

Notes from Pastor Chris



As we approach the end of this year we also approach a new season of ministry strategy. 2027 will see us move away from the traditional committee approach when it comes to serving our church and community. While our big four committees, Personnel, Finance, Articles, and Bylaws, and Nominating will move forward unchanged, everything else we do will now fall under what we will call "Serve Teams." You might be asking why? Our ultimate goal as a church is to see every single church member serving the church and the community in some way. Our previous committee structure made integrating more people into areas of service in a timely way more difficult. The new structure will better facilitate integrating new people into ministry service much quicker. This will better allow individuals to grow as a Christ-like servants which is one aspect of our Dream Disciple framework. While there are likely many questions that you still desire to be answered I want to attempt to clarify this model here. Currently, leadership has developed nine different serve teams that people in the church will be able to get involved in. This variety is designed to employ the many varied gifts, skills, and passions of our church. There truly is a place for everyone to plug in to the work here at FBC. The nine teams are as follows:

- Guest Services Team
- Prayer and Care Team
- Building and Grounds Team
- Safety Team
- Worship/Audio/Visual Team
- Transportation Team
- Wednesday Night Dinner Team
- Special Events Team
- Missions Team



As you can see these are ministries we are already engaged in. The purpose of the changes made to the Bylaws is to help us improve how we are doing these ministries and to get more people involved. While what we were doing did work, the belief is that these changes can help us do it better by more adequately "equipping the saints for the work of ministry." (Ephesians 4:12). Over the next few months more information will be shared as to the specific expectations of each of these teams. Each team will be overseen by an active deacon. The Nominating committee will also be recommending chairpersons for each of these teams soon. As we make this change, I ask that you prayerfully ask God to prosper our ministerial work and give us cooperative hearts. Change can be hard, but it doesn't have to be bad.

Blessings,

Bro. Chris

*Opportunities
For Worship*

SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:15AM
Worship 10:30AM

WEDNESDAY
Dinner 5:30pm
Requested Donation
is \$5 for Adult Meals

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study
for ALL Ages
6:15-7:15pm

COUNCIL MEETING

This meeting is always important to discuss the upcoming plans for your ministry, as well as to discuss any problems you may be experiencing, so that we can all work together to make things run smoothly at FBC.

MONDAY
OCTOBER 5, 2025
6:00PM



NOTICE

DEACON MEETING

DATE : OCT. 11
TIME : 04:00 PM
PLACE : BRADLEY SS ROOM



PLEASE MAKE IT A PRIORITY



COVINGTON BAPTISTS ASSOCIATIONAL

TOGETHER FOR THE GOSPEL • TOGETHER FOR HIS GLORY

169th Annual MEETING

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 18, 2026

LOCKHART BAPTIST CHURCH
Moehegan Street • Lockhart, AL 36445

4:30 PM
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS SESSION
Executive Committee Members & Church Messengers

5:15 PM
LIGHT SUPPER
A time of fellowship and encouragement

6:00 PM
ASSOCIATIONAL WORSHIP TIME
*Led by the Associational Choir
Special Music
Message by Mike Flowers*

**TO WORSHIP, TO FELLOWSHIP,
AND TO ADVANCE THE GOSPEL!**
We look forward to seeing you on October 18th!

Pastoral Staff & Deacons

PASTOR
BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

NEXTGEN PASTOR
BRO. BRAD ELMORE

ASSOCIATE PASTOR
BRO. BRENT ZESSIN

ACTIVE DEACONS:

JOHN COVERSTONE
WADE FARMER
BOBBY PHILLIPS
JEREMY RADNEY
GREG TAYLOR

CARLTON DUKES
DARRELL FOLEY
JAMES PICKRON
RICHARD REEVES (CH)
AL BENNETT (DEACON EMERITUS)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Are you Praying? / Do you have a Prayer Time?

What are you Praying for? / Who are Praying for?

Do you know how many times the following words are in the BIBLE?

Praise (52)

Sing (32)

Worship (54)

Preach (2)

PRAY or PRAYER (363)

*We are calling all First Baptist people to pray for the lost souls in our community.

Be Specific: "And whatever you ask in MY name, that I will do, that the FATHER may be glorified in the SON. If you ask anything in MY name, I will do it." John 14:13 & 14

The success of your prayer in connecting to GOD depends a lot on the actual content of what you are praying for.

Make it a Priority: Make an appointment with GOD. It has to become a strong enough priority that you can't go to bed until it is accomplished, like brushing your teeth.

"Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and HE shall hear my voice." Psalm 55:16 & 17 "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of GOD in CHRIST JESUS". I Thessalonians 5:17.

