
First Baptist Church Builder

Volume 84 Issue 1

February 6 2026



Grace and peace to you, church family!

As I write this article, we have just gone through two Sundays where we had to cancel church services due to the extreme weather and road conditions. I hated not gathering for worship! It burdened my soul and weighed on my mind. I look forward to getting back together this Sunday.

I have been reflecting on David's words in **Psalm 22**. In that Psalm, he begins by crying out, "**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**" Besides thinking of the obvious connection to Christ, who utters that same cry on the cross, this Psalm also moves me to think about how a believer should respond when he or she feels forsaken by God. I would like to share this excerpt from the sermon I preached on this Psalm several months ago, and I hope it is an encouragement to you. This is an answer to the question, "How did David respond to feeling forsaken by God?"-

"First, David *remembered God's faithfulness*. There was the faithfulness of God toward His people. **vv. 4-5- In You our fathers trusted; they trusted and You rescued them. To You they cried out and were granted escape; in You they trusted and were not disappointed.** David most likely has the Exodus in mind here, which is really the ultimate example in the Old Testament of God's faithfulness to His people. And if the Lord could and did deliver the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, he could deliver David as well.

There was God's faithfulness all of David's life up to this point. **vv. 9-10- Yet You are He who brought me out of the womb; You made me trust when upon my mother's breasts. Upon You I was cast from birth; You have been my God from my mother's womb.** David had trusted in God as long as he could remember. And he didn't plan on stopping now, despite the feeling that God had forsaken him.

Second, David *trusted God to deliver him*. Even though God was silent in this moment, David knew the silence wouldn't last forever. Even though he had no rest at this time, he knew the Lord would provide in due time. Even though enemies surrounded him and he was on the brink of death, he trusted the Lord would deliver him. **vv. 19-21- But You, O Yahweh, be not far off; O my Strength, hasten to my help. Deliver my soul from the sword, my only life from the power of the dog. Save me from the mouth of the lion; from the horns of the wild oxen You have answered me.**

David's expectation of deliverance was so great that he was already planning the worship service that would take place after God saved him. **vv. 22-24- I will surely recount Your name to my brothers; in the midst of the assembly I will praise You. You who fear Yahweh, praise Him; all you seed of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you seed of Israel. For He has not despised and He has not abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; and He has not hidden His face from him; but when he cried to Him for help, He heard.** This is quite the turnaround from the way David opened the Psalm. He went from, "**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**" to "**He has not hidden his face.**" That doesn't mean the feeling of forsakenness was not real, but David worked himself out of it by reminding himself of God's faithfulness and by trusting in his deliverance."

When you feel forsaken by God, dear believer, follow David's example- remind yourself of His faithfulness, and trust in His deliverance.

In Christ,
Bro. Dalton Adger

FINDING YOUR VOICE

...TO BE LIKE JESUS

Ephesians 4:15

Dr. Bryan Bolton, Minister of Music and Children



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Behold the Lamb

A JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

A JOURNEY TO THE CROSS



GOOD FRIDAY

Behold the Lamb: A Journey to the Cross

Good Friday, April 3, 2026 | 6 PM

On April 3, 2026, we invite you to join us for a powerful and deeply meaningful Good Friday service titled *Behold the Lamb: A Journey to the Cross*. This special time of worship will guide us through Scripture, song, and reflection as we remember the sacrificial love of Jesus and prepare our hearts for Resurrection Sunday.

We will follow Christ from prophecy... to Gethsemane... to the trial... to the cross... and finally to the tomb. The service will also include the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, inviting us to remember Christ’s body broken and blood shed for us.

This will be a reflective, reverent service that helps

prepare our hearts for the hope of Resurrection Sunday.

You Are Invited—Bring Someone With You!

Good Friday is one of the most meaningful moments in the Christian calendar, and many people are more open to attending church during Holy Week than at any other time of year. We encourage you to invite a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member to come with you. A personal invitation could make all the difference in someone’s life.

So, join us on **Good Friday, April 3, 2026, at 6 PM** in the Sanctuary. Come ready to reflect... to remember... and to behold the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world.

Save the Dates: VBS 2026 Is Coming!

