First Boytist Church Builder

Volume 81 Issue 11

October 27 2023

Grace and peace to each of you! As I am nearing the end of my second month as your pastor, I would like to say how blessed I am to have been brought to this church. I thank the Lord for calling me here. I have enjoyed getting to know the members of this church, and I look forward to continuing to learn even more about you.

Many associate the month of October with Halloween, but being the church history nerd that I am, I think of October as Reformation Month. October 31, 1517, was the day that the German priest Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg. These theses contained many biblical truths that stood in direct contradiction to the official Roman Catholic doctrine that characterized the church at the time. This event was the spark that lit the flame of the Protestant Reformation, a movement to return to a more biblical understanding of the Christian faith, especially concerning the doctrines of salvation. As October comes to a close, I would encourage each member of our church to reflect on the "5 Solas of the Reformation." These are 5 slogans that have come to be seen as a summary of the Protestant faith.

Sola Scriptura—Scripture alone. This is the belief that only God's Word stands as the inerrant truth and authority in our lives and faith. 2 Timothy 3:16-17- "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Solus Christus— Christ alone. This doctrine teaches that our salvation is accomplished only by the person and work of Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12- "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Sola Fide— Faith alone. Scripture teaches that we are justified by faith apart from works, meaning that when someone trusts in Jesus Christ, they are then considered righteous in the sight of God. Romans 4:5- "And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness."

Sola Gratia—Grace alone. This truth means that God saves believers purely as an act of His own goodwill, not because of any merit within us. Salvation is totally unearned by us. Ephesians 2:8- "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

Soli Deo Gloria— To the Glory of God alone. The final of these Solas is a proclamation that everything, including our salvation, has the glory of God as its end. Romans 11:36- "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."

It is my hope and prayer that each member of our church comes to terms with these five truths and rejoices in them. I would also encourage you to learn more about the Protestant Reformation and the influence it has had and still has on us.

THE BEATITUDES

Blessings for a Joyful Journey

Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children



Save the Date!!

O Come, Messiah King

Presented by The Sanctuary Choir and Instrumentalists

Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Mark the date on your calendars now!

This special evening will feature The Sanctuary Choir, The Sanctuary Bells, and Guest Instrumentalists. The focus will be on those who were present at that first Christmas and will tell the life story of Jesus Christ. Make plans to join us and bring someone with you.



"Like" us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/firstpinebluff www.facebook.com/themusicministry

Deacon of the Week

JIM SIMPSON November 5, 2023 **BILLY STONE** November 12, 2023 **MARC STRATTON** November 19, 2023 **VERNON WALKER** November 26, 2023

A Festival of Christmas Carols and Nativities

Make plans to join us on Sunday, December 17, 2023, at 5:00 PM as we prepare for Christmas with a Christmas carol sing. Delicious homemade dessert will also be served around decorated tables. Come early and see the collection of Nativities in the fellowship hall.

Share Your Nativity!

Celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ at

this wonderful church-wide event! We would love to include any of your Nativities that you are willing to share.

SET-UP: 6-8 pm Thursday, December 14, and 10 am to Noon Friday, December 15.

TAKE-DOWN: Immediately following the festival, Sunday, December 17.

Reminders:

- * Please label all pieces of your Nativity.
- * You will be setting up your own Nativities so they are displayed how you like them. Please take a picture of your Nativity placement before leaving.
- * Your Nativities will be checked in and checked out during the above times. We want them to go back to their correct homes safely.
- * During the event, ushers will watch over all Nativities.

To sign up, please email Bro. Bryan at bbolton@cablelynx.com or use the online sign up link: https://fbcpinebluff.org/a-festival-of-christmas-carolsand-nativities-2023/



First Record

October 1, 2023					
Budget Needs \$11,508.31					
Budget Receipts\$11,140.00					
TV Receipts\$665.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$200.00					
Other \$22,925.00					
TOTAL \$10,676.51					
October 8, 2023					
Budget Needs \$11,508.31					
Budget Receipts					
TV Receipts\$55.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$50.00					
Other \$1,966.48					
TOTAL\$8,020.48					
October 15, 2023					
Budget Needs \$11,508.31					
Budget Receipts\$6,665.00					
TV Receipts\$5.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$100.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$100.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs\$100.00 Other\$989.00 TOTAL\$7,759.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$100.00 Other \$989.00					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$100.00 Other \$989.00 TOTAL \$7,759.00 October 22, 2023 Budget Needs \$11,508.31					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$100.00 Other					
Capital Needs & Repairs \$100.00 Other					

TOTAL\$9,375.00

The Deacons' Meeting will be Sunday, November 12 at 4:00 pm.