Prayer: God, please give me a HUNGER and a THIRST for YOU, YOUR WORD, YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, YOUR HOLINESS, and GOD, give me a HUNGER and THIRST for LOST PEOPLE. I want to be LESS and You, GOD, be GREATER in me. I want to hear your softest whisper and feel your slightest touch. Amen.

PROVERBS 3:5&6
Brent Zessin



Tithe.ly

Giving to FBC has never been easier!
<https://tithely.app.link/fbc-florala>

TRI-CITIES CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

On Food Friday we had 124 Alabama food recipients and 34 Florida recipients. This totaled 1390 pounds of food. The total sales for the month of August was \$8,300.



We are happy to welcome Melanie Russell as our new custodian, and she volunteers in the store as well. She is a blessing to us, along with many other truly wonderful volunteers who all work so hard to help keep donations processed and wait on our customers.

We are very blessed - Cindy Phillips

CELEBRATE 250
— ONE-NIGHT —
CRUSADE
★ AN EVENING OF MUSIC, TESTIMONY & FAITH ★
Featuring
CHRIS MCDANIEL
of Chris McDaniel Ministries
FORMER KEYBOARDIST OF
CONFEDERATE RAILROAD
★
OCT. 1 THURSDAY 6:30 PM
KIWANIS BUILDING ANDALUSIA, ALABAMA
THERE IS AN INVITATION! Salvation is for everyone! Come and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.
BAPTISM A public declaration of your faith in Jesus Christ.
GOLF CART GIVEAWAY! Must be present to win. Sponsored by JR's Lawnmower Shop.
★ Everyone Welcome! ★
★ ONE NATION UNDER GOD ★

2026 SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

- ☐ FBC, FLORALA CHURCHWIDE GOAL: 700 BOXES.
- ☐ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2026 - CHILDREN'S PACKING PARTY.
- ☐ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026 - BOXES DUE.
- ☐ COLLECTION WEEK: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16–MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23. FBC, FLORALA DROP-OFF CENTER.
- ☐ SUNDAY SCHOOL FRIENDLY COMPETITION FOR BRAGGING RIGHTS ONLY:

GROUP 1: SARA & DONNA'S CLASS VS WADE'S CLASS

GROUP 2: DONALD and JEFF'S CLASS,
JONATHAN and GREG'S CLASS, and CHRIS and KATY'S CLASS
WILL COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER.

Millions of children around the world are being impacted by the simple shoebox gift you/our church gives. One box can touch not only the child, but the whole family.

Ways you can help:

PRAY; Pack a Box; Give financially; Volunteer to man our collection center; Go on a mission trip to Atlanta to the processing center; Tell the churches in our area and individuals about Operation Christmas Shoeboxes.

THANKS FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!

BRO. BRENT PROVERBS 3:5-6

WHEN PACKING YOUR BOX, DO NOT INCLUDE



Soap is no longer allowed in shoebox gifts because of the complications it causes in customs in some nations.

Soap; candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans; alcohol wipes.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

10/4 The Reeves
10/11 The Broadways
10/18 Debi Kilpatrick
10/25 Gayle Robbins

Homecoming is October 4th

Help us keep things nice and tidy for
our special day!

- We will NOT have Sunday School that day.
- We need everyone to bring side dishes and desserts that will accompany the fried chicken FBC provides.
- After the fellowship meal, please stay and help clean up.
- If you bring dishes, take them back with you. Please do not leave them for others to wash up.

NEXTGEN PASTOR

Praise the Lord for some cooler temperatures...kind of! I have always said that part of God graciousness toward us is giving us 4 different seasons of weather to enjoy. By nature, we tend to be people who complain. I love the hot sun of summer, but only for a while. I enjoy the cold winter months until I long for a few sweaty days on the beach or hot days working in the yard. Our God has poured his grace into our lives even in the different seasons of weather! Having said that, are you grateful for all that the Lord has given to you? Even more so, do your children know that you are grateful for all God's done for you. It's easy to overlook the blessings that are in our lives if we don't take time each day to reflect on them. Complaining and negativity are so easy if we just fall victim to the world and conformity. Unfortunately, our children see and mimic what they see in our lives. If we're complainers, they will be complainers; if we are negative, they will be negative. But we don't have to be those things! More than any physical blessing, God has blessed us with forgiveness. If he never provided one thing other than Jesus sacrificial death, he would still be worthy of our thankfulness! However, he's provided us with an eternal life and an abundant life of joy and peace in Him now until we step into eternity! If you have been guilty of letting the weight and worries of life cast you down in front of your family and children, let today be a new day! Reflect over these verses and choose thankfulness and speak blessings in their presence. They are watching and they are learning!

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." Proverbs 17:22

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Philippians 4:8

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits." Proverbs 18:21

Blessings to you all,
Bro. Brad, NG Pastor

A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.

