



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

March 12, 2025

Number 59

THE
LORD'S SUPPER

Do this in remembrance of Me

MARCH 16TH
WORSHIP SERVICE

Widows & Widowers
BANQUET

Thursday, March 20th
6 PM • FELLOWSHIP HALL

Please RSVP by Friday, March 14
Call the church office at 601-656-1507 for
reservations and transportation, if needed.



Church Family,

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. - Ephesians 4:29

That word *unwholesome* can also be translated as rotten. We have all smelled rotten food before. No one likes to be in a room with something that has a rotten smell. The smell lingers, and if it smells bad enough, it can linger in our noses for hours to come. Also, no one wants to be around someone who is consistently opening up containers of rotten food. The same is true for someone who is not using their words to edify those around them. We're all guilty of using words that fail to build up others.

As we walk in the spirit instead of the flesh, we will be able to *give grace to those who hear*. As children of God, it is our responsibility to use our words to edify or build up others. When the grace of Christ penetrates our hearts, that same grace finds its way out into our conversations. I pray God will use us, despite our inadequacies, to be a part of *giving grace to those who hear*. We all need it!

In Christ,
Evan

FBC 175th Anniversary

First Baptist Church will celebrate our 175th Anniversary Sunday, May 4, 2025. As a part of the celebration, we will display a collection of articles, pictures and more from years past. If you would like to loan us pictures of weddings in our sanctuary, Sunday school pictures or any memories of First Baptist Church, please bring them to the church office.

OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION

March 16

Younger: Patti Robey & Kara Kaboré
Older: Cindy Brown & Linda Murray

March 23

Younger: Patti Robey & Betsy Melton
Older: Tyler and Taylor Nicholson

DEACON OF THE WEEK

March 16

11 am Service – Brice Richardson

March 23

11 am Service – Michael Duke

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary Sunday are given in memory of Tonya Culpepper. They are given by her Sunday school class, Women of Grace.



Christian Sympathy

We express our Christian sympathy to the family of Tonya Culpepper.

We express our Christian sympathy to Scottie Chunn and family for the loss of his brother, Curtis Chunn.

celebration of life

A celebration of life for Mrs. Tonya Culpepper will be held at 1 pm Thursday, March 13, 2025, at First Baptist Church. Visitation with the family will be 11 am – 1 pm at First Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers please make donations to <https://faustmanlab.org/donate/#support> (research to reverse type 1 diabetes in children).

Mother & Daughter Weekend @ Camp Garaywa

April 4-5 | 1st-5th grade | Cost: \$55 per person

Payment and Waiver must be received by March 15th.

See Mrs. Jackie for more information.

Baptist Nursing Fellowship
of MISSISSIPPI

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 | 6:30 pm

SPEAKER: LIBBY MCHAFFEY, DEAN EMERITUS OF NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH

Baptist Nursing Fellowship is an organization of health care professionals whose vision is to:

- Empower
- Educate
- Encourage ourselves & others
- Fulfill Christ's mission using health care skills.



All Nurses and Healthcare Providers are invited to join!

Neshoba Baptist Association

903 Valley View Drive, Philadelphia

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL SUE KEEN 601-562-8450 OR VISIT WWW.BAPTISTNURSINGFELLOWSHIP.COM

B.A.L.L. LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, MARCH 18TH

12 NOON • FELLOWSHIP HALL

Bring a dish or dessert and join us for a time of fellowship. All senior adults are invited to attend.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

SERVED 4:45-5:45 PM

**SPRING BREAK NO SUPPER MARCH 12
6:00 ACTIVITIES ONLY**



MENU FOR MARCH 19

Spaghetti
Green Beans
Salad & Garlic Bread
Dessert
Kids Menu: Same

Servers: Christy Bounds, Gayle Balenchia

Cleanup: Jeff Carter, Beth Henson

Money Table: Nancy Williams

William's Notes

"Your will be done on earth as it is heaven..."

Matthew 6:10

When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, Jesus responds with a beautiful prayer that reads like a poem or song. It certainly sings and sings well. It has been set to music by multiple composers. However, because of its beauty and prose, it is easy for us to disregard its deeper meanings.

