



THE OPEN DOOR

First Baptist Church
414 Pecan Avenue
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350
601-656-1507

"To the angel of the church of Philadelphia write...behold I have before thee a door having been open, which no one is able to close." Revelation 3:7-8

Volume 65

November 19, 2025

Number 36



*Please bring a side dish or dessert to share as we celebrate God's blessings.
Ham, turkey, dressing, and rolls provided.*

NO EVENING ACTIVITIES SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23.



Church Family,

Who had fun packing shoeboxes last week? I know I had a big time. I saw both young and old come together to pack shoeboxes together. Thank you for giving to this throughout the year and making this a priority. This may be the first gift a child has ever received and also give a missionary an opportunity to share the gospel. We may never know the impact this has in the lives of children all over the world. If you want to continue to support this ministry, you can come to the kids art show tonight at 5:30 in the fellowship hall. All of the money raised from the art show will go towards shipping for the boxes. Each box costs \$10 to ship and we packed around 650 boxes last week. If you are interested in going to Atlanta to help at the distribution center on December 1 & 2, it's not too late to sign up.

Like each year, we'll have a large crowd this Sunday as we eat together and recognize our First Responders and Law Enforcement. In order to make our guests feel welcomed, we need to leave parking at the front and park downtown if you are physically able. We also need to work together to help guests find a seat. This is a great opportunity for us to love our community.

In Christ,
Evan

**Prayer meeting TONIGHT NOVEMBER 19
will meet in the choir room.**

We are excited to share that **660 OCC SHOEBOXES** were packed this year! Thank you to everyone who donated, packed, and prayed over these gifts. Your generosity will touch children around the world.

2026 FLOWER CALENDAR

If you would like to reserve a date on the 2026 Flower Calendar to place sanctuary flowers in memory or in honor of someone special, please call the church office at 601-656-1507.



OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION

November 23

Younger: Josh & Mamie Thompson

Older: Brian & Courtney Hancock

November 30

Younger: Julie & Shelby Rudolph

Older: Tyler & Alex Stovall

DEACON OF THE WEEK

November 23

11 am Service – Troy Hight

November 30

11 am Service – Ryan Jenkins

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

Jonathan Hight

Tanner Rhodes

Brian Jay

Jim Fulton

Joe Wood

SANCTUARY GREETER FOR DECEMBER

Chris Jones

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS FOR DECEMBER

Ronnie & Laurie Page

HOSPITAL

Don McKay

UMMC, RM 354

Kamryn Kaboré

Blair E Batson, RM 528

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary this Sunday are given in honor and appreciation of our First Responders and Law Enforcement for all they do to serve and protect our community.



Welcome New Members by Letter

Adam & Lauren Shumaker

918 Kosciusko Road

Philadelphia, MS 39350

601-416-8180 (Adam)

662-436-1002 (Lauren)

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER OR EVENING ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 26.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD TRIP

The **deadline to sign up** for the OCC trip is **Monday, November 24**. If you plan to go, please make sure your name is on the list outside the church office.

OCC TRIP

Dec. 1-2, 2025

HOTEL INFO

Holiday Inn Express
Peachtree Corners-Norcross
7035 Jimmy Carter Blvd
Norcross, GA 30092

ROOM COST

1 person/room	\$117
2 people/room	\$58.50
3 people/room	\$39
4 people/room	\$29.25

MON 12/1

Leave church at 6:45 am.
Stop for lunch on the way.
Arrive at processing center around 2:30 pm.
Work shift from 3:00-7:00 pm.
Eat then check into rooms.

TUES 12/2

Be at the processing center at 8:45 am.
Work from 9:00 am -3:00 pm.
Take break for lunch at processing center.
Back at church approx. 7:00-8:00 pm.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Participants will be responsible for 4 meals.

SIGN UP OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE.

William's Notes

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24).