PROVERBS 17:22



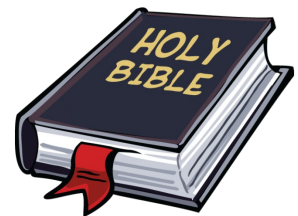
COFFEE & CHRIST

WHEN: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 ****NOTICE DATE CHANGE****

WHATTIME: 10:00 am.

PROGRAM: BREAKING GROUND MINISTRIES.

SPEAKER: Caroline Kwaza, Uganda Africa.



Caroline will report on what is going on with Breaking Ground Missions in Uganda, Africa. Caroline leads the Women's ministry for Breaking Ground church and carries this ministry to other area churches. We will discuss how our group/church can help get Bibles in the hands of new converts. \$15.00 will purchase a BIBLE in the Ugandan language. Please be here as we explore how you can help spread the Word of GOD in Uganda, Africa.

BRO BRENT

PROVERBS 3:5-6

FINANCE REPORT

Each year during the month of November, FBC members have the opportunity to share in providing a Thanksgiving meal to our local Christian Service Center food recipients. FBC joins with First Assembly Florala to provide these families with a turkey breast or ham plus all the fixings for a delicious Thanksgiving meal. With our churches working together we can help those in need.

The special Sunday will be announced in the weekly bulletin, on our FB page, and on the screen in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. **However, you can donate any time during the month of October. Just put CSC in the memo section of your check or on your giving envelope write CSC in the Other Ministries line. There is also a line to give in Tithely - look for CSC donation line.**

Thank you for your continued generosity to those in our community who are less fortunate.

Thank You & God Bless,
Sheila Anderson, Treasurer

MISSION TRIP

WHAT: SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

WHEN: Fri., November 27th & Sat.,
November 28th

WHERE: Atlanta, Ga.

WHAT: Process Christmas Shoe Boxes

TIMES TO WORK: Fri., November 27
3:30-8:30pm and Sat. November 28
9:00am-3:00pm.

INFORMATION: We will leave FBC at 7:00am on Friday morning and return Saturday evening. We will use the church van as our transportation.

COST: Hotel room and food

*Please pray about you and your family joining us. We have reserved 15 slots. Attendees must be 13 years old or older to work in the processing center.

Please let Bro. Brent know if you are interested in going.



2026 SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



I know you are saying it is the middle of the summer, and HERE we are pushing Operation Christmas Child. But it is only 8 weeks, or 56 days away from our church hosting a drop off collection center and packing our boxes. PRAISE THE LORD for the 560 Christmas shoe boxes that you and our church gave to the LORD last year. Our church collection center took in 914 boxes during national collection week.

Please start planning with your Sunday School class how to make 2026 the best ever. Our goal for FBC, FLORALA is 700 boxes and 1400 boxes total as a collection center. There are millions of children around the world that will be impacted by the simple shoebox gift you/our church gives. One box can touch not only just the child, but the whole family.

Ways you can help: PRAY; Pack a Box; Give financially; Volunteer to man our collection center; Go on a mission trip to Atlanta to the processing center; Tell the churches in our area and individuals about Operation Christmas Shoeboxes.

THANKS FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!

BRO BRENT, PROVERBS 3:5-6



October 2026

Men's Prayer 8:00am Tuesday						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 250 Crusade Kiwanis Bldg. (And.) 6:30pm	2	3
4 Home-coming 10:30am Speaker: Tommy Fike	5 Council Meeting 6:00pm	6	7 Coffee & Christ 10am <u>DINNER</u> Stroganoff	8	9	10
11 Lord's Supper 10:30am Deacon Mtg. 4pm	12	13	14 <u>DINNER</u> <u>TBD</u>	15	16 Food Distribution at CSC 9am-1pm	17
18 CBA Annual Meeting 4:30-7:00pm	19 Beacon Articles Due <u>TODAY</u>	20	21 <u>DINNER</u> Chicken Fingers, Mac-N-Cheese, Green Beans	22 COG to Plateful in Desi's in Crestview	23	24 Fall Family Fun Fest 5-7pm
25 Fully Flood Floral 3:30-5:00pm	26	27	28 <u>DINNER</u> Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans	29	30	31

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR:
BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

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Floral, AL 36442

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



WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING
ONLY GOD CAN DO!

join us!

145th Church
HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 4 • 10:30 AM



SPECIAL SINGING



WORSHIP SERVICE



FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Guest Speaker

BRO. TOMMY FIKE

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION STRATEGIST
FOR COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



FBC
FLORAL



FIND US ON
FACEBOOK

EVERY SUNDAY
AT 10:00 AM

You **Tube**
LIVESTREAM

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



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Website

Come celebrate God's faithfulness PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE!