

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - FLORALA, AL

THE BEACON

Encouraging Words from Pastor Chris

As we get into the first part of 2026 we have two primary points of focus. On February 1 we are beginning a new emphasis on Discipleship Groups. We currently have 19 groups put together that range from 4-6 people. These groups are going to be walking together for the next 12-18 months in daily Bible engagement, journaling, Scripture memory, prayer, and accountability. The primary goal of these groups is to



Making Disciples Who Make Disciples

grow each member into a stronger and more faithful disciple who then becomes a disciple maker themselves. These groups are intended to promote a strong commitment to the spiritual

disciplines. While we have 19 facilitators now, at the end of this cycle the idea is that members from each group would then start their own group with new people with whom they live around, work with, and recreate with. This will create a multiplication framework within our church. If we commit to this, I believe God can transform our lives individually which will lead to spiritual transformation and revival within our church

which should carry over into our community.

Another area of focus moving forward is going to be developing our footprint in Connecticut. Our vision team that went up a few weeks ago has been seeking clarity from the Lord as to who we should connect to. I am grateful to share that we have come to the same conclusion as to where God wants us. We believe that there are two works that we can plug in to. Rocco Gammone Jr. is the planter/pastor at On the Rock Community Church in New London, Connecticut. Carlos Correa has recently been approved by NAMB to be a planter and is in the very early stages of planting a Spanish speaking church near the same area. We don't know for sure what these partnerships will look like exactly, but we believe this is where God is leading us in the short term. We are taking a big step of faith by committing to two, but little is much when God is in it. Eventually, we pray that God would allow us to build even greater connections across the state. One way that this can be possible is through partnering with other local churches here in and around Florala. I have already spoken with a few pastors who might be interested in doing so. I would also love for you to begin praying that long term we would be able to plant a church there where we raise up and equip a planter/pastor to send out.

This is an exciting time in the life of our church, and I challenge you to plug in and engage as we work to make disciples from here to the ends of the earth.

Blessings, Bro. Chris

FEBRUARY 2026

ISSUE 184



**FBC
FLORALA**

*Opportunities
For Worship*

SUNDAY

Sunday School 8:45am

Worship 10:00am

WEDNESDAY

Dinner 5:30pm

Requested Donation

is \$5 for Adult Meals

Bible Study for ALL

6:15-7:15pm

SENIOR ADULTS

Pass the Baton

“And how can they believe without hearing about him?” – Romans 10:14b

Track and Field’s 4x100-meter race is a beautiful and precise picture of teamwork. Four runners rely on each other to run full speed while fluidly passing the baton onto the next. After the start, one after the other demonstrates immense talent and agility as they gracefully slip a small baton into the next runner’s hand. But what would happen if the third runner never took off? The fourth and final runner would be waiting, unable to cross the finish line and finish the race.

God has entrusted and given us (**Senior Adults**) a baton of truth to pass along. It isn’t in the form of a plastic or aluminum baton, but in the form of a message: the **GOSPEL** and a **GODLY LIFESTYLE**. In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus said to His disciples right before He ascended into heaven, “**Go**, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... **teaching** them to observe everything I have commanded you.” He wasn’t just giving this command to the disciples but to us (**Senior Adults**), too! If you are a follower of Jesus, this command is for you.

Jesus is telling us to run this race of life and pass the baton of the Gospel to every person we meet. God’s plan is to use us (**Senior Adults**) to teach people about Him and to live for him. We shouldn’t just pass the baton in church, but we should share the pass everywhere we go.

If we never share the Gospel with others, how will they hear it? It is just like the third runner never taking off to the fourth. If we carry God’s Good News with us daily, why would we not pass it off? Why would we keep a lifesaving message to ourselves? Let us run this race set before us and continue to pass off the baton, sharing the Good News of the Gospel for all to hear.

If it seems a bit scary to share the Gospel, Jesus encourages us in Matthew 28:20, saying, “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Jesus is telling you to pass the baton, but He is also helping you do it!

**** NEW FOR 2026****

- ♦ Trip to the Ark and the Creation Museum tentatively set for the **first week in May**.
- ♦ Senior Adults BIBLE STUDY and Brunch on the **2nd Thursday of the month**, starting this month!
See the flyer on page 4.

