

**VITAL SIGNS**

**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

Sunday School Total.....486  
First Day Worship.....337 (20)  
11:00am Worship.....148 (22)  
Total.....485 (42)

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

Sunday School Total.....413  
First Day Worship.....270 (25)  
11:00am Worship.....146 (15)  
Total.....416 (40)

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**

Sunday School Total.....452  
First Day Worship.....342  
11:00am Worship..... 173  
Total..... 515

**Sunday, March 24, 2024**

Sunday School Total.....500  
First Day Worship.....344 (17)  
11:00am Worship.....274 (38)  
Total..... 618 (55)

**Sunday, March 31, 2024**

Sunday School Total.....496  
First Day 1 Worship.....130  
First Day 2 Worship.....416 (29)  
11:00am Worship.....261 (19)  
Total.....807 (48)

**MARCH 2024 BUSINESS MTNG**

Budget YTD.....\$231,342.72  
Received YTD.....\$222,034.90

**Senior Adults**

If you are signed up to go on the Spring trip to Birmingham, your final balance is due now!

There will be no senior adult Luncheon in April.



**Welcome to our new members...**



**Don Garnsey**

**(A look into May 2024-)**

**The Last Family Night Meal**  
Wed, May 1

**Mission Friends Recognition-**  
Wed, May 1 in the Sanctuary

**Baby Dedication-**  
Sun, May 5 at 11:00am

**Children's Summer Choir Program-**  
Sun, May 5 at 5:00pm  
Snack Fellowship afterwards in the FH

**R.A.s/G.A.s Recognition-**  
Wed, May 8 in the Sanctuary

**Baccalaureate Service-**  
Sun, May 12

**Fusion Recognition-**  
Wed, May 15

**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY**

If you selected to have your picture taken for the new church directory, you can expect a phone call/text in the next week or so to schedule that.



**11:00am USHERS for April 2024**  
(\* indicates prayer door)

**April 7-**

\*Eddy Taylor, Rickey Littlejohn,  
Carey McMullen, Steve Montgomery,  
Justin Moss, David Ray

**April 14-**

\*Jerry Bell, Jay Reeder,  
Pete Reeder, Clark Sexton,  
George Stegall, Randy Todd

**April 21-**

\*Mark Crenshaw, Bryan Warren,  
Joe Brown, Dee Atkins,  
Joe Austin, Mike Bowen

**April 28-**

\*Sam Dowdy, Freddy Bridgeman,  
Tim Burchfield, Richie Chrestman,  
Phillip Cox, Roger Gentry

**Head Usher for April**  
George Stegall (662) 488-4050

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

**DEACONS ON CALL for March 2024**

**April 7**

Scott Hatcher  
Chase Jefcoat  
Ellis Reeder

**April 14**

Benjamin Hill  
Kevin Koehler  
Jody Stringer

**April 21**

George Rutledge  
Jerry Robbins  
Eddy Taylor

**April 28**

Tommy Wood  
Jim Long  
Mark Vandiver



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

**April 2024**

*BUILDING THE KINGDOM WIDE AND DEEP*

**REMINDER...**

Our church office will be closed on Monday, April 1.

**BIBLE DRILLS**

Children's Church Drills-  
Sun, April 7 during Sunday School

Youth Drills-  
Sun, April 14 during Sunday School

Associational Drills-  
Sun, April 14 at West Heights

State Bible Drills-  
Thurs, April 18 at Hillcrest in NA

**rECESS**

Talent Show at the Gateway Pavilion on Sunday, April 21 from 2:00-4:00pm.

rECESS NIGHT at FBC On Friday, April 26 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**SENIOR ADULT SPRING TRIP**  
April 16-19 to Birmingham, AL.



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

**BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST**  
Sunday, April 28 at 7:00am in the Fellowship Hall



**NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

Tammy Aaron will be leading a new SS class for young adults. For those that feel you don't fit in just right with a couples only class, or college aged class, or singles class.... This class may be for you! Join them on the 3rd floor of the old Education Building in the room at the end of the hall.

**GYM CLOSED**

Our church gym will be closed April 15-16.

**BABY DEDICATION**

Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 11:00am in the Sanctuary  
If you would like to dedicate your child(ren) this year, please call the church office and sign up. We will need the correct spelling of your child's name and your name.



# 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 5 No. 4

Dr. Ken Hester, Pastor

April 2024

## Parson to Person

April is National Pet Month. I don't currently have a pet. But I did. I had a whole host of pets. I'd like to give tribute to some of my pets of the past.

G.G. was the first pet I remember. She was a black cocker spaniel with a white dot at the bottom of her neck. She was great. She loved to run. She loved us. She stayed outside. She bit a whole lot of people that she didn't know. After she bit a man in the neighborhood, G.G. had to go live in another place. I was told it was a farm.

Harry came years after G.G. left. He was a mixed breed, a cross between a fiest and some other dog. Harry was great. Harry loved us. Harry was an inside/outside dog. Harry loved Coca-Cola and M&M's. Harry loved to chase vehicles going down the road. Harry caught one. It killed him.

I also had fish. I had Guppies, Tetra, Tiger, Algae Eaters, and a snail or two. I was no amateur. I had a 20 gallon tank. Cleaning that tank was awful. Some disease got in there and they all died. I was not sad.

Herman was a teddy bear hamster. I loved Herman. I would get him out of the cage and hold him and hold him. He loved his hamster wheel. Especially at night when I was attempting to use Herman in re-creating Evil Knievel's Snake River Canyon jump.

When we moved back to Mississippi from Fort Worth, Texas, we got Belle. Belle was a black lab named after Blue Bell Ice Cream. Belle was great. A farmer ran over her. Then we got another black lab.

Sadie Belle Hester. She was a fully AKC and UKC registered black Labrador Retriever. I spent a lot of time training her for duck hunting. I took Sadie to UKC Hunting Retriever Trails. Sadie became a certified and titled Hunting Retriever. I loved her deeply. I still have hanging in my back office Sadie's hunting retriever ribbons she earned. I have pictures of her and Kate up too. I still miss Sadie.

One of these days I'll get another dog. I will probably get another Labrador Retriever. Pets, however, take time. And the time it takes to have a pet is not just in feeding, watering, and cleaning. To really have a great pet is to spend play time with the pet. And at this season of my life, I don't have time to give to having a relationship with a dog.

So, for all of you pet owners out there, April is your month. Love on your pet. These little creatures mark our childhood and love us with everything they have. They are truly one of God's gifts to us.

Happy National Pet Month,

Ken



# April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY	2 NATIONAL PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY DAY	3	4	5	6 Happy Birthday, Randy Moss
7 Happy 10th Anniversary, Justin Cobb  Church Bible Drills	8	9	10	11 NATIONAL CLEAN OUT YOUR PANTRY DAY	12 NATIONAL GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH DAY	13
14 Associational Bible Drills at WHBC	15	16	17	18 State Bible Drills at Hillcrest in New Albany	19	20 NATIONAL HUSBAND APPRECIATION DAY
21 2-4pm rECESS talent Show  3:30pm Deacons Meeting	22	23 NATIONAL PICNIC DAY	24	25	26 6:00pm rECESS	27
28 7:00am Brotherhood Breakfast  4:00pm Living Water Meeting	29	30 NATIONAL OATMEAL COOKIE DAY				

SENIOR ADULT SPRING TRIP TO BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA