

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - FLORALA, AL

THE BEACON



JUNE 2026
ISSUE 188



I am hearing great feedback from so many of you about your d-group involvement. I love hearing about how it has provided a clear framework and accountability for regular and deep Bible engagement. I also want to encourage you from Galatians 6:9 which says “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” When we are experiencing a long and busy week the temptation is to skip our reading, journaling, and Scripture memory. So often the first thing we tend to cut out is our time with the Lord. I can’t encourage you enough to press on. Don’t grow weary and quit, because the payoff is worth it. You will never regret the time you spend in God’s word. God will encourage, equip, and enlighten you through it. As we enter the summer, I pray that you will remain firm in your commitment to your d-group and your time in the Word.

Last week, as we were finishing up our reading in Deuteronomy, we were reminded about God’s desire to bless his people. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 says “I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, 20 loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days...” God wanted Israel to experience the very best he had to offer. He wanted them to have life. And guess what? He left it up to them to choose. Verse 20 lays out three keys that they had to follow to indicate that they were in fact choosing life. They had to love God with all their heart, soul, and might. They had to obey God’s law, and they needed to trust God with everything. If they faithfully did these three things God tells them that they would be blessed with life.

Jesus said in John 10:10 that he came that we might have life and have it abundantly. This is both true for now and eternity and again shows that God wants to bless us. For us to experience that though we need to adhere to this same blueprint that God gave to Israel. We must choose to love him, obey him, and trust him. How faithfully are you exhibiting your love for the Lord? How committed have you been to obey his Word? With how much abandon have you trusted him? How can you grow in how you love the Lord? Where have you struggled to obey his Word? What are you holding onto that you just aren’t ready to trust him with? I want to challenge you to ask these hard questions and answer them honestly because a change in direction in these areas will lead to more abundant living today. I desire that for you but more importantly God desires that for you. Let’s not leave his blessings on the table.

Blessings, Bro Chris

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

A vibrant Sunday School is not about how well organized you are, but about how focused you are in accomplishing the key values such as: God’s Word, a caring ministry, valuing guests, and impacting your community.

What does your Sunday School Class Value...

God’s Word - At the core of any vibrant, growing Sunday School is life changing bible study and prayer. Is your Sunday School class accomplishing these two? What about you as a member? Are you digging into the word of GOD?

One Another - Care for the needs of your members! Is your Sunday School Class accomplishing this? What about you as a member? Are you reaching out personally?

The Guest - Prepare for those who are not here yet! Is your Sunday School class accomplishing this? What about you as a member? Are you inviting people to your class and more importantly, ARE YOU INVITING individuals to know JESUS?

Your Community -Pray for the needs of your community. When was the last time your class did something for someone with the expectation of nothing in return? What about you?

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.

A vibrant, growing Sunday School takes hard work. Sunday School has the potential to accomplish great things for God in our church and community.

BRO. BRENT
PROVERBS 3:5-6

Make sure your kids and grandkids know that FBC has plans for the summer!

School's Out for Summer
But FBC is in full swing!

- FIRST BAPTIST KIDS**
- MAY 31ST - JUNE 4TH VBS (REGISTER ONLINE NOW!)**
- TEAMKID ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS! 5:30PM**
- JULY 26TH - FAMILY DAY AT LAKE JACKSON 5:00-7:00 PM**
- AUG 9TH - PROMOTION SUNDAY (MOVE TO YOUR NEW CLASS!)**

FBC SUMMER SCHEDULE

- MAY 31ST - JUNE 4TH VBS**
- JUNE 14TH SWAMPY JACKS \$25/STUDENT (6TH GRADERS WELCOME!!)**
- JUNE 27TH - JULY 1ST GENERATE SUMMER CAMP!**
- JULY 31ST - AUGUST 2ND WILD ADVENTURES SKILLET TRIP \$75/STUDENT**
- SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45AM WED. NIGHT 5:30PM**

NEXTGEN PASTOR NEWS

We all know we should be leading our families in worship; not only in church, but also at home! The problem is many parents don't know how. At First Baptist we want to give you the practical tools to implement family worship in your home. Here are few guidelines for your house:

- 1) Set aside a time to have family worship. Everyone should know what night(s) and what time you will have family worship. (Don't overcommit. Set a realistic goal and time to worship with your family.) 2 days/week is a good, simple expectation.
- 2) Decide material.

The Jesus Storybook Bible, by Sally-Lloyd Jones
Foundations for Kids: A 260-day Bible Reading Plan
 for Kids, by Robby/Kandi Gallaty
The Bible Project YouTube channel
D-group journal discussion

- 3) Sing praises together. You can use YouTube to help guide you during your singing. We sing simple songs like: My God is So Big, Jesus Loves Me, and Father Abraham. As long as your family is singing TRUTH that is praising God, it is beneficial!
- 4) Stay the course! Each family's worship will be unique and different. Toddlers may do backflips during your discussion. Someone may sneeze and laugh out loud while singing. Remember that it is honoring the Lord and beneficial to your children to participate in family worship.
- 5) Educate yourself on family worship. There are great resources available on family worship and leading the home well, such as:

Family Worship, by Donald S. Whitney

Habits of the Household, by Justin Whitmel Earley

"You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." **Deuteronomy 6:7**

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" **Matthew 19:14**

Blessings, Bro. Brad

Family Worship Time



Tithe.ly

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

TRI-CITIES CHRISTIAN SERVICE



Our sales for the previous 30 days were \$7,934. On Food Friday we served 153 families, giving away 5,861 pounds of food.

