



FIRST THINGS FIRST

First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, MS
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Clay Stegall-
Associate Pastor

Justin Cobb-
Minister of Youth

Danielle Davis-
Minister of Children

Zach Keller / Mickey Gentry– Ministers of Music

Volume 6 No. 8

Dr. Ken Hester, Pastor

August 2025

Parson to Person

It’s so hot the chickens are laying omelets.
It’s so hot when I got home I wanted to take a shower but my wife had already used up all of the cold water.
It’s hotter than Satan’s mixtape.
It’s hotter than two goats in a pepper patch.
It’s so hot polar bears are wearing sun screen.
It’s so hot I saw a bird get a worm using a potholder.
Lord, please Sir, whatever You’re cooking outside...it’s done.

And yet, this is the time when a whole lot of things get started.

- School starts.
- Volleyball starts.
- Football starts. And with football starts band and cheer.

Sunday School starts. It’s not like Sunday School has ever quit, but we are starting a new year, especially for the young’uns. Sunday School is so important for our babies, preschoolers, and children. To them, Sunday School is church. We need to make sure they get age-appropriate teaching about God, salvation, and how to be a Christian.

At the same time, we adults need Sunday School too. Everyone in the world needs to be part of a group to discuss the weightier things in life. Things like marriage, raising kids, staying married, forgiveness - of others and of ourselves. We need to talk about God, the Scriptures, and how to be a good follower of Jesus in a complicated world with so many demands in life. We need a group that we can talk with, pray with, laugh with, and cry with.

It is in a group with such closeness that becomes mighty important when life smacks us in the mouth. At some point in time, our life will come unhinged, often outside of our control. And when this happens, it will be the Sunday School class that will be there.

If you don’t have a Sunday School class, please contact us and we will help you find one. It may take you a couple of Sundays to find one you like. Our teachers understand that. A good class may not be the class that you call home.

There are two big important dates when it comes to Sunday School in the month of August:

August 10-Big Sunday School Teacher Supper. There we will talk about what’s ahead for us in regard to our building renovation. We’re going to have some good food too. Please let us know if you are going to be there.

August 24-That is our Sundae School Bazaar. Each class will take their spot in the Fellowship Hall with some sort of ice cream/ dessert. This is a great time not only to break the heat, but also allow parents to meet their child’s Sunday School teacher and for adults to find out more about which class they want to be in. There are no calories that day!

I look forward to seeing you in Sunday School,
BroKen



AUGUST 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00am Living Water 5K
3 Sunday School Promotion	4	5	6 6:05pm Youth begins	7	8	9
10 5:00pm All SS teachers dinner/mtg	11	12	13 5:00pm Family Night Supper begins 6:30pm Meet the Teachers Night	14	15	16 9:00am D-Now Break-out at WHBC
17 3:30pm Deacons Mtg	18 12:00pm Senior Adult Luncheon	19	20 6:00pm Children’s Choirs begin 6:30pm All children’s activites begin 6:30pm <u>The Prayer Dare</u>	21	22	23
24 7:30am Brotherhood Breakfast 5:00pm Sundae School Bizarre	25	26	27	28	29	30

VITAL SIGNS

Sunday, July 6, 2025

Sunday School Total.....407
First Day Worship.....343 (28)
11:00am Worship.....135 (17)
Total.....478 (45)

Sunday, July 13, 2025

Sunday School Total.....457
First Day Worship.....344 (24)
11:00am Worship.....143 (15)
Total.....487 (39)

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Sunday School Total.....428
First Day Worship.....363 (19)
11:00am Worship.....128 (18)
Total.....491 (37)

Sunday, July 27, 2025

Sunday School Total.....488
First Day Worship.....384 (23)
11:00am Worship.....161 (17)
Total.....545 (40)

JULY 2025 BUSINESS MTNG

Budget YTD.....\$714,474.12
Received YTD.....\$670,947.33

Welcome to our new members...



