

## VITAL SIGNS

### Sunday, November 2, 2025

Sunday School Total.....625  
First Day Worship.....520 (16)  
11:00am Worship.....148 (11)  
Total.....668 (27)

### Sunday, November 9, 2025

Sunday School Total.....511  
First Day Worship.....385 (19)  
11:00am Worship.....163 (12)  
Total.....548 (31)

### Sunday, November 16, 2025

Sunday School Total.....507  
First Day Worship.....435 (20)  
11:00am Worship.....175  
Total.....610 (20)

### Sunday, November 23, 2025

Sunday School Total.....459  
First Day Worship.....391 (23)  
11:00am Worship.....141 (10)  
Total.....532 (33)

### Sunday, November 30, 2025

Sunday School Total.....477  
First Day Worship.....385 (26)  
11:00am Worship.....140 (15)  
Total.....525 (41)

### NOVEMBER 2025 BUSINESS MTNG

Budget YTD.....\$1,190,790.20  
Received YTD.....\$1,159,177.20

## Senior Adults

Join us on Monday, December 15  
at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall  
for our Senior Adult Luncheon  
and Dirty Santa Party!  
Bring a side dish and a gift to  
exchange!



## Welcome to our new members...



Ryke Meek



Ridge Akers



Carsyn  
Smith



Jack Tutor



Luke & Madelyn  
Willard  
with Rowdy

**LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING**  
Season of Prayer for International Missions  
Nov. 30-Dec. 7

Offering Goal: \$20,000.00

### FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER MENU FOR DECEMBER

Wed, December 3-  
Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Loaded Potato Soup,  
Hot Dogs, Fritos, Crackers, Salad Bar, Dessert

This will be our last meal for 2025-  
See y'all on Wed, January 7, 2026!

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

#### December 7-

\*John Scott Blanchard, Dee Atkins,  
Joe Austin, Mike Bowen,  
Freddy Bridgman, Tim Burchfield

#### December 14-

\*Richie Chrestman, Rick Burgett,  
Mark Crenshaw, Phillip Cox,  
Roger Gentry, Wally Henry

#### December 21-

\*Michael Winter, Ricky Hill,  
Ben Howard, Jay Hughes,  
Matt Koon, Rickey Littlejohn

#### December 28-

\*Carey McMullan, Ross Montgomery,  
Steve Montgomery, Kevin Morrow,  
Justin Moss, Mark Patterson

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

#### Just A Reminder!

Our church office will be  
closed at 12:00pm on  
Tues, Dec. 23 thru Fri,  
Dec. 26 for Christmas.  
We will reopen on  
Monday, Dec. 29

### DEACONS ON CALL for DECEMBER 2025

#### December 7-

Mark Vandiver  
Kyle Walker  
Scott Hatcher

#### December 14-

Craig Downing  
Larry Young  
Tommy Wood

#### December 21-

Mark Griffith  
Ben Ashley  
Richie Chrestman

#### December 28-

Kevin Morrow  
Terry Wood  
George Rutledge



First Baptist Church  
31 W. Washington Street  
Pontotoc, MS 388



# December 2025

BUILDING THE KINGDOM WIDE AND DEEP

#### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to order a Christmas  
poinsettia in honor/in memory of  
someone, please call the church office by  
Wednesday, Dec. 17. Cost: \$25.00



#### G.A. POST OFFICE

The G.A. Post Office will be  
open for Christmas cards  
December 1-January 4. It will be located  
in the foyer of the Sanctuary  
and each card will be 25 cents.  
Please drop your cards off in alphabetical  
order and place in the basket along with  
your donation.  
All donations will go to our Lottie Moon  
Christmas offering.



#### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our children's choirs will present  
their Christmas music  
in the Sanctuary at 5:00pm on  
Sunday, December 7.  
We will have a soup social  
afterwards in the FH



#### CAROLING & COCOA

Wed, December 10 from  
6:00-7:30pm

Our children (1st-6th grade)  
will go caroling around Pon-  
totoc and have cookies and  
hot chocolate afterwards

#### A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Join us for a night of Christmas music  
led by Randy Wood, Rickey Young,  
and the Tupelo FBC music team  
on Thursday, December 18 at 7:00pm  
in the Worship Center.



