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# First Baptist Church Builder

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Volume 83 Issue 8

August 29 2025

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Grace and peace to you!

By the end of this month, we will have finished the sermon series on the gospel according to Mark. We started this book in May of 2024, so we have been in it for well over a year. I have preached around 45 sermons from this gospel. It has been quite the journey!

For this article, I wanted to recall three of my favorite passages from Mark. These sections were fun to preach, they were enlightening to study, and I hope they were an encouragement to you as well.

In Mark 2:1-13, we see one of Jesus's early miracles. He was teaching in a home in Capernaum, and the crowd was so great that no more people could get in. There was a paralytic who had four friends who were desperately trying to get him to Jesus, knowing Jesus could heal him. These four men climbed to the roof, cut a hole through it, and lowered him down to Jesus. I love this passage because Jesus does not heal him immediately. Instead, he proclaims that his sins are forgiven. He senses skepticism from the scribes, who are thinking that Jesus is blaspheming by proclaiming forgiveness, which is something only God can do. So he then proves his authority to forgive sin by doing something else a mere man cannot do- healing the paralytic.

In Mark 7:45-52, Jesus sent his disciples ahead of him by boat, on the Sea of Galilee, while he went up the mountain to pray. In the middle of the night, as the disciples struggled against the wind, Jesus walked on water and caught up. I love this passage because v. 48 says that he intended to "pass by them." This was not to abandon them. It is the same phrase used of God's glory "passing by" Moses when he reveals himself. Jesus was displaying his glory to his disciples as the divine Son of God in human flesh.

In Mark 10:46-52, Jesus heals a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, giving him his sight. I love this passage because there are eight features of faith that we can identify in Bartimaeus through this encounter. Faith comes by hearing- the beggar heard that it was Jesus coming through. Faith cries out to Christ- the beggar shouted out to the Son of David. Faith seeks mercy- the beggar begged Jesus to have mercy on him. Faith can't be stopped- the beggar ignored those who tried to silence him. Faith answers the call- the beggar obeyed Jesus when he was called over. Faith submits to the master- the beggar spoke to Jesus, and in submission called him "Rabboni," which means "Master." Faith results in salvation- Jesus tells the beggar, "Your faith has saved you." And faith follows after- the beggar didn't stay put, but began following Jesus on the road.

As I have reflected on Mark, these are the three passages that stand out as my favorites. I would love to hear from you- what passages in Mark have been the most encouraging or convicting for you? Which sermons have impacted you the most? I look forward to the next book we will go through together as I wrap up Mark's gospel this month.

In Christ,  
Bro. Dalton Adger

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# FINDING YOUR VOICE

## ...TO BE LIKE JESUS

Ephesians 4:15

Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children



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

Join us for an evening of music, scripture, and reflection centered on The Prayers of Our Hearts, inspired by Colossians 4:2, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

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

- Adoration – Praising God
- Confession – Seeking His grace
- Thanksgiving – Offering gratitude
- Supplication – Lifting up needs

Whether you are new to prayer or seeking renewal, this Hymn Festival invites you to connect with God and community. Save the date and bring a friend!

### Clue Catchers: Bible Study for Kids

Calling all kids! Put on your detective hats and grab your magnifying glasses. It's time to solve some Bible mysteries!

- Starting Date: Sunday, September 7
- Time: 5:00 PM
- Location: FirstKids Ministry Room (Next to the Gym)



Join us for fun, clues, and discovery as we explore the Bible together in a playful and exciting way. Snacks, games, and surprises await!



### Celebrating Two Years of ETC!

This September marks the 2nd anniversary of our reformatted Extended Teaching Care (ETC) program, and we could not be more grateful for the incredible volunteers who make it all possible.

Over these past two years, your dedication and compassion have left a lasting impact on the children and families we serve.

To celebrate this milestone, the Celebration Cart will make its appearance in the Kid's Wing on Sunday, September 21! ETC Volunteers, stop by the cart for a special appreciation gift. Just a small token of our big thanks.

ETC Volunteers, you are the heart of this ministry. Thank you for your faithful service, for loving our children so well, and for being a reflection of Christ's love each week. Here is to many more years of making a difference together!

If you are not currently serving in ETC and would like to join the team, please contact me at 870-534-4741 or by email at [bbolton@cablelynx.com](mailto:bbolton@cablelynx.com). We would love to have you be part of this meaningful ministry!



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[www.facebook.com/themusicministry](http://www.facebook.com/themusicministry)

### Deacon of the Week

**VERNON WALKER**

September 7, 2025

**BLASIOUS AWONSANG**

September 14, 2025

**KENNY BONDS**

September 21, 2025

**TROY COLE**

September 28, 2025

### First Record

#### August 3, 2025

Budget Needs .....	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts .....	\$13,840.00
TV Receipts .....	\$400.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$13,200.00
Other .....	\$2,170.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$29,610.00</b>

#### August 10, 2025

Budget Needs .....	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts .....	\$8,850.00
TV Receipts .....	\$70.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$525.00
Other .....	\$10,249.50
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$19,694.50</b>

#### August 17, 2025

Budget Needs .....	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts .....	\$7,345.00
TV Receipts .....	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$375.00
Other .....	\$9,522.50
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$17,247.50</b>

#### August 24, 2025

Budget Needs .....	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts .....	\$6,015.00
TV Receipts .....	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs .....	\$70.00
Other .....	\$2,325.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$8,415.00</b>



The Deacons will meet on  
Sunday, September 14 at 4:00 pm

The Admin. Board will meet on  
Sunday, September 21 at 4:00 pm

Sunday, September 21 2025  
will be



**SUNDAY**

*Undesignated offering  
will go to  
Neighbor to Neighbor.*

**Evening Service at  
Trinity Village**

Sunday, September 29, 4:00 pm  
Trinity Village Great Hall

### **SYMPATHY**

To Pat Bethea and family, in  
the loss of her brother, Tom  
Taylor, who passed away in AL.

### **Fall Bible Studies**

Churchwide Bible Studies for Adults, Students and Kids begins September 7 in the Fellowship Hall. **Meeting Dates:** September 7, 14, 21; October 5, 12, 19; November 2, 9, 16. On the first Sunday of each month, we will share a potluck meal before the study begins.



### **IT IS TIME TO THINK ABOUT OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

The time will be here soon to pack your shoebox! Back to school items are on sale. Now is the best time to help stock the OCC room with goodies. Boxes will be out in the foyer in the next month or so, ready to be filled. Children are waiting to receive the boxes. Here are 3 ways you can help: 1. Take a box (or 2 or 3), shop for items suitable for the age and gender you choose. 2. Bring suitable new items you've purchased or \$ to the Church. We have shoppers and packers ready to ship. Don't forget that shipping has increased to \$10. 3. Build a box online at [SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC](http://SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC)

Remember, it's not just a shoebox. It's a demonstration of God's love in a tangible way that will deliver hope and joy to children around the world. It's a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children & their families through the Good News of Jesus Christ!



## 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

### 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 Awonsang	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.

1. Click the GIVE button on our church website: [www.fbcpinebluff.org](http://www.fbcpinebluff.org)
2. 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.



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