BRO. BRENT
PROVERBS 3:5-6

JOYCE'S OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY & TUESDAY 8-4
WEDNESDAY 8-NOON

If you need anything from Joyce, please try to see her during these hours. Thanks!

NEXTGEN PASTOR UPDATES

As February approaches, Next Gen ministries at FBC Florala are ramping up! There are a lot of changes coming and opportunities to pray for our students and kids. As with anything we do, the most important thing to *always* **pray for is spiritual growth**. My desire is to see our Next Gen ministry increase because our own kids and students are growing in their faith and sharing Christ in their daily lives. Another thing you can join in praying for is **endurance for our teachers and leaders**. We have a GREAT group of committed teachers that prepare each week, multiple times a week, to teach God's word to our kids. Pray for them and thank them for their ministry! One last thing to be in prayer about is **unity amongst our committees**. As with anything, changes will be necessary amongst Next Gen ministries. Sometimes change isn't easy, but it is necessary to continue to do faithful ministry to the next generation. Methods may change, but the truth never does!

Jan 23-25, United Youth Conference (D-NOW)

Feb 14, Valentine's Banquet
(Youth Summer Camp **Fundraising/Waiting Tables**)

March 29 Risen and Ready! (Easter Celebration)

May 31-June 4 VBS, Illumination Station

Blessings, Bro. Brad
NextGen Pastor



Tithe.ly

Giving to FBC has never been easier! Our Church App has the church information + GIVING APP.
<https://tithe.ly.app.link/fbc-florala>

TRI-CITIES CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

What a GREAT year 2025 was. Our total sales for the year was \$94,921.00 - can you believe that?



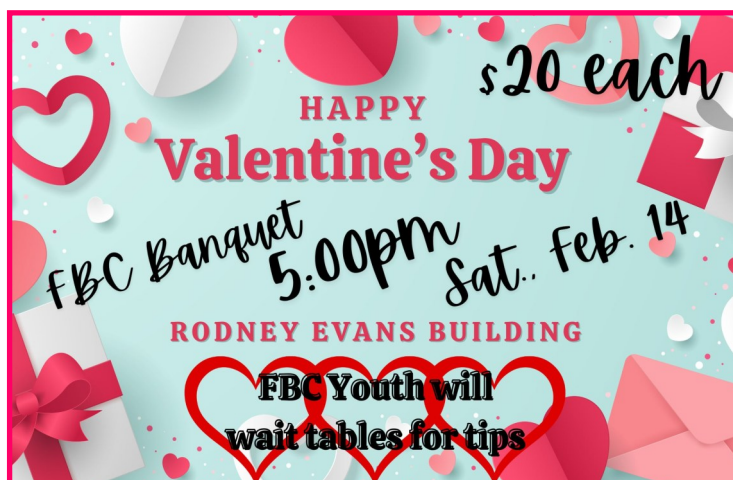
Your donations and your shopping is what caused that to happen. Without each and every one of you doing what you do, this would not be a successful venture. We could not help all the people we are able to reach if it was not for you!

December sales were \$6005 which allowed us to give away 11,825 pound of food.

January sales were a whopping \$4,131.35 after being open **only 2 days** - and on the January food day we gave away 5,480 pounds of food to those who are in need of a helping hand.

After giving all those facts and figures, the next thing I'd like to do is to thank our MANY faithful volunteers. There are so many who give tirelessly of their time and energy that I cannot name them all for fear of leaving anyone out. You know who you are and I hope you know how much you are appreciated. Christian Service Center would not be a thing if we didn't have the awesome help we have...and isn't it great that we have so much fun as we work together?

Cindy Phillips



Place your money in an envelope, write your name and choose Rare, Medium or Well. Deadline is Feb. 1st.

FBC LADIES MINISTRY

As we move into 2026, our Ladies Ministry is working to both consolidate and expand our ministry. Soul Sisters, Prayers with Feet, and Ladies Ministry will combine to help focus our time and efforts more efficiently and to better serve our church, our community, and the ladies of FBC. Below is just a short description of how we are hoping to better serve ourselves and others.