If you are thinking to donate, you can give to our FBC designated account (this money will go toward purchasing ham or turkey for Thanksgiving meals), or of course you can always give food.

One thing you might consider if you choose to give food is to purchase food that could be given to the homeless or anyone who doesn't have the option of cooking. Some good ideas for this type food are: beanie weenies, viennna sausage, pork-n-beans, crackers packaged separately, cheese or peanut butter crackers, jello/pudding cups, fruit cups, small drinks, can openers are also nifty items to give. Thank you for thinking of this as you shop for your donations to us.

Hebrews 13:16 says

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

We always appreciate anything you donate because it helps us to help others. We can never say thank you enough to all our folks who donate, shop or help us in any way, great or small....**THANK YOU.**

Cindy Phillips

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

- ◆ **WHERE:** FLORALA HEALTH AND REHABILITATION.
- ◆ **WHAT:** BIBLE STUDY, SINGING, AND ROOM VISITS.
- ◆ **WHEN:** EVERY TUESDAY MORNING 9:45- 11:00 am.
- ◆ **WHO:** IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING IN THIS MINISTRY, PLEASE SEE BRO BRENT.
- ◆ **SPECIAL THANKS:** Gayle Robbins for playing the piano for us weekly, and for James Pickron for filling in on May 12.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Last month at COFFEE and CHRIST, fourteen of us attended the Covington Baptist's 19th Annual Senior Adult Revival Day at Oakey Ridge Baptist Church on Tuesday, May 5th. Special thanks to Bro Chris for driving us.

WE WILL NOT MEET on Thursday, June 11th, but will have an ADULT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CLASS each night. The dates for VBS this year will be Sunday, May 31 through Wednesday, June 3. This year's VBS will start at 5:30. The adult class will be 45 minutes to an hour long followed by a meal each night.

Please save these dates and join us for ADULT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL.

TRUST IN THE LORD
BRO BRENT, Proverbs 3:5-6

TREASURER REPORT

Just a few thoughts from our Finance Committee to keep our congregation updated on projects and improvements that are going on at FBC. If you have noticed how nice and fresh our sanctuary looks, it's because of the new coat of paint that brightened it up! No more dings, nail holes, scuff marks, or peeling paint.

Next, we have a project that cannot be so easily noticed, but is a necessity. Electrical updates, in conjunction with Alabama Power, will happen this summer. You will probably remember that these projects were voted on and approved several months ago. At that time, funds were allocated for these projects.

We appreciate that our Building & Grounds Committee continues to take care of our physical campus. Our Finance Committee works closely with B&G on these projects. If you ever have any questions about the financial side of these projects, please feel free to ask any of our committee members. Our Finance Committee consists of Cindy Phillips, Teresa Epperson, Vanessa Dukes, Jason Klawitter, and Sheila Anderson.

Sheila Anderson, FBC Treasurer



CHILDREN’S WORSHIP UPDATE

First Baptist Kids will not have children’s worship during June and July! Our team of volunteers have done a great job on Sundays teaching our kids while Pastor Chris peached the word in the sanctuary. However, the Lord has laid it on our hearts to move in a different direction for our FBC families during Sunday worship.

“We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders he has done.” Psalm 78:4

It is the desire of our staff to keep the family together as much as possible. While there are times we utilize age specific classes and see the benefit of such; Sunday mornings can be more beneficial if we’re together as families while we worship.

Our nursery will accommodate children preschool age and below. If your child is in kindergarten or older, we encourage them to remain with you as you worship our Lord! Also remember, many of our children are not the future church, they are the current church. As believers who have professed Christ and been baptized into this local body, it’s imperative that they also learn and worship with us on Sundays!

“If you want to know whether a church is healthy, do not start by checking budgets, buildings, or how trendy the services are. Look for two sounds: Crying babies and singing men.”

Bro. Brad

Christians On The Go
 June 25th
 Leave FBC @ 10:30am
 Ride the bus together!
 Dutch Treat

**“GENERATE”
 SUMMER CAMP**
 JUNE 27–JULY 1
 SPEAKER: CHAD POE
 BAND: RUSH OF FOOLS
 SIGN UP BY FEB. 15
 3 PARENT MEETINGS FEB. 4, MARCH 25 AND JUNE 24
\$275 PER STUDENT

VOLUNTEER ROTATION LIST

Date	Little Lights (Birth-2 yrs)	Little Lambs (2-3 yrs)	Children Worship	Flowers
6/7	Lewis & Lori Thorn	Kim T., Alissa W.	THERE WILL BE	Al & Sara Goolsby
6/14	Buddy & Bridget N.	Cristalin & Casidy N.	NO CHILDREN’S	Lewis & Lori Thorn
6/21	Layce A.	Dustin & Ashley G.	WORSHIP IN	Cathy Johnson
6/28	Rhonda V.	Stephen & Lora B.	JUNE OR JULY	Terri McLaney

Wednesday Night Teachers:

6/3	Connie H., Kim T.
6/10	Katy D., Alecia C.
6/17	Bridget N., Teasha D.
6/24	Connie H., Kim T.

