

OCTOBER, 2024  
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# The MESSENGER

560 E. BROAD ST. WEST POINT, MS 39773 662-494-4213 [www.firstbaptistwp.org](http://www.firstbaptistwp.org)



## *From Your Pastor*

Many people proclaim they want peace and quiet in their lives, but they don't really mean it. They will not stop or slow down long enough for the source of peace to find them. We glorify noise because it seems exciting, fun, and thrilling. Even with spiritually-minded people, silence is not always golden. Often, the most significant productions, grandest plans, and largest crowds are declared to be as successful in church life as in the world. However, God does not always speak to us in the loudest moments or the most spectacular ways. A.W. Tozer said, "There are some truths that can never be learned except in the noise and confusion of the marketplace or in the tough brutality of difficulty. ... but there is another school where the soul must go to learn its best eternal lessons. It is the school of silence." 1 Kings 18-19 tells the story of Elijah calling down fire from heaven at Mt. Carmel, praying for the rain to end a drought, and then running away from evil Jezebel. He declares his prideful claim that he alone stands up for God in his day. As God brought him to a place to speak to him, Elijah learned that it was not the wind storm, fire, or earthquake where he heard God's voice. It was in the still, small voice. Oh, do not get me wrong – I always need to be comforted to know that when I experience the storms, fires, and earthquakes of life, God's presence is near. However, I also need to be willing to stay in tune with God so as not to miss when He speaks in the still, small voice. As David learned, we should all "Be still and know that I am God."

Your Pastor and friend,

*Bro. Dale*

### MEN'S MINISTRY

Our next men's breakfast will be November 3 at 7:30. All men and boys are welcome.

Man Church small groups will begin a new unit in the "Pursuit" study the week of September 29. That would be a great time to get involved in the study of what it means to be a real man. There are several groups that meet during the week. Find one that fits your schedule and join other men in this Pursuit to be a man of God.

### GLOBAL HUNGER SUNDAY OCTOBER 13

Global Hunger Relief (GHR) is an initiative of the Southern Baptist Convention dedicated to combating hunger and sharing the Bread of Life. 100% of your donation goes directly to meeting hunger needs.

The rice bowls will be on the tables every Wednesday in October. You may also place your gift in the offering boxes and label it "Global Hunger".

### LADIES' MINISTRY

Lunch Break Bible Study  
with Susan Moore

Mondays in November (4,11,18)  
from 11:30-1:00  
(If you can't get here till noon,  
that is fine!)

Bring your lunch and learn more  
about the Christmas Story.



# GINGER'S NOTES

*"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!"*  
*Psalm 34:1-3*

The **WORSHIP CHOIR** has started working on Christmas music! We are extending our rehearsal time to 7:15 on Wednesday nights to allow more time to rehearse Christmas music! Christmas listening CDs and zip drives are available in the Choir Room. It is always a great time to join choir or return to choir if you haven't been singing with us for a while. We will NOT rehearse October 16 because of the business meeting.

**YOUTH CHOIR** will meet October 13 and 20 at 5:00 in the choir room, but will not meet October 6 or 27. We will have SNAC in the Youth Room at 6:00 on

October 13. All students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to come and participate. We have started working on our Christmas music which will be presented December 15. We will be singing at The REFUGE Sunday night, November 3 at 6:00.

## HAND BELLS

**Adult hand bells** will meet on Tuesdays at 5:45 beginning October 1.

**Youth hand bells** will meet on Sundays at 4:30 when we have Youth Choir at 5:00.

If you are not currently playing and are interested in playing hand bells, let me know!



He keeps me singing!

**Forever Young Picnic Luncheon**  
 at the home of Thad and Judy Buck  
 Thursday, October 10th

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

**Barbecue and drinks are provided.**  
 Please bring a side or a dessert.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Patrick and Monica O'Shea on the birth of their daughter, Isabella Anne, August 22. Her proud grandparents are Pete and Peggy O'Shea.

A **THANK YOU NOTE** has been received from the Adult 3 Ladies Sunday School Class.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Maudie Young and to Joe and Melissa Henry in the death of their sister and aunt, Annice Breland, August 30.



