00 p.m.
Student Worship - 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Worship Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

Early Worship Service - 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Church Bible Drill - 5:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

MONDAY, April 12

Host County Bible Drill - 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

State Bible Drill - FBC Starkville

O LORD,
YOU ARE
My God

I WILL EXALT YOU
AND PRAISE YOUR NAME,
FOR IN
PERFECT FAITHFULNESS
YOU HAVE DONE
MARVELOUS THINGS,
THINGS PLANNED
LONG AGO.

ISAIAH 25:1

First Baptist Church

Rev. Dale Funderburg, Pastor
Ginger Fowler, Minister of Music
Thea Kay Tribble, Minister to Children
Gary Havlin, Student Pastor
Laura Langford, Early Childhood Ministry Director
Morgan Spotts, Children's Ministry Intern
Madison Johnson, Music Ministry Intern
Kempseyann Barnett, Student Ministry Intern