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



#### CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Bring your family and join us on  
Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00pm  
in the Sanctuary for our  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.



**BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST**  
Sunday, December 28,  
at 7:30am  
in the Fellowship Hall



Join us in the Sanctuary  
on Sunday, December 14  
at 5:00pm as we celebrate  
with Baptism.

#### SANCTUARY CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Join us in the Sanctuary at 11:00am on  
Sunday, December 14 as our Sanctuary Choir  
and orchestra presents  
A Child Is Born...All Is Well





# 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. 12

Dr. Ken Hester, Pastor

December 2025

## Parson to Person

It's bad late at night. A young farm hand steps out of the barn and closes the latch on the door. The young man hears, "Excuse me, boy."

Turning around, he says, "Yes sir?"

A man peaking from the shadows with a donkey asked, "Got any room left in there?"

"It's pretty full, sir. We've got a lot of people in town."

The young stable hand wasn't going to miss the chance to make some extra money. He would have stacked the animals on top of each other if he had to. So, the young man reached to unlatch the barn door and says, "Let's see if we can squeeze you in here."

The man steps forward with the donkey. The stable hand looked back over his shoulder and saw the man, the donkey, and following behind them was a pregnant woman. The stable hand says, "Y'all getting here kinda late, ain't ya?"

As they enter the barn, the smell of full barn hits them. The stable hand says, "You can see just how full we are." The boy says, "But I got a place in the back. It ain't got much hay. And it's on the north corner, which kinda gets cold when the wind blows. But it's got a decent trough. And I'll get some hay from some of these fat ones up front."

The man and woman are quiet.

As the boy brings hay into their cramped position, he sees the man sticking his coat in the cracks of the barn walls. The boy looks at the woman. She is standing with her hands on the back of her hips. Her eyes are closed. Despite the cold, she's sweating. She's taking irregular short breaths while biting her lips.

"Ma'am?" the boy asks, "You okay?"

Without opening her eyes, still sweating and biting her lips, she nods her head in the affirmative.

"Mister," the boy says, "You gotta git your wife inside. I ain't no midwife, but she looks like she's about to pop."

The man places the money in the stable boy's hand and says, "Thank you."

The stable boy asks, "Ain't you getting your wife inside?"

The man says, "I'll take care of her."

The boy looks confused. The man then says, "We are engaged. Not yet married." The boy now understood. This couple had been rejected by the town and by their own family. They had no place to go.

The boy asked, "Can I get you some more hay?"

The woman blurted, "That would be great."

The boy rushed to get more hay. He also got them a few buckets of water and a blanket or two. When the woman started to have contractions, the young man left the stable, but stayed just outside the barn. It sounded awfully painful. Then, the stable hand heard the young baby cry. The stable boy yelled, "Y'all want me to get you some more water?"

The man yelled back in an excited tone, "Yeah! It's a boy!"

"What y'all gonna call him?"

Together the couple shouted, "JESUS!"

Merry Christmas,  
BroKen



# December 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 G.A. Post Office opens	2	3 Last Family Night Meal of 2025	4	5	6 Faithful Followers SS brunch
7 The Lord's Supper (morning services)  5:00pm Children's Christmas Music & social after	8	9	10 6-7:30pm Children's Caroling & Cocoa (1st-6th grade)	11	12	13
14 11:00am Sanctuary Choir Cantata  5:00pm Baptism & Soup Social	15 12:00pm Sr. Adult Christmas Luncheon	16	17 FUSION Christmas Party  YOUTH Christmas Party	18 6:00pm Deacon/Staff Christmas Dinner  7:00pm A Night of Christmas Music	19	20
21 3:30pm Deacon Meeting	22	23	24 5:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  OFFICE CLOSED	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! 	26  OFFICE CLOSED	27
28	29	30	31  12:00pm OFFICE CLOSED			