VITAL SIGNS

Sunday, August 3, 2025	
Sunday School Total	531
First Day Worship	492 (25)
11:00am Worship	143 (13)
Total	635 (38)

Sunday, August 10, 2025

Sunday School Total	.496	
First Day Worship	430 (20	6
11:00am Worship	165 (1	5
Total	595 (4	1

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Sunday School Total	502
First Day Worship	420 (24)
11:00am Worship	140 (0)
Total	.560 (24)

Sunday, August 24, 2025

Sunday School Total	503
First Day Worship	423 (22)
11:00am Worship	127 (10)
Total	550 (32)

Sunday, August 31, 2025

Sunday School Total445
First Day Worship370 (30) 11:00am Worship137 (18)
11:00am Worship137 (18)
Total507 (48)

AUGUST 2025 BUSINESS MTNG

Budget YTD	.\$833,553.14
Received YTD	.\$791.547.38

Senior Adults

Join us at the Gateway Pavilion on Monday, September 22 at 12:00pm for grilled hamburgers and hotdogs! Bring a side dish to share with everyone and come enjoy good food and fellowship!



Welcome to our new members...



The Blanchards John Scott. Krista & Chance

Hailey Treece Dean Mohr





The Gentrys Adam, Audrey, Lola & Rhett

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

September 7-

*Eddy Taylor, Dee Atkins, Mike Bowen, Freddy Bridgman, Phillip Cox, Roger Gentry

September 14-

*Richie Chrestman, Jay Hughes, Matt Koon, Rickey Littlejohn, Carey McMullan, Justin Moss

September 21-

*Wally Henry, David Ray, Jay Reeder, Ellis Reeder, Jay Russell, Clark Sexton

September 28-

*Ben Howard, George Stegall, Bryan Warren, Joe Brown, Mark Crenshaw, Micah Grubbs

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

Margaret Lackey Season of Prayer for State Missions September 7-13, 2025 FBC goal: \$3,500

Jeanette Simmons



FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER MENU FOR SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 3- Meatloaf, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Rolls, Salad Bar, Dessert
- Sept. 10- Chicken Pot Pie, Salad Bar, Dessert
- Sept. 17- Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Salad Bar, Dessert
- Sept. 24- Hard/Soft Shell Tacos, Chips, Queso

DEACONS ON CALL for SEPTEMBER 2025

> September 7 **Craig Downing Larry Young Tommy Wood**

September 14 **Mark Griffith Ben Ashley Richie Chrestman**

September 21 **Kevin Morrow Terry Wood**

George Rutledge

September 28 **Ellis Reeder Billy Montgomery** Sam Gibbs

Bridal Shower honoring Miss Makenzie Phillips, bride-elect of Joseph Henry, on Sunday, September 7 from 1:30-3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Makenzie & Joseph are registered at The Red Door and Merle Norman

CENTRIKID SUMMER CAMP

(for children 3rd-6th grade)

June 21-25, 2026

If your child plans to attend

children's camp this summer,

sign-ups are now open!

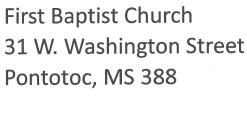
A deposit of \$125 is due no

later than Sept. 7. If you have

any question, please contact

Danielle Davis.

You are invited to a



September 2025

BUILDING THE KINGDOM WIDE AND DEEP

The Prayer Dare

Our new Fall Bible Study, The Prayer Dare, is being held in the Sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. This study is led by Clay & Jeri Ann Stegall.

Please be patient with us... Construction on our old Education Building is set to begin on September 15.

Join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, September 7 at 5:00pm as we celebrate by Baptism. Everyone is invited to dinner in the BAPTISM Fellowship Hall immediately following!

Bridal Shower honoring Miss Rene Rindik, bride-elect of Stephen Sexton, on Sunday, September 21 from 1:30-3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Rene & Stephen are registered at The Red Door, City Mercantile and Zola.com

You are invited to a

SENIOR ADULT FALL TRIP

November 3-6, 2025 If you would like to go to Branson, MO with our Senior Adults, please come by the office and sign up by Sept. 12. A deposit of \$75 is due when you sign up.

