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# The MESSENGER

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## From Your Pastor

Question: "How many Baptists does it take to change a lightbulb?" Answer: "What do you mean 'change'? Besides those are LEDs ... they are supposed to last longer!" Have you noticed new lights throughout our buildings? (Yes, LEDs.) Have you noticed new windows? How about the new roofs and the new AC units? I'm just as guilty as anyone. I don't appreciate the heat until I'm cold. I don't notice the weeds until I'm pulling them up. So, on behalf of the entire church family, we do appreciate all the work that has been accomplished these past months to our buildings; and most recently, this past Saturday during work day. Thanks to all the folks who helped with sprucing up our campus. There will be bathroom renovations coming soon. And yes, we are soon going to address the ceiling in the sanctuary. Jonas Robinson does some of the worst tasks that often no one knows about week-to-week and he keeps his finger on the pulse of the needs of our facilities. Thank you Jonas. Thank you to the "Work-Day" workforce!

There was a group from our church that traveled to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter last week. It was such a blessed and fun experience. We were confronted with the facts about the awesome God, who is both Creator and Redeemer! I hope we can plan another trip next Spring! Every child old enough to read needs the experience of going to these two sites before they are bombarded by the secular worldview of our culture. It should be a priority for every family. Thank you, Joseph for preaching such a great message in my absence, and thank you church family for supporting the effort.

On Monday, the entire ministerial staff and 4 lay leaders of our church will attend the D6 Conference in Orlando. D6 is based upon the admonitions found in Deuteronomy 6 about loving God,

but also the call to teach our children His precepts in our daily walk. It is my renewed vision of how important it is to equip our Mothers and Fathers to not only love God with all their hearts but to also be disciple-making parents. The authorized work of the church is to make disciples. The most important place that should be done first and foremost is in our homes. Thea Kay is leading our Women's Ministry events and studies to focus on disciplining and equipping women in the Lord. Terri and Regina minister to women, self-proclaimed as "Chicks" (not the Pastor's term – don't load your guns just yet)! Tim is heading up our "Man Church" to disciple men. Our Deacons minister to the church family, but also "sharpen" each other in their daily Christian walk. Our mission groups are about making disciples and missionaries at home and supporting missionaries who serve to the "uttermost." It all starts with fulfilling our call at home. Our children hear the Gospel at church, but do parents know how to carry on a Gospel conversation in their home? Julie Hill and Kimberly Allen have done a great job to focus our Childcare to be ministry driven. As Julie has moved to a new area of helping expand that mindset in training others, we will soon welcome Sarah Burton, as she becomes the new Childcare Director to lead that ministry. Joedee is drilling into the Word with our children. Joseph is employing small group leaders to help build those relationships to make disciples but also providing events to help parents make spiritual and heart connections with their youth. Events like the weekend with Richard Ross help highlight the practical side of spiritual service inside our own homes. Our Sunday School is the backbone of the teaching ministry of our church. Ginger, our instrumentalist, and our choir work hard each week to help lead us into genuine worship of the soul-saving, life-change, sin-forgiving,

way-making, grace-giving God! Children need to see their Daddy and Mama fully invested and participating in the worship of our Savior. What an opportunity Ginger and the choir afford us to do so each week! I admit I am an old horse that's been kicked around a lot over the last several years. I imagine some may even brand me as a different beast of burn closely related to a horse. But even an old mule will give it all he's got when he's heading to the barn. Even so, come quickly Lord Jesus!

This Sunday will be Easter Sunday. Maybe you need a new appreciation for the Lord and for the people of God. What better time than Easter to have a fresh start? I hope to see you this Resurrection Sunday!