We may not realize it now, but this announcement by Jesus was revolutionary to the disciples and the early Christians. Even though in Old Testament times we find multiple examples of people worship in the Spirit, it is not the norm. Jewish worship up to this point was almost exclusively about following the rules. Jewish worshipers generally mixed Bible with tradition all tied to the temple in Jerusalem. Even when they were unable to travel to Jerusalem, they would make every effort to face that direction when practicing their ceremonies. With two sentences, Jesus changes all of that. He was sending the Holy Spirit to dwell in the hearts of man.

This is all exceptionally good news for us. We no longer need to dress in a certain way, go to a certain place, practice certain traditions, or follow any ritualistic practices to worship. Through the blood of Jesus, the power of the Holy Spirit and the truth of Scripture, we can now worship any time and any place freely. What a blessing. We can sing, clap, play loudly and confidently on musical instruments, or softly and reverently as the Holy Spirit leads any time any place. Then it gets even better when we come together under the authority of Scripture. What better time of the year to worship in the Spirit than Thanksgiving. I hope to see our Sanctuary filled with true worshipers on Sunday when we count our blessings together.

Shouting for You!
William W. Smith



NESHOBA BAPTIST FOOD PANTRY

First Baptist Church is responsible for collecting food for the Neshoba Baptist Food Pantry from **December until the end of February**. There will be a box outside the church office for donations of non-perishable food items during that time.



COST: \$40 PER BOX

We will once again prepare Christmas Blessing Boxes to share with families in our community this holiday season.

Individuals, groups, and Sunday School classes are invited to give toward purchasing food for the boxes.

WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Special Time of Prayer.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....	11:00 a.m.
Church-Wide Thanksgiving Meal.....	12 Noon
NO Handbell Choir.....	4:00 p.m.
NO Divorce Care	5:00 p.m.
NO Sunday Night Small Groups.....	5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

NO Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Choir Practice	5:45 p.m.
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

NO Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
NO Supper	4:45-5:45 p.m.
NO Children's Choir.....	5:30 p.m.
NO Preschool Choir.....	5:45 p.m.
NO Missions Friend.....	6:00 p.m.
NO Kids Blast.....	6:00 p.m.
NO Chancel Choir	6:00 p.m.
NO Prayer Meeting	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Church Office, CLC & CMC.....	CLOSED
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Church Office, CLC & CMC.....	CLOSED
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Special Time of Prayer.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship Service (First Sunday of Advent)	11:00 a.m.
Handbell Choir.....	4:00 p.m.
Divorce Care	5:00 p.m.
Sunday Night Small Groups	5:00 p.m.

CLC HOURS MONDAY – FRIDAY 7 AM – 12 NOON

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Evan Humphries	Pastor
William Smith.....	Minister of Music
Austin Aultman.....	Minister of Students
Jackie Cheatham	Minister of Children
Laura Thrash	Financial Ministry Assistant
Tiffany Loper.....	Education Ministry Assistant
Sage Mesley.....	Child Ministry Center Director
Linda Griffis	Christian Life Center Director
Michael Duke.....	Upward Director
Bruce Bounds.....	Facilities Manager
Church Office	(601)656-1507
Fax	(601)656-3664
Church Email	fbphilly@netdoor.com
Church Website.....	www.fbcphilly.com
Kindergarten/Child Care	(601)656-5015

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

Budget	\$23,237.00
Wednesday Night Supper.....	\$363.00
Music.....	\$10.00
Ruth's Promise	\$100.00
Youth Refund	\$122.21
Youth Camp	\$910.00
Children's Camp	\$375.00
Christmas Blessing Boxes	\$660.00
Food Pantry	\$525.00
Operation Christmas Child.....	\$1,360.00
Office	\$5.00
Harvest Church.....	\$200.00
Budget Offering Given to Date	\$199,341.20
Under Budget	\$55,487.88

WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:	\$23,166.28
BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 11/16/25:	\$23,237.00

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

November 16, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	23	23
Children	33	29
Youth	20	16
Adults	261	138
Total	337	206

SUNDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS

November 16, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	34	23
Children	36	22
Youth	26	25
Adults	116	79
Total	212	149