You are invited to a (Far & Fars Bridal Shower honoring Miss Rachel Starnes, bride-elect of Luke Hatcher, on Sunday, September 14 from 1:30-3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall Rachel & Luke are registered at Amazon, City Mercantile, Legacy @ Merle Norman and The Red Door



DEACONS MEETING Sunday, September 21 at 3:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

SAW YOU AT THE POLE

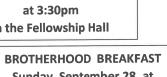
for all 7th-12th graders on September 24 at 6:30pm in our Worship Center

Sunday, September 28, at in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday School Tailgate

Come be a part of one of our favorite events of the year!

Sunday, September 28 at 5:00pm our Sunday School classes will bring their favorite tailgating foods for an evening of great food, fun & fellowship!







FIRST THINGS FIRST



First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, MS 31 West Washington St.

662-489-1346 fbc@fbcpontotoc.org

Clay Stegall-Associate Pastor Justin Cobb-Minister of Youth Danielle Davis-Minister of Children

Zach Keller / Mickey Gentry- Ministers of Music

Volume 6 No. 9

Dr. Ken Hester, Pastor

September 2025

Parson to Person

Just 2 rules: <u>Rule #1</u>- No manslaughter or murder. <u>Rule #2</u>- Get the pig's bladder to the marker, by any means possible. The challenge was another group trying to get the pig's bladder to the opposite marker. The game is called Mob Ball, and it was played way back in the late 90's. No. Way back. The late 1190's.

In 1510 comes the next description of early football by Alexander Barclay, a Clergyman from the Southeast of England:

"They get the bladder and blowe it great and thin, with many beans and peason put within, It ratleth, shineth and soundeth clere and fayre, While it is throwen and caste up in the eyre, Each one contendeth and hath a great delite, with foote and hande the bladder for to smite, if it fall to the ground they lifte it up again... Overcometh the winter with driving the footeball." (This was written 100 years before the KJV with its more 'modern' language.)

Such were the beginnings of our modern day American football. The first know American football game was held on November 6, 1869 between Rutgers and Princeton. Back then the rules and the scoring were really different. Football was a violent and dangerous sport. It was so dangerous that in 1905 there were 19 fatalities nationwide. President Theodore Roosevelt threatened to abolish the game if it didn't make it safer. The rules were changed.

Other changes were coming. The forward pass was introduced in 1906. The University of Illinois had a band that played at halftime for the first time in 1907. Johnny Campbell was the first cheerleader back in 1898 at the University of Minnesota. Women soon came into cheerleading starting in 1923.

To me, football is best in small towns. That's where the whole community gathers around a 1.32 acre plot of striped turf to cheer for their boys. There, children will dream of being a cheerleader, part of the band, or a player. There, children hope to get one of those toy footballs thrown into the stands by the cheerleaders when the home team scores. There, former players will easily recall how great they never actually were. The old men will share stories in laughter about how tough it was and the injuries they had that still haunt them today.

There's an old Scottish poem anonymously written in the early 1600's about what some called Mob Ball and others called Football. It's about old players recounting their ball stories:

Bruised muscles and broken bones
Discordant strife and futile blows
Lamed in old age, then crippled withal
These are the beauties of football

It's still a beautiful game. Through the game of football I learned a great deal about commitment, endurance, patience, urgency, team work, accountability, culture, leadership, followship, and community. I also learned about prayer, and how to dance (but that's another article.)

Play Ball! Ken



SEPTEMBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 1:30-3:00pm Bridal Tea for Makenzie Phillips 5:00pm Baptism and Supper	8	9	10	11	12 Deadline to sign up for the Senior Adult Trip BODOCK F	13
14 1:30-3:00pm Bridal Tea for Rachel Starnes 5:00pm All Committees Mtg in FH	Construction begins in old Ed Bldg	16	17	18	19	20
21 1:30-3:00pm Bridal Tea for Rene Rindik 3:30pm Deacons Mtg	12:00pm Senior Adult Cookout at the Pavilion	23	6:30pm Saw You At The Pole in Worship Center	25	26	27
7:30am Brotherhood Breakfast 5:00pm Sunday School Tailgate Night	29	30				