Your Pastor and friend,

*Bro. Dale*

"Then he said to all, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

Luke 9:23

The Man Church program is a 40-week, video-driven discipleship curriculum for men. We are beginning the week of April 21 with THE PURSUIT. This is broken down into 8 sections; Identity, Integrity, Purpose, Surrender, Passion, Commitment, Compassion, Influence; 5 weeks per section. We currently have six men who have volunteered to lead a small group. The goal is to have enough groups to give every man in the church a time that works into their schedule. The times that are confirmed are Sunday, 7:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday night. The other 3 times will be announced soon. Please pray about how God will use and grow you through this program. If you would like to be a small group leader and have questions, please contact me. Sign-up sheets to be in a small group will be available beginning April 7.

Tim Fowler

# GINGER'S NOTES

"One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works—and I will proclaim your great deeds. They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness." Psalm 145: 4-7

In these verses, David gives us seven insights that reveal how we should worship. These are not meant to be solo acts but are to be shared with our families and church congregations. They reveal what our worship should be like: to command, to tell and speak, to meditate, to tell and teach, to proclaim, to celebrate and to joyfully sing! David knew that we needed each other and, therefore, he encouraged us to do all of these acts of worship from generation to generation. (John Bolin)



An Appeal to Parents to Pray Continually for the Welfare and Salvation of Their Children (from "Setting Their Hope in God: Biblical Intercession for Your Children," Andrew Case)

"Although praying for our children is clearly a biblical duty it is too frequently neglected. Often children are not converted because parents leave their work to others. Valuable though Sunday school teachers are, no parents can be released from the obligation of striving by their own personal efforts to lead their children to Christ.

In the case of the children of believers, parental training should be the first and usual means of their salvation. The work to be done by parents includes:  
-Instructing them in the faith  
-Setting them a holy example  
-Restraining them  
-Praying for them

You should pray for your children's conversion because:  
1. Their salvation is so great a price that it is worth all the pains which your prayer to secure it for them may cost you.

## STUDENT-LED NIGHT OF WORSHIP

will be Sunday night, April 7 at 5:00. It will feature a Youth Praise Band led by Samuel Hollis. Dalton Turnipseed will be our speaker for the night. We will follow this service with a finger food fellowship. Please make your plans to attend and invite others.

**WORSHIP CHOIR** will not rehearse April 3. We will rehearse April 10, 17 at 6:00 and April 24 after the business meeting. Thank you, choir, soloists, instrumentalists and praise teams for the beautiful music during the Easter Season. Our next "big musical event" will be a Patriotic Program on June 30.

**STUDENT CHOIR** will sing April 7 in Morning Worship. We will NOT have Youth Choir on April 7 or 14. We will rehearse April 21 and 28 at 5:00 in the choir room. We will have SNAC on April 28 at the Fowler's home. We will

2. Few will pray for them if you do not.
3. No one else can pray for them as you do.
4. Your omitting to do so will be perilous to them and to you. Your children are surrounded by evil influences and they are fallen creatures.
5. You will find it easier to perform other parental duties, which God has ordained as a means to their salvation.
6. Prayer alone can call into exercise divine power on their behalf.
7. By their salvation, granted in answer to your prayers, your Savior will be glorified.

This last motive should be stronger than any other which can influence you to seek their salvation."

April 7 is Sunday School Shuffle when 5th and 6th graders will join the Spradling class for Sunday School. Ms. Kelli's 3 and 4 year olds will join Mike Simmons class. **Children will go to their class first.**

**Preschool Children's Worship:**  
April 7 - Wesley & Taylor Frost  
April 14 - Heather Bumgarner & Abby Robinson  
April 21 - Michelle Williamson & Ann Holt  
April 28 - Shana Cliett & Shanna Ferrell

Theo Kids will meet April 21 and 28 only.

also sing May 5 in Morning Worship.

**YOUTH HAND BELLS** will meet Sunday, April 21 at 4:00 in the balcony. This is for all interested students!

**HAND BELLS** will rehearse on Mondays, April 8, & 22. We will play in Morning Worship April 28.

He keeps me singing!