I often ponder my past for, typically, two reasons: for wisdom on what to do (or not do) with my own children and to consider what to do (or not do) in children's ministry as preparation for student and then adult ministries within the church.

I was pondering those two things this morning and trying to figure out why I have very little memory of children's ministry but much more of student ministry. Yes, there were a couple of people I could name from children's ministry, one being my own grandmother, but a handful come to mind with youth ministry. And I'm going to call a name because he's the one that stirred these thoughts in me. I love Bob Farrar and I know Bob Farrar loves me. Why? Because he was involved in youth ministry when I was in youth, even though he did not have a child of his own in youth, and he still encourages me today.

It seems like a natural thing to have more memory of something that happened more recently, but I have childhood memories from other things. Why not children's ministry? I have a theory. And it's just that, a theory, but maybe something to consider.

When I got into youth, I remember my mother being more staunch about my church attendance as I had more independence. I believe it was more concern for where my life was heading, understandably so. But did that encouragement from the home front cause church to hold more significance to me? Whether for good or bad at that time, the church's importance was something I considered. But as a child, it was just a place I was taken to regularly (very thankful for that). It was not a conversation at home. I was not read Bible stories at home. We did not have family worship. My grandparents made connections for me, and that's big. But what if the church stuff was also the home stuff? How much more would I remember my teachers and lessons, events, musicals, etc.? How much more precious would the Body of Christ be to me?

Nothing is impossible with God. He can break through all the past failures and make a new creature with new affections and passions. But what if you can affect change for your child's faith future by making sure there's a connection between church and home? My prayer for my own children this morning was that what the church is for them now - relationships, teaching, and discipleship - will cause them to love the church forever. Even when people come and go, I pray they remember how sweet this place was to them.

The faith we claim to possess is not just effective and active on Sundays and Wednesdays. This faith is every day and at all times. The church is just added sweetness because we get to be with our brothers and sisters to bless and be blessed.

"Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them."  
 Deuteronomy 4:9

**October 6: No evening activities**  
**October 20: Kids sing in worship**  
**October 27: Trunk or Treat @ 5 p.m.**  
 (If you can bring candy donations for this event, please do, and we still need trunks!)

<u>Children's Church</u>	
10/6	Preschool: Farrah and Madison Honea
	1st/2nd Grade: Family Worship
10/13	Preschool: Joedee and Leslie Robinson
	1st/2nd Grade: Jade and Caroline
10/20	Preschool: Shanna Ferrell and Hannah Weston
	1st/2nd Grade: Jade and Casey
10/27	Preschool: Brook and Reese Ketchum
	1st/2nd Grade: Jade and Shanna

# 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,

It's hard to believe that we are already 3/4 of the way through 2024, but here we are in October! We are still going strong in our Wednesday night study in small groups as we continue to look at what Jesus has to say about a number of topics throughout scripture. Please continue to be in prayer for our students and small group leaders as they engage in small groups together.

As we get into this last quarter of the year, we have a few things to be looking forward to. We will be attending the **FCA worship night** at Oak Hill on October 2nd. We will plan to leave the

church at 5:15 for anyone that would like to ride the van as supper will be served at 5:30. Tanner Allen will be the guest speaker for that event. We will have our annual **Holy Ghost Weenie Roast** on October 30th as well.

We are also looking forward to November when we will be taking our trip to Atlanta to volunteer at the **Operation Christmas Child Processing Center**. Be on the lookout for a signup link for this trip. We will most likely have 30 spots again this year, so spots will be first come, first serve for this trip. As we look ahead to these trips and events that we will have throughout the next couple of months, please continue to be in prayer for God to move within our students and use them for His glory.

In Christ,  
Joseph Blount



The West Point Clay County Arts Council is excited to announce auditions for 5 year olds - 5th graders for our next Children's drama **North Pole's Got Talent**. It's just days before Christmas at Santa's Workshop, and there's still lots of work to be done - like getting the elves and reindeer in the proper holiday spirit with song, dance, and big belly laughs!

Auditions will be Monday, October 21st at 3:30 p.m. at the Louise Campbell Center for the Arts. Performances will be November 9 -10, 2024.

