
First Baptist Church Builder

Volume 80 Issue 12

December 30 2022

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Happy New Year!! Here we are again at the beginning of another year, and there's been a thought in my mind that may seem simple, yet it's a powerful truth; "New Year, Same God"!

That brief statement reminds me of the beautiful scripture in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

With changes coming at us so quickly, it's wonderful to know God never changes! God doesn't "adapt" to the times. The Word of God doesn't change according to cultural or social pressures. God doesn't submit to our whims or desires, because He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Let's face it. These past few years have been much more challenging than most of us ever thought they would be! And be assured this New Year will hold more challenges as well.

No, I don't know what this year holds. Like the song says, "Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand!" And I do know that even though it's a New Year, we still serve the same God!

So, as we look out over the horizon of 2023, it is so important to keep our eyes focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Maybe you have either purchased a new car or at least taken a ride in a brand-new vehicle with that "new smell" still fully intact. You know it doesn't take too long for the "new" to become "old", or at least that feeling of new. Newness seems to wear off quickly.

But God says in Isaiah 43:19, "Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

We serve a mighty God who longs to do "new things" in our lives. Yet, these things God wants to do are usually accompanied by our willingness and cooperation.

Maybe you are attempting to look out over the weeks and months ahead in 2023, and you can only see a "dry wilderness." But let me remind you that Our Great God can still make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert! And He can do "new things" in our lives if we trust Him and let Him have His way in our lives.

I encourage you today to allow the Lord to do "a new thing" in your heart, marriage, family, job, church, school, and community! While we all will continue to go through times of refining and even trials, we serve a God who is faithful and WILL bring us through this new year as we trust Him!

Rest assured that you are loved here at First Baptist Church, and we will continue to pray for God's richest blessings in your life! We are available to you, and we encourage you to call upon us whenever you need to. YOU are highly valued and greatly appreciated!

I encourage you to make some resolutions for the New Year and for the Glory of God. Maybe resolve to read through the Bible in 2023. We have a 2023 Daily Bible Reading Schedule waiting for you on the tables in the foyer. How about resolving to be more faithful and intentional in sharing your Christian witness with others? Or to be more active and faithful in church attendance. What will you resolve to do in 2023 for God's Glory?

When pastor and theologian Jonathan Edwards was just a young man, he made five resolutions and lived by them faithfully:

1. Resolved: to live with all my might while I do live.
2. Resolved: never to lose a moment of time, but to improve it in the most profitable way I can.
3. Resolved: never to do anything which I should despise or think meanly of in another.
4. Resolved: never to do anything out of revenge.
5. Resolved: never to do anything which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.

I would suggest to you that the resolutions of Jonathan Edwards would be good resolutions for every one of us, especially as we close out 2022 and begin 2023.

God bless you and yours, and I look forward to seeing you back in church this Sunday. Start the year out right by being in church on the first Sunday of the New Year. Pastor

S.T.A.R.S. SHINE THE SPOTLIGHT ON JESUS!

Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children



Thank you Church Family and Friends!

I want to express my gratitude for all the love and concern, never-ending prayers, encouraging words, and cards you have given during this past year. "Thank you" does not seem to thoroughly express what all of that has meant to me and my family. I appreciate it all.

Thank you, Church for showing your encouragement and support by attending year. I want to express a heart-felt "thank

our special musical programs during the you" to those who have made all of our special events and programs possible. Thank you for your worship and ministry leadership, especially during the month of December. Thank you, Kenny Bonds for your narration. Thank you, Erin Bolton and Janine Tiner for your skill at the keyboards. Thank you, Vincent Pryor, Sr. for helping get tables and chairs set. Thank you to all who so beautifully decorated the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Thank you, Donna Chisom and the Hostess Committee for your hospitality. Thank you, Choir and Bells for presenting two great concerts of worship. It is an honor to serve FBCPB and begin my thirteenth year working with some fabulous people. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!!



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Deacon of the Week

M. H. BITELY

January 1, 2023

KENNY BONDS

January 8, 2023

TRAVIS CHISOM

January 15, 2023

JOE CLEMENT

January 22, 2023

TROY COLE

January 29, 2023

First Record

December 4, 2022

Budget Needs	\$11,075.98
Budget Receipts	\$13,530
TV Receipts	\$835.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$100.00
Other	\$1,314.10
TOTAL	\$15,779.10

December 11, 2022

Budget Needs	\$11,075.98
Budget Receipts	\$7,843.00
TV Receipts	\$200.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$75.00
Other	\$3,895.00
TOTAL	\$12,013.00

December 18, 2022

Budget Needs	\$11,075.98
Budget Receipts	\$28,105.90
TV Receipts	\$0.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$75.00
Other	\$8,320.00
TOTAL	\$36,498.90



**JOIN US FOR
CENTRIKID Camp at
Williams Baptist University
June 12-16, 2023**
Sign up by Sunday, February 5, 2023.

**WE'RE GOING TO
CENTRIKID**

For all FirstKids having completed 3rd through 6th grades. A \$75 deposit is due at sign-up. Call Bro. Bryan for more information and scholarship information.