When we pray "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven," what are we asking? I know the easy answer, "peace and the acceptance of life circumstances." However, there is more here than that. Think about it a little. What do we know about heaven? We know way more than I could write about in a few sentences but here are some highlights. 1) We know that heaven is a Holy place. There is no sin there. 2) We know that heaven is a peaceful place. There is no conflict for all eternity. 3) We know that heaven is a place of plenty. In other words, there is no hunger, poverty, or want in heaven. 4) We know that in heaven there is no fear or confusion. Jesus is King in heaven. 5) We know without a doubt that heaven is a place of redemption. There is only one way or door to heaven and God wants all to find that door.

When we pray "Your Will be Done" we are praying for far more than most realize. But ultimately, we are praying for God's kingdom to grow. As we enter the Easter season, let us keep that in mind. It is God's will for His church to grow. That is why we do missions. That is why we take up an offering to start new churches and support mission efforts in North America this time of the year. It is also one of the reasons we celebrate the resurrection. We want the world to know that Jesus is alive and well and more than able to save and transform lives.

Let us not forget that when we pray "Your will be done on earth. . ." we are praying that no one will perish without Christ. We are praying that God will grow His church, every race all cultures.

Shouting for Joy!
William W. Smith

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
Easter Offering

CHURCH GOAL: \$8,000
GIVEN TO DATE: \$1,960

KIDS DNOW 2025
ONE
Ephesians 4:4-6

WORSHIP LEADER & SPEAKER:
CHRIS LAYTON

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

9AM-2PM • 1ST-5TH GRADE
NESHOPA BAPTIST CENTER

CHILDREN & YOUTH ASSOCIATIONAL Bible Drill

SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH
1:30 PM • NESHOPA BAPTIST CENTER

SENIOR ADULT Revival

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2
10 AM - NESHOPA BAPTIST CENTER

GUEST EVANGELIST BRO. GENE DOUGLAS
WORSHIP LEADER BRO. WILLIAM SMITH

The Road to Calvary

presented by the
FBC MUSIC MINISTRY

Palm Sunday
APRIL 13TH • 11 AM

"As you go, proclaim this message:
"The kingdom of heaven has come near."

MATTHEW 10:7, NIV

WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

CMC Team Meeting	8:30 a.m.
Media Center.....	9:15 a.m.
Special Time of Prayer.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
The Lord's Supper	11:00 a.m.
Small Groups	5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
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TUESDAY, MARCH 18

B.A.L.L. Luncheon	12 Noon
Baptist Nursing Fellowship (Baptist Center)	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Supper	4:45-5:45 p.m.
Media Center.....	5:30 p.m.
Children's/Preschool Choir.....	5:30 p.m.
Church Bible Drill (Children).....	5:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir	6:00 p.m.
Mission Friends.....	6:00 p.m.
Kids Blast.....	6:00 p.m.
Youth	6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting.....	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Widows/Widowers Banquet	6:00 p.m.
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FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
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SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Kids D-Now (Baptist Center)	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
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SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Media Center.....	9:15 a.m.
Special Time of Prayer.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....	11:00 a.m.
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
Tiffany Long.....	Child Ministry Center Director
Linda Griffis	Christian Life Center Director
Michael Duke.....	Upward Director
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

March 9, 2025

Budget	\$17,721.65
Wednesday Night Supper.....	\$502.00
Utilities Refund	\$250.00
175 th Anniversary	\$525.00
Music and Choir.....	\$10.00
Office Refund.....	\$5.00
Renovate Church.....	\$25.00
Brotherhood	\$100.00
Property & Maintenance	\$200.00
Ruth's Promise	\$125.00
Harvest Church.....	\$325.00
Child Ministries.....	\$1,250
Annie Armstrong.....	\$1,305.00
Annie Armstrong Given to Date	\$1,960.00
Budget Offering Given to Date	\$679,678.73
Over Budget	\$105,243.25

WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:	\$21,408.68
BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 03/09/25:	\$17,721.65

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

March 9, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	35	18
Children	31	18
Youth	25	5
Adults	271	108
Total	362	149

SUNDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS

March 9, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	36	0
Children	35	0
Youth	34	0
Adults	105	128
Total	240	128