



FIRST THINGS FIRST

First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, MS

31 West Washington St.

662-489-1346 fbc@fbcpontotoc.org

Rev. Clay Stegall-
Associate Pastor

Justin Cobb-
Minister of Youth

Danielle Davis-
Minister of Children

Zach Keller / Mickey Gentry- Worship Leaders

Volume 4 No. 8

Dr. Ken Hester, Pastor

August 2023

Parson to Person

Sandlot baseball has a special rule. The rule is called the “Do-Over” rule. If the play is too controversial for either team to come out a winner, someone yells “Do Over! So, they play it over confident that the future play will eventually work out in their favor. Do-overs are great.

Do-overs are why pencils are armed with erasers. In college I had a mechanical pencil without an eraser. It’s not that they thought I would be perfect. As a matter of fact, they encouraged me to get a great big ole eraser. Do-overs are great.

Each year each team (volleyball, football, basketball, baseball, softball, etc., etc.) start over. What your team did last year, was last year. Success or loss, the new year doesn’t care about last season. New year is a new team. Do-overs are great.

We are starting a new church year. August begins a new Sunday School year. We’ve got some treasured veterans coming back. We also have some rookies stepping up into new roles. Do-overs are great.

Just like the previous years, we are looking to train our Sunday School teachers. It is a requirement for them. Let me repeat that. Sunday School teachers need to go through a training each year as part of their requirement to teach.

This training is an encouragement as well as it is preparation. If we expect our teams to prepare, then we should expect our Sunday School teachers to prepare. It’s a Do-Over. And as I’ve said before, “Do-overs are great.” It’s a time to recharge the battery, get some ideas, laugh together, pray together, and get focused on the Divine Calling of teaching God’s people. Here are the dates:

Preschool — August 5 at 5:00pm

Youth — August 8 at West Heights at 5:30pm with Mississippi Baptist Convention

Grade School — August 13 at 5:00pm

Adult — August 20 at 5:30pm

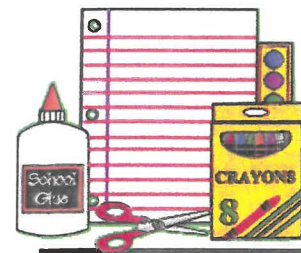
If we are going to grow—if we are going to grow in a healthy manner—then we are going to grow through the small group endeavor we call Sunday School. That’s where relationships happen.

But the real growth of Sunday School is not just about teachers getting trained or you attending. Real Sunday School growth comes from you inviting people to come join you. One research says that 8 out of 10 unchurched people would come to church if a friend invited them and came with them to church.

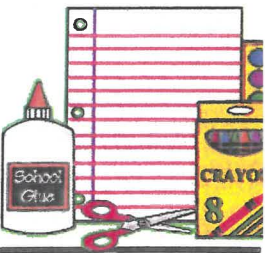
We will again help you with inviting people. We are having our Sunday School Bazaar on Sunday August 27 at 5:00pm in our Fellowship Hall Each class is encouraged to bring ice cream or dessert. Each class member is encouraged to bring a friend. Bring a family. Let them get to know their children’s Sunday School teachers. Each class will get a table. Decorate it. Fill it. But remember, this is about bringing people in.

The Kingdom of God is built one brick at a time. Each person matters.

Do-Overs are great,
Ken



AUGUST 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 NATIONAL HOMEMADE PIE DAY	2 6:00pm FBC YTH begins	3	4 NATIONAL CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE DAY	5
6 SS Promo Day Deacon Nomination 5:00pm SS Training for Preschool	7 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery	8 5:30pm SS Training or Youth at WHBC	9	10 NATIONAL S'MORES DAY	11	12 NATIONAL MIDDLE CHILD DAY
13 5:00pm 1st-6th Grade SS Training	14	15	16	17	18 NATIONAL ICE CREAM PIE DAY	19
20 3:30pm Deacons Meeting 5:30pm Adult SS Training	21 12:00pm Sr. Adult Luncheon	22	23 6:00pm M&M kick-off at Gateway Pavillon	24	25	26 NATIONAL CHERRY POPSICLE DAY
27 7:00am Brotherhood Breakfast Deacon Vote 5:00pm SS Bizarre	28	29	30 5:00pm Family Night Supper begins	31 NATIONAL TRAIL MIX DAY		

VITAL SIGNS

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Sunday School Total.....339
 First Day Worship.....254 (15)
 11:00am Worship.....161 (19)
 Total.....415 (34)

Sunday, July 9, 2023

Sunday School Total.....401
 First Day Worship.....275
 11:00am Worship.....195
 Total.....470

Sunday, July 16, 2023

Sunday School Total.....350
 First Day Worship.....332 (15)
 11:00am Worship.....130 (8)
 Total.....462 (23)

Sunday, July 23, 2023

Sunday School Total.....380
 First Day Worship.....249 (0)
 11:00am Worship.....154 (18)
 Total.....403 (18)

Sunday, July 30, 2023

Sunday School Total.....
 First Day Worship.....
 11:00am Worship.....
 Total.....

