

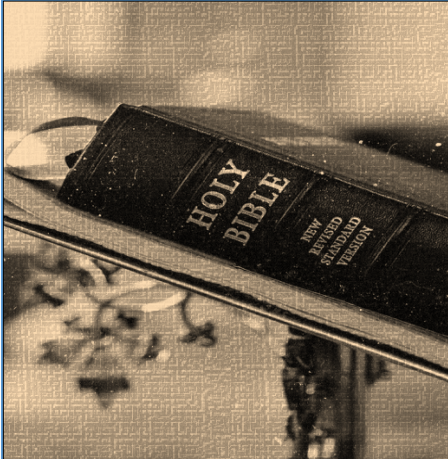
The Messenger

"God's People on Mission in Marion County and Around the World"

Foxworth First Baptist

October 2025

A NOTE FROM THE HEART OF YOUR PASTOR



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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Tyler Chavis

Worship Leader: Donovan McComb

Choir Director: Ellen Ball

Associate Pastor: Jonathan Pittman

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE SUNDAY

9 am - Small Group/Sunday School for all ages

10 am - Gathered Worship

5 pm - Adult and Children's Choirs

Discipleship Training for Students and Adults

6 pm - Gathered Worship; Pre-Bible Buddies;

Bible Buddies (1st-3rd); Bible Drills (4th-6th)

WEDNESDAY

5:15 pm - Fellowship Meal (Donations only)

5:45 pm - Children's Kick-off Celebration

6:10 pm - Kids groups, Student Ministry

(FLIGHT), Adult Mid-Week Bible Study and

Prayer Time

Recently, on Wednesday nights, we've been looking at what the church is all about...

Take a look at this article (part 2) by Baptist pastor Tim Challies concerning church membership:

"I believe in church membership. I believe in membership as a practical matter that allows a church to function well. But even more so, I believe in membership as a biblical matter that allows a church to faithfully follow the Scriptures..."

...Church membership makes sense of a pastor's obligation to his church. All Christians are called to obey and submit while elders or pastors (words I use interchangeably) are called to keep watch—and to keep watch in such a way that they are prepared to give an account to God for the souls that have been entrusted to them. Whose souls will God demand an account of? Will every pastor be responsible for every Christian in the world? Or perhaps every Christian who walks through the doors of his church? It seems intuitive that pastors will be responsible for the souls of those who formally place themselves under their care. Church membership makes sense of all of these relationships—Christian to Christian, Christian to pastor, and pastor to Christian.

Church membership protects Christians. Christians walk a perilous path in this world and face the fierce enemies of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Little wonder, then, that God has given Christians pastors to watch over them and guard them. Yet in most churches, pastors only consider themselves responsible for the people who formally associate themselves with that church. Christians who will not join the membership of a church fail to have God's appointed overseers keeping watch over their souls.

Church membership guards the Lord's Supper. Let's set aside the matter of how a church welcomes visitors to the Lord's Supper and focus instead on the people who regularly attend that church. We all acknowledge it is a grave matter when a church treats the Lord's Supper flippantly and fails to keep people from "eating and drinking judgment on themselves." Thus, most churches follow some kind of a pattern in which an individual must be baptized (in baptistic churches) or make a public profession of faith (in paedobaptist churches) before they can participate in the Lord's Supper. Typically and traditionally, that baptism or profession also begins with (or expands upon) becoming a member of the church. Participating in the Lord's Supper is a Christian's joy and responsibility and one that is rightly viewed as being bound to membership and protected by it.

Church membership makes sense of church discipline. Church discipline is a kind of measure of last resort that is meant to give a professed Christian one final opportunity to see the gravity of their sin and to repent of it. When carried out properly, and when an individual remains unrepentant, church discipline results in excommunication—a person being removed from the church. More specifically, the individual is removed from membership in the church. While in many cases they can and should

still attend the church's gatherings where they can hear the gospel, they can no longer do so as members and cannot take the Lord's Supper since their lack of repentance has caused the church to doubt the genuineness of their faith. In this way, church discipline is an act of grace in which a church puts someone out so they can understand just how gravely they have sinned. Yet it is impossible to put someone out if they aren't first in. In other words, for someone to be excommunicated they must have first been "incommunicated." The whole process of church discipline only makes sense when it involves formally joining a church body and then being formally removed from it.

