# First Baptist Church Builder

#### Volume 83 Issue 5

May 30 2025



Grace and peace to you!

For quite some time we have been walking through the Gospel according to Mark on Sunday mornings, but you may recall that for April (and a little bit of May), we paused our series through that book of the Bible, and we focused on the doctrine of the resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15. I hope and pray that it was beneficial for you and encouraging to you.

The last sermon of that series was titled "The Day that Death Dies," and it focused on 1 Corinthians 15:50-58. As an introduction to that sermon, I read a eulogy of sorts about death itself. This was written by ChatGPT, an online AI program, after I provided the prompt- "Write me an obituary for death itself, to be

read when Christ returns." I was surprised by how good it turned out, and would like to share it with you once again, for your exhortation-

"Today we mark the end of an ancient tyrant. Death — the last enemy, long feared and long endured — is no more.

Born in the shadows of Eden's first fall, Death slithered quietly into the world, a consequence of sin, a thief of joy, and the great divider of souls from bodies, of lovers from one another, of creation from its Creator. For millennia, Death ruled over kings and beggars alike, impartial and unyielding. It crept into cradles, battlefields, hospital beds, and empty rooms. It silenced prophets, martyrs, mothers, and children. It was never welcome, but always inevitable.

But today, Death has died. By the return of Jesus Christ — the Lamb who was slain and now reigns forever — the grave has been emptied of its power. Death, once a conqueror, now lies conquered. The curse is reversed. The perishable has put on the imperishable. Tears are wiped away. Mourning is no more. The trumpet has sounded, and the dead in Christ have risen. Life eternal has swallowed mortality whole.

No memorial shall be held. No tombstone shall mark the spot. For Death shall be remembered no more. "Then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:54–55)

Rest not in peace, Death. You shall not be missed."

Indeed, death will not be missed, and I pray that your spirits are lifted by the thought of Christ's victory over sin and death.

In Christ, Bro. Dalton Adger

## We Are God's Masterpiece

Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children



## One Day Vacation Bible School is Saturday, June 21, 2025!

One Day VBS registration is now open to kids who have completed Pre-K through 6th grade (must be 5 years old by 8/1/25). For more information, visit the web address below! Parents and VBS Volunteers use the same address to register: www.fbcpinebluff.org/vbs.

This year's theme, *Magnified!*, will help kids explore the details of God's amazing world and learn how they were made to proclaim His greatness.

#### 2025 Hymn Festival: The Prayers of Our Hearts Sunday, September 28, 2025 | 5:00 PM

Join us for an inspiring evening of music, scripture, and reflection at the 2025 Hymn Festival: The Prayers of Our Hearts. This year's festival centers on the theme of prayer, guided by Colossians 4:2: "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."



Through powerful hymns and heartfelt readings, we will explore the rhythm of prayer using the A.C.T.S. model:

- ♦ Adoration Praising God for who He is
- ♦ Confession Humbly acknowledging our need for His grace
- ♦ Thanksgiving Expressing gratitude for His blessings
- ♦ Supplication Lifting up our needs and the needs of others

Whether you are new to prayer or seeking to deepen your spiritual walk, this evening will offer a meaningful opportunity to connect with God and our church community through worship.

Mark your calendars now and invite a friend! More details to come soon.



## The Sanctuary Choir Returns to Carnegie Hall!

I am thrilled to announce that the Sanctuary Choir will return to the world-renowned Carnegie Hall in New York City from November 28 to December 2, 2025! This exciting journey marks the choir's second appearance at this iconic venue.

The highlight of the trip will be the choir's participation in a special performance of Mary McDonald's "This Is Christmas" on Monday, December 1, 2025. The piece will be conducted by the composer herself as she leads the Distinguished Concerts Singers International in what promises to be a moving and memorable presentation.

A group of 20 choir members, along with their families and friends, will be traveling together to share in this extraordinary musical experience. We look forward to representing our congregation with joy and excellence on this grand stage once again!

Please join us in prayer as we prepare for this incredible opportunity. The same program will be presented by the entire choir on December 14, 2025, at 5:00 PM.



#### "Like" us on Facebook!

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

#### **Deacon of the Week**

MARC STRATTON
June 1, 2025
RODNEY RODGERS
June 8, 2025
JIM SIMPSON
June 15, 2025
BLASIOUS AWONSANG
June 22, 2025
KENNY BONDS
June 29, 2025

#### **First Record**

May 4, 2025

May 4, 2025				
Budget Needs	\$11,964.98			
Budget Receipts	\$11,340.00			
TV Receipts	\$605.00			
Capital Needs & Repairs.	\$600.00			
Other	\$5,420.12			
TOTAL				
May 11, 2025				
Budget Needs				
Budget Receipts				
TV Receipts	\$200.00			
Capital Needs & Repairs.	\$325.00			
Other	\$2,446.75			
TOTAL	\$9,027.75			
May 18, 2025				
Budget Needs	\$11,964.98			
Budget Receipts	\$6,740.00			
TV Receipts	\$10.00			
Capital Needs & Repairs.	\$75.00			
Other				
TOTAL	\$7,042.58			
May 25, 2025				
Budget Needs	\$11,964.98			
Budget Receipts	\$7,065.00			
TV Receipts				
Capital Needs & Repairs.	\$50.00			

Other ...... \$1,695.00

TOTAL ..... \$8,810.00

The Admin. Board will meet on Sunday, June 29 at 4:00 pm

The Deacons will meet on Sunday, June 29 at 4:00 pm

Sunday, June 15, 2025 will be



#### **SUNDAY**

Undesignated offering will go to Neighbor to Neighbor.

Evening Service at Trinity Village

Sunday, June 22, 4:00 pm Trinity Village Great Hall

#### Thank You

Thank you ALL for your kindness during the last few days. God Bless,

Wm. T. Anderson, Carolyn J. Anderson, Rob Anderson

#### **SYMPATHY**

To Donald Owen, in the loss of his mother, Loretta Owen, who passed away in Hot Springs, AR.

To Bro. Bryan Bolton and family, in the loss of his aunt, Shelby Breedlove, who passed away in MS.



Fill A
Bitte
to save a life

known by GOD Hope of the Delta

Hope of the Delta Baby Bottle Offering

May 11—June 15 2025

Checks are welcome







This week, we are honored to welcome a team of volunteer workers from the Harmony Baptist Association in Missouri, who are in Pine Bluff from June 5 to June 12 to assist Pastor Creston Thomas with a variety of ministry projects at Christ the Redeemer Church. During their stay, they will be housed in our church facilities. Please note that the gym will be closed during this time to accommodate our guests.





#### **Regular Schedule** for Weekly Services

#### **SUNDAY:**

TV Broadcast on FOX 16 9:00 am (one week delay)

9:00 am Prayer room open 9:45 am Sunday School

Morning Worship Service 11:00 am

MONDAY:

6:00 pm Sanctuary Handbells

Rehearsal

#### WEDNESDAY:

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

THURSDAY:

6:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

6:00 pm Griefshare

#### Deacons 2025

Blasious Awons	ang 318-278-4208	Roger Minyard	540-7836
Kenny Bonds	540-7001	Mac Norton	718-2895
Troy Cole	540-7393	Jim Simpson	692-3282
Dan Crowder	501-944-1236	Marc Stratton	329-6906
Larry Daniel	540-7534	Rodney Rodgers	543-9936
Lynn King	540-7400	Vernon Walker	489-2683



## News from the **Pews**

#### STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

**Bro. Dalton Adger** (318) 489-3106 Dr. Bryan Bolton (870) 489-8970

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.
- 3. 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.
- 5. 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 170th 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