The Admin. Board will meet Sunday, November 19 at 5:00 pm.

Sunday, November 19, 2023 will be



SUNDAY

Undesignated offering will go to Neighbor to Neighbor.

CHURCH CLOSING

The church office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 22 and will be closed November 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving.

SYMPATHY

To the family of Joe Nealey, who passed away in Benton, AR.
To Bonnie Green and family, in the loss of Dr. Horace Green, who passed away in Little Rock.

Evening Service at Trinity Village

Sunday, November 26, 4:00 pm Trinity Village Great Hall

Pickleball is here!



Pickleball is here! On Thursdays, the gym in the Family Life Center will be open from 9am to 7pm. Contact the office to let us know you will be here.

Thank You

Coleman Elementary School would like to thank First Baptist Church Pine Bluff for providing the dinner for our Parent-Teacher Conference. Our teachers and staff enjoyed their dinner from The Wood Shed, and by providing and delivering the meal you helped to make our evening run smoothly.

We are so thankful to your church for joining with Coleman Elementary and making a positive difference in educating our students. As always, you have gone above and beyond for our school and we thank you!

Sincerely,

Marcia Merritt, Principal

AED training

There will be a defibrillator training on Sunday, November 5, at 8:30am in Room #202



Neighbor to Neighbor Holiday Food Baskets

N2N is planning for the handout of holiday food baskets for Christmas. FBC is being asked to provide 100 cans of sweet potatoes. The Christmas deadline to have them to the church is November 27.

They would like FBC to consider sponsoring at least 1 child for Christmas. A cash donation of \$60 per child will insure that a child will wake up Christmas morning with toys under their tree and food on their table.



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.



There is still time to fill a box for Operation Christmas Child

There are still boxes to be filled and still time to do that! Children are waiting to receive the boxes. Here are 3 ways you can help: 1. Take a box (2,3), shop for items suitable for the age and gender you choose. 2. Bring suitable new items you've purchased or \$ to the Church. Please remember that shipping for the boxes is \$10. We have shoppers and packers ready to ship. 3. Build a box on line at SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC

We are asking that all OCC boxes be returned to the church by **November 5.**

Regular Schedule for Weekly Services

SUNDAY:

6:00 am	TV Broadcast on KARZ 42
	(one week delay)
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

Women and Men

Zack and

Meredith Boyce

welcomed Jesse

Edward Boyce

on October 25,

TUESDAY:

Griefshare, Rm. #202 6:00 pm **TBD**

WEDNESDAY:

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

News

rom

Pews

STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

2023

Dalton Adger (318) 489-3106 **Bryan Bolton** 489-8970

Deacons 2023

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



Our website is live and online giving is available again. Listed below are the steps you should follow.

- Click the GIVE button on our church website: www. fbcpinebluff.org
- Click the Give Now button.
- Enter the amount you want to give.
- 4. Give to the fund pre-selected for you or choose a different fund from the drop-down menu.
- Select a frequency.
- 6. Enter your email address.
- 7. Click CONTINUE.
- 8. Select your account type:

Credit/Debit Card

ACH/Checking Account

Enter your payment information to complete the transaction. You'll receive email confirmation of your gift.

If you choose ACH, be prepared to give the routing number of your bank and the account number.



Our 169th Year

Periodicals Postage Paid at Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

PUBLISHED BIWEEKLY BY THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS 71603-7823 (UPS 774-580) 6501 S Hazel Street, Pine Bluff, AR 71603-7823

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to First Baptist Church Builder, 6501 S. Hazel St., Pine Bluff, AR 71603-7823 Office: 870-534-4741 FAX: 870-534-4743

E-mail address: fbcpinebluffar@gmail.com