While I freely admit that the words "church membership" are not found in the pages of the Bible, I am increasingly certain that the concept is. It is there because it is an essential mark of a healthy church and a core practice of a healthy Christian."

May the LORD bless & lead us as we seek Him.
Friendly. Faithful. Focused. For the Glory of the LORD!

Pastor loves you!
And I'm honored to serve HIM alongside you.

Bro. T. J. [Signature]

Announcements

- Oct. 5 – **Kidzville/MVP** – These activities are held during the preaching portion of morning worship.
- Oct. 5 – **Marion Baptist Association Fall Meeting** – Cedar Grove Baptist Church will host the meeting. Messenger meal begins at 6 pm, with the service starting at 6:45 pm.
- Oct. 6 – **Agenda Day** – All information due to church office by noon.
- Oct. 7 – **Circle of Prayer** – Susan Wallace and her mother will highlight the Marion County Food Pantry ministry this month. Ladies are invited to the FLC at 6 pm.
- Oct. 8 – **Regular Business meeting** – Set Wednesday night in the Family Life Center.
- Oct. 16 – **Don and Lennie Hammond's Anniversary**
- Oct. 19-22 – **Joint Revival Services** - Our Joint Revival Services start each night at 6:30 pm. Sunday, Oct. 19, will be at North Columbia BC; Monday, Oct. 20, at East Columbia BC; Tuesday, Oct. 21, at Cedar Grove BC; and Wednesday, Oct. 22, at Foxworth First BC.
- Oct. 27 – **Brotherhood Supper Gathering** – The meal begins at 6 pm in the FLC.
- Oct. 28-29 – **Mississippi Baptist Convention.**
- Oct. 29 – **Trunk or Treat** – Plan to decorate a trunk and/or bring candy for this annual event.



ENJOY A
FABULOUS
FALL!!

Upcoming...

Remember to "Fall Back" an hour on November 2nd!

- Nov. 2 - Kidzville/MVP
- Nov. 4 - **Circle of Prayer** - 6 pm in the Family Life Center.
- Nov. 8 - **World Craft Day at FFBC** - Begins 10 am in the FLC.
- Nov. 13 - **Blessing of the Hunt**
- Nov. 19 - **Justin & Autumn Baughman's Anniversary**
- Nov. 23 - **Ty & Hope Rowell's Anniversary**
- Nov. 23 - **Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal** slated in the FLC. (No evening service or activities)
- Nov. 26-27 - Church Office closed for the holiday.

Nursery

- Oct. 5: Cheryl Rankin & Joyce Morgan
Oct. 12: Beverly Haddox & Camellia Williams
Oct. 19: Candice Thomas & Edie Walley
Oct. 26: Patty Dykes & Tracy Windham

Financial Summary

September
General Fund
\$21,982.03

Family Life Center
Given to Date: \$802,385.33
Given in September \$550.00

Wednesday Night Supper Menu

- October 1: Chicken and Rice
October 8: Taco Soup
October 15: Hot Dogs and Chili
October 22: Loaded Potatoes
October 29: Trunk or Treat

October Birthdays

- 2: Ryleigh Williams
3: Joy Dickerson & Cody Harrison
4: Jamie Holmes
5: Chloe Foxworth & Chris Lee
6: Kristina Lee
8: Heather McKenzie
9: Joyce O'Quinn
10: Monica Foxworth, Cheryl Rankin, Ashley Sumrall & Layla Thomas
11: Lesa Becnel
14: Kellee Cumpton & Cindy Williamson
16: Rowan McCain
18: Kay Kendrick & Kaden Patterson
19: Laney Williamson
20: Eric McGraw
22: Robin Dunaway
23: Mary Hobgood & Janet Holmes
24: Wanda Broom, Donna Fortenberry, Don Hammond, & Sharon Simmons
28: Ann Anderson
30: Darlene McNeese
31: Laneleigh Turnage