## Church-Wide Wedding Showers (1:00 - 2:00 p.m.)

*Reagan Freeman  
& Bryan Robert Watson  
Sunday, April 7*

*Morgan Spotts  
& Caleb Stallings  
Sunday, April 14*

*Kaitlyn Bock  
& Charles Raines  
Sunday, April 28*

## Men's Breakfast Sunday, April 14 7:30 a.m.

All men and boys are welcome.

*Forever Young Picnic Luncheon  
at the home of Thad and Judy Buck  
Thursday, April 11*

We will begin to gather there at 11:00, and have lunch at 11:30.

Barbeque and drinks are provided.  
Please bring a side or a dessert.

**THANK YOU NOTES** have been received from Mary Jim Holmes and Jimmie Carol Harris, Sandra Harpole, and Debbie Smothers.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Caroline Warrington and family in the death of her grandfather, Richard Bridges, February 28; and to the family of Polly Christopher, who passed away March 5; also to Josh and Lacy Funderburg in the death of her grandmother, Rebecca Riley, March 6; and to Billy and Beverly White, Mark and Holli Hill, and families in the death of Beverly's sister, Margie Williams, March 19; also to Nikki Stafford and family in the death of her uncle, Cliff Stafford, March 25.

# First Students

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

Church family,

The end of the school year is near as April begins, and it is certainly a busy time of year. The same can be said for our student ministry as we look ahead to the coming weeks and months as we get closer and closer to summer. The first thing that we will have in April will be the due date for the first payment for Generate camp. The cost of camp has gone up this year as has everything else, so the cost for each student will be \$300 for Generate camp. This means that on April 7th, the first payment of \$150 will be due. On this day, we will also have a short meeting immediately following the worship service. Due to a wedding shower, we will not be able to meet in the fellowship hall, so we will meet in the youth room on this date. Please be

aware that we had more students sign up than we had available spots, so I am working with the camp to see if we can add a few more spots so that everyone can go. As of right now, we are on a waiting list, and the camp will let us know if spots do open up. For those that were the last few to sign up, you will be considered on the waiting list until we know that there are open spots. Because of this, if you are one of the students on the waiting list, you will not be required to pay anything until your spot is confirmed, but you should still come to the meeting to know what to expect from camp week.

As the end of the school year quickly approaches, we want to celebrate our seniors as we do each year. This year we have a big senior class, and we want to celebrate them well. Our senior recognition Sunday will be Sunday, May 5th. We will have a dinner on Saturday, May 4th for seniors and their parents. To sign up for recognition Sunday and for the dinner on May 4th, please fill out the form linked here: <https://bit.ly/FBCWPSeniors2024>. We will

be doing a slide show as we have done in years past, so for any participating seniors, I will need a few photos from baby pictures up to senior pictures to use for the slide show. These pictures should be emailed to me at [fbcwpjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:fbcwpjoseph@gmail.com) by Sunday, April 21st.

There is a lot of other exciting things that will be here before we know it, so continue to be in prayer for our students as they finish this school year. Please also continue to be in prayer for our Wednesday night small group leaders and our Sunday school teachers that pour into our students weekly. We are still in need of a girls' Sunday school teacher for grades 7-8 which will change to grades 7-9 at the beginning of the next school year. If you are interested in filling this position, please pray about this and let me know if you would be willing to serve in this area, or if you have any questions about the class.

In Christ,  
Joseph Blount

## Mary Ingram WMU Rise and Shine Sunday, April 21 at 8:15 am

come for breakfast, praise & worship song, and a testimony. We will meet upstairs in the youth worship room.

We have an “enemy who comes to steal, kill, and destroy” John 10:10 but “Jesus came so that we could have life and life more abundant!” Abundant life is His peace and joy and love and grace no matter our place. No matter what we walk through, we have Him and He is all we need! Life is hard, we are all are under attack, this world grows more evil, but Christ, His church, we overcome! Only by the blood of the lamb that was slain for you and me! We all have a testimony, how God has saved us, and what He has done in our hearts and lives! How He has carried us in seasons and from grace to grace! Rev. 12:11 says “they”, let’s all join together as women to give Praises to our great God and share of His great love & faithfulness!