Zeke Mitchell



Daniel, Chelsea
& Drake Conlee



Anson Adams

11:00am USHERS for AUGUST 2025
(* indicates prayer door)

August 3-

*Josh Purdon, Tommy Wood,
Glenn Gillen, Jim Long,
Ben Ashley, Richie Chrestman

August 10-

*Chad Anthony, Terry Wood,
Buddy Montgomery, Kyle Walker,
Jerry Robbins, Sam Gibbs

August 17-

*Benjamin Hill, Howard Hill,
Glenn Gillen, Terry Wood,
Scott Hatcher, Kevin Koehler

August 24-

*Chase Jefcoat, Jim Long,
Chad Anthony, Richie Chrestman,
Jerry Robbins, Tommy Wood

August 31-

*Howard Hill, Kyle Walker,
Jerry Robbins, Ben Ashley,
Buddy Montgomery, Sam Gibbs

***If you are unable to fulfill your duty
as usher, please contact the head usher
or find someone to fill in for you.



First Baptist Church
31 W. Washington Street
Pontotoc, MS 38863

AUGUST 2025

BUILDING THE KINGDOM WIDE AND DEEP

LIVING WATER 5K

Saturday, August 3
at 8:00am

Runners will lead the pack
with walkers in the back.
T-shirts can be picked up the
morning of the race.



SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION

Sunday, August 3, we will move up
Sunday School classes from birth
through college.

Birth-high schoolers will begin in
their regular classes and end in
their new class, with the exception
of new 7th graders. They will begin
in the Youth SS class.

2025 high school graduates will
begin in the college class.

Deacon Nomination

Sunday, August 10 during both
morning worship services.

Deacon Election

Sunday, August 24 during both
morning worship services.

DEACONS ON CALL for AUGUST 2025

August 3

Kyle Walker
Scott Hatcher
Chase Jefcoat

August 10

Larry Young
Tommy Wood
Glenn Gillen

August 17

Ben Ashley
Richie Chrestman
Neal Anderson

August 24

Terry Wood
George Rutledge
Jerry Robbins

August 31

Billy Montgomery
Sam Gibbs
Howard Hill

THE PRAYER DARE

Our new Fall Bible Study led by Clay & Jeri
Ann Stegall will begin on Wed, Aug. 20
from 6:30-7:30pm in the Sanctuary.
This study will help us to understand the
purpose of prayer, to gain confidence in
our prayer lives, and provide daily
exercises to grow in prayer.
Cost is \$10 and you can bring it
to the first meeting.

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER MENU FOR AUGUST

August 13- Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Baby
Carrots, Rolls, Salad Bar, Dessert

August 20- Chicken Leg Quarters, Mac N Cheese,
Broccoli & Cheese, Rolls, Salad Bar,
Dessert

August 27- Chicken Fajitas with soft tortillas,
Chips & Salsa, White Queso, Salad
Bar, Dessert

Senior Adults

Join us in the Fellowship Hall
for lunch on Monday, August 18
at 12:00pm.

Bring a side dish and join us!
Bro. Ken will share an update
from attending the Southern
Baptist Convention this summer.



D-NOW BREAK-OUT 2025

Saturday, August 16 from 9am-2pm at West Heights
7th-12th graders

There will be worship, break-out sessions and
lunch provided. Sign ups are available online or see
Justin Cobb.

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, August 17
at 3:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall



BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST
Sunday, August 24 at 7:00am
in the Fellowship Hall



SUNDAE SCHOOL BIZARRE

Sunday, August 24 at 5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday School classes will have tables set up in the
Fellowship Hall with ice cream and goodies to share. This is a
great opportunity to come meet all of our different SS
teachers and classes to see which class would be a great fit for
you and your family!

Come get involved in Sunday School!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING

If you are teaching Sunday School
(this church year), there is a meeting
on Sunday, August 10 at 5:00pm
for you!

There will be updates about the
current building renovation status and
the plans moving forward. We will also
discuss classroom locations.

Dinner will be served, so please let us
know by August 3 if you will be there
and if you will be bringing your children
so they can eat as well!

MUSIC & MISSIONS

MEET YOUR TEACHERS NIGHT

Wed, August 13 at 6:30pm
If you have children in our
children's ministry on Wed
nights, you will meet their
teachers after Family Night
Supper.

** All children's midweek
activities will begin on
Wed, August 20 at 6:00pm