Our Ladies Ministry will be led by a group of several ladies who will focus on different areas of ministry. Missy Zessin and Katy Davenport will focus on studies and prayer time to enhance the spiritual growth of our FBC ladies. To help others spiritually, we must be totally grounded in the Word ourselves. Jeanie Foley will keep our ladies updated on various Christian workshops, community worship activities, Christian music concerts and women's retreats. This will help us grow in our faith and build stronger relationships with each other. Tabitha Coverstone and Jennifer Bradley will help keep our group involved in community activities and events to better help us reach out into our community. We want to present Jesus to those who have never heard the gospel. Lisa McNeill and Sheila Anderson will help keep our ladies centered on the ministry of helping those in need. This part of the ministry could mean financial help, acts of encouragement, standing together with others during difficult times...but it would always be accompanied with fervent prayer.

We are looking forward to this new year, and we covet your prayers as we enter into this new combined version of FBC Ladies Ministry.

Ladies Ministry, Sheila Anderson

FBC MENS MINISTRY

Men of FBC FLORALA, we have the opportunity to attend one or both of two Men's Conferences scheduled in the month of February.

#1 The INO Baptist Church Wild Game Banquet is set for Friday, February 20, 2026. The conference is FREE. Doors open at 5 with the meal starting at 5:30. Service starts at 7. Granger Smith will be the speaker. We will take the church bus or van from church leaving at 4pm.

#2 Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Brantley, AL. ONE NIGHT ONE PURPOSE MAN CHURCH. Friday, February 27, 2026. The conference is FREE. Doors open at 5; meal served from 5-6; service at starts 6. Mark Perry will be the speaker.

MAKE PLANS TO GO AND INVITE A FRIEND!

Bro. Brent

Proverbs 3:5-6

See flyers on bottom of page 6.

Bible Study & Brunch
FOR SENIOR ADULTS
BRING YOUR BIBLE,
BRUNCH WILL BE
PROVIDED!
Feb. 12th @ 10am
FBC FELLOWSHIP HALL

CHRISTIANS ON THE GO
DAVID'S CATFISH HOUSE
FEB. 26 - LEAVE FBC @ 10:30AM
RIDE THE BUS TOGETHER - LUNCH IS DUTCH TREAT

First Baptist Church Florala
SUMMER 2026
V.B.S.
SAVE THE DATE
May 31 - June 4

SPECIAL EVENTS NEWS

We are excited to welcome 4 new ladies to this committee to help us as we navigate through the many activities of the year. There is always so much to be done and these extra hands will definitely be a huge help!

In 2025 we set up 8 shower tables (baby & wedding combined), along with all the many regular activities that we prepare for. We appreciate all the generosity of our folks who give when there is an event such as this. We pray that this year, we show as much growth again.

We definitely want to give a BIG shout out to the many folks who volunteered to come up and help us decorate for Christmas and then again to come take it all down and pack it away for the year. It is wonderful to have willing and available people who work together for the common good. We appreciate your help so very much! You made our work load so much lighter, and lots more fun too! It takes a village, and our village is **AWESOME**.

Thanks again, Special Events Committee



HELP ME CREATE A KEY DATABASE

If you have keys to our buildings, please contact Joyce so she can create a database for our records. If you no longer need your keys, please simply return them. Thank you!

VOLUNTEER ROTATION LIST

Date	Little Lights (Birth-2 yrs)	Little Lambs (2-3 yrs)	Children Worship	Flowers
1-Feb	Rhonda V.	Stephen & Lora B.	Lynn Pomas	Kyle & Teasha D.
8-Feb	Connie H., Brinlee E.	Brad & Maria E.	Katy D./Kim G.	Chris & Katy D.
15-Feb	Jennifer B., Cassidy B.	Chloe R., Graci V.	Connor V./Paiyton P.	Rod & Michele W.
22-Feb	Missy Z., Judy M.	Cindy P., McKenzie D.	Kaleb & Camryn C.	Rose Haile

Thank You...

Wednesday Night Teachers:	
1-Feb	Katy D., Alecia C.
8-Feb	Bridget N., Teahsa D.
15-Feb	Connie H., Kim T.
22-Feb	Katy D., Alecia C.

GREETERS:

Feb. 1 - Jason & Brittany K., Lynn P., Cathy J.