**Any groups (deacons, women's ministry, men's ministry, missions, small groups, committees, choirs, ensembles, children, youth, and adults) who are planning events or meetings in November must email or call Kelli with dates, times, and details by October 18. (fbcwpkelli@gmail.com)**



**GLOBAL HUNGER MONTH**  
Rice bowls will be on the Wednesday supper tables.

MORNING WORSHIP - 10:15 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:00 a.m.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Adult Hand Bells- 5:45 pm	2 5:00 pm - Supper 5:30 pm - Children's Choirs 6:00 p.m. - Children's Missions.	3	4	5
6	No Evening Activities	7	8 Adult Hand Bells- 5:45 pm	9 Youth Worship, Worship Choir Rehearsal, Ladies' Small Group, and Prayer Meeting	10 Forever Young Picnic Luncheon	11	12 Billington/Sartin Wedding - 5:30 p.m.
13	<b>GLOBAL HUNGER OFFERING</b> Children's Bible Drills - 4:00 pm Youth Hand Bells - 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir/SNAC, Identity Kids, and STAND - 5:00 pm	14	15 Joy Seitz WMU Meeting - 10:00 am Adult Hand Bells- 5:45 pm	16 Quarterly Business Meeting - 6:00 p.m. (no choir rehearsal)	17	18	19
20	Children's Bible Drills - 4:00 pm Youth Hand Bells - 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir, Identity Kids, and STAND - 5:00 pm	21	22 Adult Hand Bells- 5:45 pm	23	24	25	26
27	Trunk or Treat 5:00 p.m.	28	29 Adult Hand Bells- 5:45 pm	30 Youth Holy Ghost Weenie Roast - 6:00 pm	31	Looking Ahead.... Nov. 3 - Men's Breakfast Nov. 4,11,18 - Ladies' Lunch Break Bible Study Nov. 29-30 - Youth trip to OCC Packing Center	



**October 16**

Lasagna  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Dessert

**October 23**

Chicken Strips  
Rice/Gravy  
Green Beans  
Biscuit  
Yellow Cake/Choc. Icing

**October 30**

Sandwiches  
Trimming  
Chips  
Brownie

**October 2**

Chicken Sandwich  
Trimming  
Fries  
Sugar Cookie

**October 9**

Poppyseed Chicken  
Lima Beans  
Fried Squash  
Roll  
Dessert

**SUNDAY ATTENDANCE**

	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22
Sunday School	182	219	197	189
Morning Worship	313	316	298	267

**BUDGET NEEDS**

Average Weekly Budget Receipts for August  
\$19,273.33  
Weekly Budget Needs  
\$21,945.92

**NURSERY CALENDAR**

October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27
Jon Oswalt Katie Oswalt Kimberly Allen	Dave Ketchum Elizabeth Ketchum Rasheda Burnett	Erica Turnipseed Riley Turnipseed Regina Towery	Ben Lawley Heather Lawley Kelli Mowry

**TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**August Online Giving**

\$10,046.97

**August Online ECM Deposits**

\$17,273.00

**September 1, 2024**

Undesignated \$13,163.63  
Total Operating \$13,163.63  
Designated \$773.00  
Total Deposit \$13,936.63

**September 8, 2024**

Undesignated \$17,247.00  
Reimbursements \$743.10  
Child Care \$7,605.16  
Total Operating \$25,595.26  
Designated \$4,451.10  
Total Deposit \$30,046.36

**September 15, 2024**

Undesignated \$7,118.77  
Reimbursements \$570.00  
Child Care \$17,080.12  
Total Operating \$24,768.89  
Designated \$8,632.64  
Total Deposit \$33,401.53

**September 22, 2024**

Undesignated \$8,517.00  
Reimbursements \$293.00  
Child Care \$4,575.00  
Total Operating \$13,385.00  
Designated \$385.00  
Total Deposit \$13,770.00



“The LORD is good  
unto them that wait for Him,  
to the soul that seeketh Him.”

Lamentations 3:25

*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

Sarah Burton  
ECM Director

Caroline Warrington  
Children’s Ministry Intern

Samuel Hollis  
Music Ministry Intern