GREETERS:

June 7 - Donald & Rhonda V., Jennifer B., Jean L.
 June 14 - Brent & Missy Z., Rod & Michele W.
 June 21 - Myron & Sheila A., Terri M., Lisa M.
 June 28 - Jason & Brittany K., Lynn P., Cathy J.

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
RICHARD REEVES (CH)
GREG TAYLOR

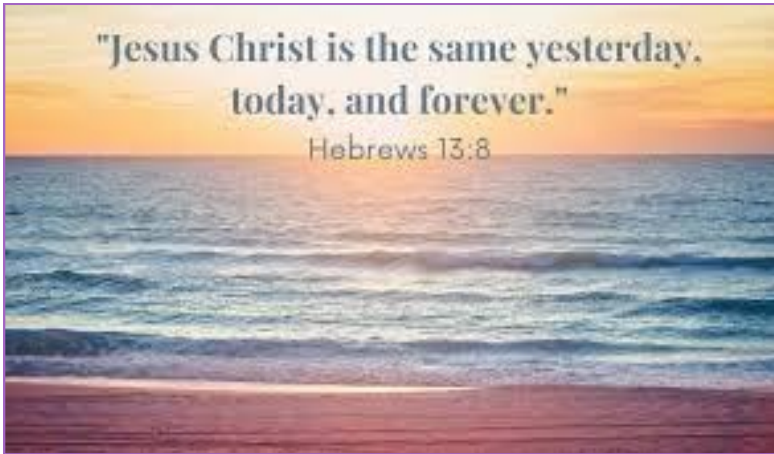
FBC LADIES MINISTRY

Hello Summer! Can you believe it is already time for VBS, Summer vacation and trips? It truly is an exciting time of year for kids and even many adults.

As this new season begins, for moms of school aged kids, it is important to cherish the ease of rigid school schedules and bedtimes. It is vital to slow down and enjoy "Sweet Summertime". For all women, it is important to take some time to sit and watch the late afternoon sunsets and feel the cool afternoon breeze. We encourage you ladies to enjoy the changing of the season that God gave us!

However, we also challenge you to not let this changing of the season affect your time and devotion to God. With the lack of rigid schedules, though that might be a breath of fresh air, it is necessary to keep your schedule with God! Stay the course of spending personal time with God in prayer and Bible reading. If you are in a D-group, do not give up when scheduling becomes more of a challenge. Don't neglect your Sunday School and Corporate Worship times. Don't skip out on Wednesday night Prayer Meetings and classes.

Each of these commitments are vital to a healthy relationship with God, your family, and your church. Women, you must help lead your family well in this area. Be an example for your kids, grandkids, and any other kiddos in your life! You never know how your faithfulness to steward your family well today, will impact the generations to come! Let it be a positive impact, worthy to be followed by your generations to come.



Even though the season is changing, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) God is faithful to us, let us remain faithful to Him. Fellowship with God and each other will make summertime that much sweeter!

Be on the lookout for upcoming events with the Ladies Ministry, including a special one in September you don't want to miss!

If you have any questions about Ladies Ministry, you can reach out to any member of the leadership team: Missy Zessin, Katy Davenport, Maria Elmore, Jennifer Bradley, and Jeanie Foley. We will be glad to answer any questions you may have!

Love and prayers for you all!

The Ladies Ministry Leadership Team

SAVE THE DATE

Bible & Brunch



SEPT 12 2026
FBC
Fellowship
Hall


Plan to join us!

**Fellowship
with God
during
Sweet
SUMMERTIME**

June 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Men's Prayer
8:00am Tuesday

Pre-register Online	1	2	3	4 5:30-8:00 Nightly	5	6
V	.	B	.	S	.	
7	8	9	10 DINNER Soups	11	12	13
14 Deacon Meeting 4pm	15	16	17 DINNER Hot Dog, Sausage Dogs, Mac-N-Cheese	18	19 Food Distribution at CSC 9am-1pm	20
21 Lord's Supper 	22 Beacon Articles Due <u>TODAY</u>	23	24 DINNER Chicken Fingers, Mac-N-Cheese, Green Beans	25 COG to Blade-N-Wing in Andalusia Leave FBC @ 10:30pm	26	27 "Generate" Youth Camp
28 "Generate" Youth Camp	29 "Generate" Youth Camp	30 "Generate" Youth Camp				

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR:
BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

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WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING
ONLY GOD CAN DO!

FBC Floral VBS 2026

SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

**ILLUMINATION
STATION** JOHN 8:12

May 31 - June 4

**Go to our FaceBook page or
website to pre-register online!**



EVERY SUNDAY
AT 10:00 AM



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



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