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.”  
Revelation 12:11 KJV

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 <small>Regular Wednesday Night Schedule (No Choir)</small>	4	5	6
7 <small>Wedding Shower for Reagan Freeman and Bryan Robert Watson - 1:00 p.m. Bible Drills - 4:00 p.m. Student-Led Night of Worship - 5:00 p.m. (no Theo Kids or Youth Choir)</small>	8	9	10 <small>Regular Wednesday Night Schedule</small>	11 <small>Forever Young Luncheon at the home of Thad &amp; Judy Buck</small>	12	13
14 <small>Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m. Wedding Shower for Morgan Spotts and Caleb Stallings - 1:00 p.m. Church Bible Drill 5:00 p.m.</small>	15	16 <small>Joy Seitz WMU Meeting 10:00 a.m.</small>	17 <small>Regular Wednesday Night Schedule</small>	18	19	20 <small>Boston Butt Pick-up Day</small>
21 <small>Rise &amp; Shine 8:15 a.m. Theo Kids &amp; Youth Choir - 5:00 p.m. Deacon Ordination - 6:00 p.m.</small>	22	23	24 <small>Regular Wednesday Night Schedule</small>	25 <small>Quarterly Business Mtg.</small>		
28 <small>Wedding Shower for Kaitlyn Bock and Charles Raines - 1:00 p.m. Theo Kids &amp; Youth Choir - 5:00 p.m.</small>	29	30				





## WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

**April 3**

Baked Potato  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Dessert

**April 17**

Chicken Spaghetti  
Green Beans  
Salad  
Roll  
Dessert

**April 10**

Taco Salad  
Corn  
Chips  
Dessert

**April 24**

Chili  
Grilled Cheese/PB&J  
Crackers  
Dessert

### SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

	<b>3/3</b>	<b>3/10</b>	<b>3/17</b>	<b>3/24</b>
Sunday School	205	180	172	200
Morning Worship	290	275	267	313

### BUDGET NEEDS

Average Weekly Budget Receipts for February

\$14,879.12

Weekly Budget Needs

\$21,945.92

## NURSERY CALENDAR

April 7

Shana Cliett  
Kaylee Cliett  
Kelli Mowry

April 14

Ben Lawley  
Heather Lawley  
Farrah Honea

April 21

Jason Reed  
Alison Reed  
Rasheda Burnett

April 28

Kelly Davis  
Justin Davis  
Regina Towery

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

### February Online Giving

\$9,271.47

### February Online ECM Deposits

\$16,282.87

### March 3, 2024

Undesignated	\$24,839.00
Reimbursements	\$1,679.00
Child Care	\$2,411.00
Total Operating	\$28,929.00
Designated	\$6,638.00
Total Deposit	\$35,567.00

### March 17, 2024

Undesignated	\$5,117.00
Child Care	\$13,890.62
Total Operating	\$19,007.62
Designated	\$689.27
Total Deposit	\$19,696.89

### March 24, 2024

Undesignated	\$14,200.00
Reimbursements	\$2,267.27
Child Care	\$4,705.00
Total Operating	\$21,172.27
Designated	\$1,780.56
Total Deposit	\$22,952.83

### March 10, 2024

Undesignated	\$9,567.00
Reimbursements	\$946.00
Child Care	\$6,521.00
Total Operating	\$17,034.00
Designated	\$1,626.00
Total Deposit	\$18,660.00



And whatever you do,  
do it heartily;  
As to the Lord  
and not to men.

-Colossians 3:23

*First Baptist  
Church*

**Rev. Dale Funderburg**  
**Pastor**

**Ginger Fowler**  
**Minister of Music**

**Joseph Blount**  
**Minister of Students**

**Joedee Robinson**  
**Minister of Children  
and Family Ministry**

**Caroline Warrington**  
**Children's Ministry Intern**

**Samuel Hollis**  
**Music Ministry Intern**