

# The Messenger

“God’s People on Mission in Marion County and Around the World”

Foxworth First Baptist

April 2026

## A NOTE FROM THE HEART OF YOUR PASTOR



This month is a significant one in the life of the church - it’s the month, this year, that we celebrate Resurrection Sunday! While such is at the core of our weekly celebrations throughout the year, during the Easter season we are reminded of the truth of Messiah that has the power to set captives free - and others are also more inclined to think about such things.

Because of what Jesus has accomplished through His death, burial, and resurrection, we - who are in Christ - now have new life and a new purpose. Part of that new purpose involves being those who are *in*, but who are not *of*, the world in which we live (Jn. 17:14-16), and we are *sent out* as ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor. 5:20) to share the truth of the gospel and make disciples of all nations (Mt. 28:18-20)!

The LORD calls some of the body of Christ to long-term mission work, but how do those who are not do missions well? Thinking about this, I came across an article written by a guest writer for the Chuck Lawless website/blog (named Will who is a cross-cultural worker who trains leaders in another part of the world) [*Six ways for your church to do short-term missions well*, accessed at <https://chucklawless.com/2015/08/six-ways-for-your-church-to-do-short-term-missions-well/> on 3/26/2026]. Take a look at what this worker writes...

“Short-term missions are a great way to get church members exposed to the spiritual needs in other parts of the world. Many times, these trips also motivate church members to be more active in sharing their faith once they return...here are six ways to strengthen your approach:

1. **Think strategically.** Ideally, all short-term trips should work in conjunction with the overall strategy of a long-term missionary on the ground. In planning your trip, ask the missionary, ‘How can we help advance your work?’...If you think strategically, your trip can be a catalyst that enables the missionary to engage a new neighborhood, a new village, or possibly even start a new church.
2. **Partner with the same people.** Since the lasting value of short-term mission trips come from partnering with field personnel, the best question to ask when planning...is: ‘Who do I trust and how can I invest in their work?’...partnering with people over a long period increases the strategic value of future trips - you have a relationship with the missionary, you are familiar with his strategy, and you know about the target culture.
3. **Start in your neighborhood.** Before you get on a plane and fly halfway around the world, do some research on your own neighborhood. There may be some unreached people groups - or at least some people who have a different cultural background as you - in your own neighborhood. Get to know them. Share the gospel with them.
4. **Train your members.** The best short-term teams arrive on the field already prepared and equipped. The most well-equipped person is the one who has a vibrant walk with the Lord, but churches should



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### Connect with Us Online

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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 (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>), Bible Drills (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)

### 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

also equip their people to prayerwalk, tell their testimony, and share the gospel...

5. **Listen to the field personnel.** Great short-term teams recognize that the goal of their trips is to assist the long-term missionary. To that end, they listen to and learn from the missionary in issues related to culture and strategy. They go as learners.
6. **Commit for the long-term.** Few things encourage a missionary more than hearing a church say, 'We care about your people/city as much as you do, and like you, we want to do whatever we can to reach them.' Whether your church can send one team a year or ten teams, partner with the long-term missionaries and commit to support them for as long as they are there."

We have the blessing of partnering with some amazing servants of the Lord. I would conclude that for some of these points we are doing well...and for others we still have much room to grow. What are your thoughts?

May we see the resurrected Jesus reign in us! And as we do, may He be magnified among us!  
May the LORD bless and lead us as we seek Him.

Pastor loves you!

And I'm honored to serve HIM alongside you.



## Announcements

- April 4 – **Children's Easter Celebration** – Join us Saturday at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection with an egg hunt, games, resurrection eggs, and snacks.
  - April 5 – **Resurrection Sunday!** (No Kidzville/MVP. No evening activities or service.)
  - April 6 – **Agenda Day** – Items due to the church office by noon.
  - April 7 – **Circle of Prayer** – Ladies will gather at 6 p.m. in the FLC.
  - April 8 – **Regular Business Meeting**
  - April 8 – **Bible Drills** – Church bible drills will be held Wednesday night, April 8<sup>th</sup>, in the FLC.
  - April 9 – **Traci & Brian Sullivan's Anniversary**
  - April 12 – **Deacon Election** – A vote will be taken after morning worship.
  - April 12 – **Annie Armstrong Cake Auction and Chili Cook Off** – The fellowship will follow morning worship in the FLC. All proceeds go to the Annie Armstrong Missions Offering.
  - April 12 – **Association Bible Drill** – To be held at Tylertown First Baptist Church at 2 p.m.
  - April 19 – **Deacon Confirmation** – Elected deacons will be confirmed following the morning service.
  - April 19 – **Guatemala Mission Trip Deposit** - Deadline for \$600 deposit due.
  - April 19 – **Graduate Recognition Deadline** – Forms for Graduate Recognition will be due.
  - April 22 – **Administrative Assistant's Day**
  - April 26 – **Observance of the Lord's Supper** – Will be held during morning worship.
  - April 26 – **Wesley & Donna Fortenberry's Anniversary**
  - April 27 – **Brotherhood Meal** – The fellowship meal is set for 6 p.m. in the FLC.
- April Items - **OCC** – Sewing kits, kid's scissors, and sunshades.  
April Items - **Food Pantry** – Instant potatoes, (small packs or box), rice and pasta sides, crackers, juice (any size), and ramen noodles.

### Upcoming...

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2 - Alex and Sarah Singley's Anniversary</li> <li>May 3 - Kidzville/MVP</li> <li>May 3 - Marion Co. Association Spring Meeting at Goss BC (No p.m. activities on FFBC campus)</li> <li>May 5 - Circle of Prayer - In FLC at 6 p.m.</li> <li>May 10 - Mother's Day/Graduate Recognition (No evening activities or service)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 19 - Jody &amp; Candice Thomas' and Travis &amp; Camellia Williams' Anniversaries</li> <li>May 24 - Gideon Report- During morning service.</li> <li>May 25 - Memorial Day - Church office closed.</li> </ul> |
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## Nursery

- April 5: Hanna & Bryan McCain
- April 12: Candice Thomas & Camellia Williams
- April 17: Patty Dykes & Tracy Windham
- April 24: Brittany Chavis & Camellia Williams

### Financial Summary

March  
General Fund  
\$ 38,284.36

### Family Life Center

Given to Date: \$805,970.33  
Given in March \$500.00

### \*\*\* Remember \*\*\*

**April is Annie Armstrong  
(NAMB) Missions Offering  
Emphasis**

### Wednesday Night Supper Menu

- April 1: Hot Dogs with Chili
- April 8: Chicken Pot Pie
- April 15: Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- April 22: Red Beans and Rice
- April 29: Pork Loin and Baked Beans

## April Birthdays

- 2: Adrian Johnson
- 4: Elizabeth Beasley & Billy Don Johnson
- 12: Tammy Saucier
- 14: Alex Singley
- 15: Mickey Graham
- 17: Kyle Dykes & Justin Smith
- 18: Johnny Kroner, Jr.
- 20: Becca Tynes
- 21: Emily Williams
- 22: Bobbie Lynn Carney
- 28: Mary Mitchell
- 30: Devin Watson