JULY 2023 BUSINESS MTNG

Budget YTD.....\$799,130.16
 Received YTD.....\$636,045.73

Senior Adults

Senior Adult Luncheon on
Monday, August 21 at 12:00pm
 in the Fellowship Hall.
 Bring a side dish and join us for
 great food and fellowship!



Happy August!

School is coming soon, and we are praying for you as you gear up for another year! Go ahead and mark your calendars for August 23rd. That will be our M&M Kickoff night at the Gateway Pavilion! 6:00-7:30! Hope to see you there! -Mrs. Danielle

FBC YTH

Welcome back! Great things are happening at FBC YTH. We will start back up with small groups on Wednesday, August 2 at 6:00pm

Welcome to our new members...



The Gillespie Family-
 Whit, Terri & Harper

SCHOOL PRAYER WALK

Come join us on
Sunday, August 6 from
2-3:30pm at all city and county
schools. It's a come and go
prayer time to pray over
our schools, teachers, and
students.

Join us on Wednesdays at 5:00pm for
FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER!
 (begins Wednesday, August 30th)
 Bring your family and join us in the
 Fellowship Hall for dinner before your kids
 go to their midweek activities.
 Each week we have a fresh salad bar, a
 meal, and desserts to choose from.
 We ask that you give a donation to help
 with the cost each week.
 Call the church office and let us know if you
 will be coming!

11:00am USHERS
 for AUGUST 2023
 (* indicates prayer door)

August 6

*Chad Anthony, Jason Angle,
 Jim Long, Mark Crenshaw,
 Eddy Taylor, Billy Montgomery

August 13

*Howard Hill, Jody Stringer,
 Terry Wood, Chase Jefcoat,
 Mark Vandiver, Kevin Morrow

August 20

*Ellis Reeder, Jerry Robbins,
 Mark Griffith, Buddy Montgomery,
 Eddy Taylor, Kevin Koehler

August 27

*Sam Dowdy, Eddy Taylor,
 Chad Anthony, Jason Angle,
 Mark Crenshaw, Chase Jefcoat

If you are unable to fulfil your
 duty as usher, please find
 someone to take your place.

DEACONS ON CALL
 for AUGUST 2023

August 6

Jim Long
 Mark Vandiver
 Larry Young

August 13

Neal Anderson
 Craig Downing
 Jason Angle

August 20

Chad Anthony
 Mark Griffith
 Mark Crenshaw

August 27

Howard Hill
 Kevin Morrow
 Sam Dowdy



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

AUGUST 2023

BUILDING THE KINGDOM WIDE AND DEEP

Sunday School Promotion Day
Sunday, August 6

This is for all children from
 birth thru 6th grade.
 Each child will begin in the SS
 class that he/she has been in
 this year. At the end of the
 sunday school period, they
 will move up to their new
 class.
 Please pick them up from their
 new SS classroom.

DEACON NOMINATION
Sunday, August 6

During both morning
 services we will nominate
 7 men for deacon.

DEACON VOTE

Sunday, August 27
 We will vote for deacons
 during both morning
 services.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING

If you are teaching a Sunday School class,
 please make plans to attend our
 sunday school teacher training.
 Sun, August 6 at 5:00pm-Preschool teachers
 Tues, August 8 at 5:30pm at WHBC- Youth
 Sun, August 13 at 5:00pm-1st-6th grade
 Sun, August 20 at 5:30pm-Adult teachers

DEACONS MEETING
Sun, August 20 at
3:30pm in the FH



SENIOR ADULT LUNCH
 Bring a dish and join us in
 the Fellowship Hall on
 Monday, August 21 at noon.

We will kick off our
 Music & Missions
 for children
 4yrs-4th grade.



Join us at the Gateway Pavilion
 on Wed, August 23
 from 6:00-7:30pm for
 Free food, fun, and fellowship!

BROTHERHOOD
 BREAKFAST

Sun, August 27 at 7:00am
 in the Fellowship Hall.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
 BIZARRE

Sunday, August 27
 at 5:00pm

All SS classes (kids-
 adults) will have tables
 set up in the FH along
 with ice cream and
 desserts for everyone
 to enjoy. This is a great
 time to introduce your
 SS class to someone
 that isn't a part of our
 SS groups!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

We are kicking off a whole new Celebrate Recovery at FBC on Monday evenings
 beginning Monday, August 7 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
 If you would like to help with this ministry, please come and be apart of CR.
 We'd love to have you join us!