Vacation Bible School may still feel a little ways off, but planning is already underway, and we would love for you to be a part of it! Below is a look at the upcoming VBS timeline, including opportunities to serve, key registration dates, and a fun outreach event for our community. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details in the months ahead.

Leader recruitment begins **February 15**, when volunteer roles will be shared and the VBS vision and key dates introduced to the church. From February through April, volunteers will continue to be recruited as supplies and needs are identified.

Two identical Leader Training options will be offered. Please plan to attend one of the following: **Sunday, April 26 at 5:00 PM or Wednesday, April 29 at 6:00 PM.**

Promotion to kids and families begins **Easter Sunday, April 5**, with **registration opening May 4**. We will also host a spring family outreach event (date TBD), similar to our Trunk-or-Treat event, to welcome families and promote VBS.

Be sure to save **Saturday, June 27, 9:00 AM–1:00 PM** for our One-Day VBS!



Deacon of the Week

BLASIOUS AWONSANG

February 1, 2026

M. H. BITELY

February 8, 2026

KENNY BONDS

February 15, 2026

DAN CROWDER

February 22, 2026

First Record

December 31, 2025

Budget Needs	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts	\$31,512.00
TV Receipts	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$75.00
Other	\$6,452.74
TOTAL	\$38,044.74

January 4, 2026

Budget Needs	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts	\$9,310.00
TV Receipts	\$555.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$75.00
Other	\$2,030.00
TOTAL	\$11,970.00

January 11, 2026

Budget Needs	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts	\$26,390.00
TV Receipts	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$75.00
Other	\$631.00
TOTAL	\$27,101.00

January 18, 2026

Budget Needs	\$12,601.70
Budget Receipts	\$4,624.47
TV Receipts	\$5.00
Capital Needs & Repairs	\$50.00
Other	\$45.00
TOTAL	\$4,724.47

SYMPATHY

To the family of Anna Bess Westerfield, who passed away in Pine Bluff, AR.

To John and Anna Redman, in the loss of his brother, Sam Redman, who passed away in Dallas, TX.

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

The Deacons will meet on Sunday, February 15 at 5:00 pm

Sunday, February 15, 2026 will be



SUNDAY

Undesignated offering will go to Neighbor to Neighbor.

Evening Service at Trinity Village

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



Playground Project Update

We were excited to share wonderful progress on our new playground!

Around 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 29, the long-awaited equipment shipment arrived. A crew of three worked throughout the afternoon to unload and stage the materials and were also able to begin digging foundational holes for the main play structure and swings.



On Friday, January 30, the team returned—despite bitterly cold temperatures—to continue preparing the site. Their work focused on digging and setting holes for the shade structure in the toddler play area. Concrete was poured to allow proper curing over the weekend.



The crew returned on Monday, February 2, to continue work in the toddler play area, assemble the playground equipment, position the picnic tables, and install the swings and canopies. With steady progress throughout the week, construction was completed by Friday, February 6.



This new playground will be a tremendous blessing for our FirstKids Ministry and future outreach opportunities. It has created an inviting space for Vacation Bible School, spring family gatherings, and many joyful moments for the children of our church and community.

Thank you for your continued patience, support, and prayers as God has brought this exciting project from a dream to reality and finally to completion.

We look forward to watching our children play, laugh, and grow together as they enjoy these beautiful new spaces.

Thank You

Dear Friends of First Baptist Church,
Thank you so much for preparing the meal after Nana's funeral. Sharing that time together brought comfort to our family, and your thoughtfulness truly helped us feel supported and cared for.

Sincerely,
The Towers Family



TRINITY VILLAGE RAFFLE

Trinity Village is raffling a 22 quart Yeti Cooler. All proceeds designated to replace the filtration system in the pool. The draw date is February 14. 1 ticket is \$3, 2 tickets are \$5. Contact Kim Price in Administration for tickets. 870.879.3113

**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
M. H. Bitely 718-3764	Bruce Morgan 370-8318
Kenny Bonds 540-7001	Mac Norton 718-2895
Dan Crowder 501-944-1236	Billy Stone 692-1191
James House 692-7921	Marc Stratton 329-6906
Lynn King 540-7400	Rodney Rodgers 543-9936

**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. Listed below are the steps you should follow.

1. Click the GIVE button on our church website: 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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