**JOIN US FOR
CENTRIFUGE Camp at
Ouachita Baptist University
June 5-9, 2023**

Sign up by Sunday, February 5, 2023.

For all students having completed 7th through 12th grades. A \$75 deposit is due at sign-up. Call Bro. Bryan for more information and scholarship information.



The Deacons' Meeting will be Sunday, January 8 at 4:00 pm.

The Admin. Board will meet Sunday, January 15 at 4:00 pm.

CHURCH CLOSING

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2023.

**Evening Service at
Trinity Village**
Sunday, January 22, 4:00 pm
Trinity Village Great Hall

Sunday, January 15, 2023
will be



SUNDAY

*Undesignated offering
will go to
Neighbor to Neighbor.*

SYMPATHY

To John and Salinda Hayden, in the loss of his mother, Norma Hayden.

To Billy and Jane Stone, in the loss of his sister, Judy Stone.

To Bryan and Erin Bolton and family, in the loss of his uncle, Klee Hawkins.

To Debra and Jim Simpson, in the loss of her mother, Bobby Jo Taylor, who passed away in Mississippi.

Thank You

Dear Church Family:
Thank you so much for opening your doors for us to stay during our mission trip Oct 3-7. We had a great time and we can see God at work in your city. We look forward to coming again in the future.
Blessings to you all!
Bea Randy, First Baptist Assc., Missouri Mission Trip



NEW DEACONS

As a confirmation of God's calling and gifting, an ordination of Joe Nealey and the installation of newly elected Deacons will be on Sunday, January 29 at 5 PM.



FBC is collecting soda cans. The funds from the cans will be used for Operation Christmas Child expenses. Please leave them, in bags, in the wooden enclosure next to the kitchen .

New phone directories will be printed soon. Please let the office know if there have been changes to your contact information.

The quarterly business meeting will be January 29, immediately following the morning service. There will be no potluck for this meeting.

SCRIPTURE

**THEREFORE,
IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, THE NEW
CREATION HAS COME: THE OLD HAS
GONE, THE NEW IS HERE!**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Regular Schedule for Weekly Services

SUNDAY:

9:00 am	TV Broadcast on FOX 16 (one week delay)
9:00 am	Prayer room open
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Morning Worship Service

MONDAY:

6:00 pm	Sanctuary Handbells Rehearsal
6:30 pm	Bible Study Fellowship

TUESDAY

6:00 pm	Griefshare (schedules to be announced)
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WEDNESDAY:

12:00 pm	Prayer Meeting
6:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Deacons 2023

M. H. Bitely	718-3764	James House	692-7921
Kenny Bonds	540-7001	Billy Kittler	550-8910
Travis Chisom	489-3881	Bruce Morgan	370-8318
Joe Clement	692-2659	Joe Nealey	329-8717
Troy Cole	540-7393	Mac Norton	718-2895
Buster Crook	692-3976	Jim Simpson	692-3282
Larry Daniel	540-7534	Billy Stone	692-1191
Tommy Fowler	501-517-0490	Marc Stratton	329-6906
John Hayden	510-0546	Vernon Walker	489-2683

Financial FYI

Each Monday, the Counting Committee meets to count the receipts from Sunday. They remove checks and cash from the offering envelopes verifying the amount given with the amount on the envelope. They also indicate the check number or show if it was a cash contribution. If a check comes in without an envelope, they will make one. They count the coins, currency, and checks and note on a worksheet the amount given for each gift (budget, television, Fulfill the Vision, mission offering, memorials, etc.). The receipts are deposited in the bank.

The empty envelopes and the worksheet go to the Financial Secretary who posts the gifts to each person's record of contribution statement. The posted amounts plus any general receipts are balanced with the amount of the deposit and with the designated area the gift is given for.

If you have special instructions, please write them on the front of the envelope or place them on a piece of paper inside the envelope. Finally, memorial information is given to the general secretary and the pastor's secretary who write thank you notes and send letters to the families of those who had loved ones recognized with memorials. The only time additional deposits are made is at the end of the year, as we accept last minute gifts.

News from the Pews

Do you have news, weddings, grandchildren, graduations, retirements announcements for your church family? Please let the office know and we will get it out there in this space.

STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

Ken Thornton
1-501-425-7097
Bryan Bolton
489-8970



3 Ways to Give

 **in person.**

 **by mail.**

 **online.**

more information at www.fbcpinebluff.org



Our 169th Year

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