Feb. 8 - John & Tabitha C., Brent & Missy Z.

Feb. 15 - Darrell & Jeanie Foley, Tracy V., Greg T.

Feb. 22 - Donald & Rhonda V., Jennifer B., Jean L.

PASTOR:

BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

NEXTGEN PASTOR:

BRO. BRAD ELMORE

ASSOC. PASTOR:

BRO. BRENT ZESSIN

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

DALE COLE

ACTIVE DEACONS:

AL BENNETT

JOHN COVERSTONE

CARLTON DUKES

WADE FARMER

DARRELL FOLEY

BOBBY PHILLIPS

JAMES PICKRON

JEREMY RADNEY (CH)

RICHARD REEVES

GREG TAYLOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is the foundational strategy in a local church for **leading** people to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and for **building** Great Commission Christians through Bible study groups that **engage** people in evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship.

Matthew 28, verse 18 reminds us that the power and authority to do Kingdom work as a church, small group or an individual is available through Jesus Christ. Verse 19 states that we are to *go* and *make disciples*. Our purpose is to make disciples as we are going.

FBC FLORALA Sunday School has the potential to accomplish great things in 2026 for God in our church and community. LET'S Go to Work!

Bro Brent Zessin

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 28:18-19*



FREE FAMILY EVENT

INO BAPTIST CHURCH

WILD GAME BANQUET

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 5PM
MEAL STARTING AT 5:30PM
MUSIC FROM *Made For More* starting at 5:45pm
SPEAKER AT 7pm

GRANGER SMITH

Author.
Speaker.
Musician.
Husband.
Father.

6157 HWY 134
KINSTON, AL 36453
334-565-3970

Prize giveaways after the speaker



ONE NIGHT.
ONE PURPOSE.

MAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 27, 2026

5:00 PM - DOORS OPEN
5:00 PM - MEAL
6:00 PM - WORSHIP BEGINS

SPEAKER

Mark Perry
Pastor

Join men from Crenshaw County and surrounding areas for a powerful, purpose-filled night of connection and spiritual growth. Come expecting an encounter with God through fellowship, a dynamic speaker, worship & prayer.

FREE EVENT - LOVE OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN

Scan the QR code to RSVP and help us plan for food!

MZ BC MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

328 North Mt. Zion Road
Brantley, AL 36009

Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/mtzionbrantley>

Text or Call for More Information
(334) 406-6158 or (334) 488-1129

February 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

All Men Invited to Meet
@ FBC for Prayer Time
8:00am Each Tuesday



1 D-Groups Launch 5pm	2	3	4 <u>DINNER MENU</u> Grits, Eggs, & Sausage, and Biscuits & Gravy	5	6	7
8 Lord's Supper at end of Worship Deacon Mtg. 5pm	9	10	11 <u>DINNER MENU</u> Spaghetti, Salad & Bread	12 Senior Adult Bible Study & Brunch 10am in the Fellowship Hall	13	14
15	16 Beacon Articles Due <u>TODAY</u>	17	18 <u>DINNER MENU</u> Taco Salad	19	20 CSC Food Distribution 9am-1pm Wild Game Banquet @ Ino	21
22	23	24	25 <u>DINNER MENU</u> Burgers, Fries and/or Chips	26 COG to David's Catfish in Andalusia Leave FBC @ 10:30m	27 ONE NIGHT ONE PURPOSE MAN CHURCH @ Mt. Zion	28

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR:
BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

23593 Fifth Avenue
Floral, AL 36442

Phone: 334-858-3234
www.fbcfloral.com
Email: fbcjoyce@gmail.com



**WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING
ONLY GOD CAN DO!**



FBC FLORAL



NEW PROCEDURE: To ensure your money reaches the proper account, please put it in an envelope with your name on it, and write what the money is for. Place it in the offering plate or put it in the black box in sanctuary.



***PLEASE DO NOT GIVE MONEY TO JOYCE OR ANY
OTHER PERSON. IT IS UNFAIR TO GIVE THEM
THE RESPONSIBILITY OF KEEPING UP WITH IT.***



**EVERY SUNDAY
AT 10:00 AM**

You Tube
LIVESTREAM

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FBCFloral>



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Website