

First Baptist Church

31 West Washington Street

662-489-1346 fbc@pontotoc.org

Clay Stegall

Associate Pastor

Justin Cobb

Minister of Youth

Danielle Davis

Minister of Children

Zach Keller/Mickey Gentry

Ministers of Music

Dr. Ken Hester, Pastor

Parson to Person

Two roads diverge in a yellow wood.

Ah, the proverbial fork in the road. Each May, my mind drifts to the graduating seniors, especially the high school graduates. For the first time in their lives they are breaking the huddle of family and childhood friendships. Each one now has to make his or her choice and take a road.

And sorry I could not travel both and be one traveler, long I stood.

Yeah. We don't get to see the outcomes of the choices we make. So, it is understandable for the hesitancy - standing there for a bit before making the decision.

We can peak as far down each road as we can, but we can't see the end of the matter.

I took the one less traveled by.

The reality is that no one can walk the path that God has for your life, except you - and you alone. You see, each road is less traveled by.

Each person has to boldly go where no one has gone before. Each road is unique because each person is unique.

And that has made all of the difference.

Robert Frost, the author of this great poem, writes as one who has already done the traveling. He is looking back over his life and reflecting on the moment he made his decision and launched himself down the road of choice.

Our choices shape us. And sometimes the road doesn't pan out like we dreamed it would. And some of our reflections about our roads leave us with a sigh.

The random, chance of fate can create in me too much uncertainty. When it comes to moving forward in life, I prefer another poem. It's an old Jewish poem.

The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: For Thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou annointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Happy Travels,
Broken

 May 2026 						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 5:00pm Wedding of Alex Mackey & Rob Ferguson
3 11:00am Baby Dedication 5:00pm Childrens Choirs Program	4	5	6 6:30pm R.A. & G.A. Recognition in the Sanctuary	7 5:30-8:30pm Mahjong for Missions in the FH	8	9
10 11:00am Baccalaureate Service	11 8:00am-3:30pm L.I.F.E. Trip to Starkville, MS	12	13 6:30pm Fusion Recognition in the Fusion Room	14 NATIONAL APPLE PIE DAY	15	16 NATIONAL BBQ DAY
17 1:30-3:00pm Bridal Shower for Katherine Adams 5:00pm VBS Worker Mtg	18 12:00pm Senior Adult Luncheon in FH	19	20 NATIONAL PICK STRAWBERRIES DAY	21	22	23 4:00pm Wedding of Maddy Angle & Hayes Malone
24 7:30am Brotherhood Breakfast in FH 3:30pm Deacons Mtg 31	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26	27 NATIONAL HAMBURGER DAY	28	29	30 5:00pm Wedding of Anne Taylor & Isaiah Oaks

Welcome to our new members



Harli Hodge



Isaac Finley



Upcoming Bridal Showers and Weddings

You are invited to a Bridal Shower honoring Miss Katherine Adams, bride-elect of Blake Duke on Sunday, May 17 from 1:30-3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
Katherine & Blake are registered at The Red Door, Merle Norman @ Legacy, Amazon, and online at TheKnot.com/katherineandblakeduke



Mr. & Mrs. Tim Ferguson request your presence at the wedding of Alex Mackey and Rob Ferguson on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary of First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, Mississippi. A reception will immediately follow at the Community House

The parents of Madelyn Angle and Hayes Malone request the honor of your presence at their wedding ceremony on Saturday, May 23, 2026 at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary of First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, Mississippi. A reception will immediately follow at the Gateway Pavilion

Mr. & Mrs. Eddy Taylor request your presence at the wedding of Anne Taylor and Isaiah Oaks on Saturday, May 30, 2026 at 5:00pm on the Dairy Property of First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, Mississippi. A reception will follow in the church gym.



What's Happening this Month...

Baby Dedication
Sunday, May 3 at 11:00am in the Sanctuary
If you are participating, please be in the foyer of Sanctuary with your child by 9:45am.

Children's Choirs Summer Program
Join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 3 at 5:00pm as our children lead in worship. We will have a fellowship immediately following the program in the Fellowship Hall for everyone to attend!

 
Girls in Action and Royal Ambassadors Recognition Night will be held in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, May 6 at 6:30pm

 **MAHJONG for MISSIONS...**
Part 2!!!!
If you already enjoy playing Mahjong or want to learn how to play, come to the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, May 7 from 5:30pm-8:30pm.
All proceeds will go towards our Living Water International trip to Uganda. Contact Jenna Patterson for more info. 


Congratulations to our 2026 graduating seniors
Hutton Anthony Nic Garcia
John Paul Burton Nelly Hudson
Carson Collums Caleb Long
Ethan Conlee Matt Martin
Lucy Cade Ferguson Max Todd
*We will honor our seniors during our Baccalaureate Service on Sunday, May 10 at 11:00am in the Sanctuary


VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
May 31-June 3
6:00pm-8:30pm
for kiddos that have completed K-6 grade
Register online or in person

FUSION RECOGNITION
Wednesday, May 13 at 6:00pm in the Fusion Room.

BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST
Sunday, May 24 at 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

REMINDER...
Our church office will be closed on Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day


Deacons Meeting
Sunday, May 31 at 3:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

DEACONS ON CALL
for MAY 2026
May 3-
Mark Vandiver
Kyle Walker
Scott Hatcher
May 10-
Craig Downing
Larry Young
Tommy Wood
May 17-
Mark Griffith
Ben Ashley
Richie Chrestman
May 24-
Kevin Morrow
Terry Wood
George Rutledge
May 31-
Ellis Reeder
Billy Montgomery
Sam Gibbs

VITAL SIGNS	
Sunday, April 5, 2026	
Sunday School Total.....	530
First Day Worship.....	644 (19)
11:00am Worship.....	230 (21)
Sunday, April 12, 2026	
Sunday School Total.....	429
First Day Worship.....	388 (31)
11:00am Worship.....	99 (22)
Sunday, April 19, 2026	
Sunday School Total.....	457
First Day Worship.....	437 (33)
11:00am Worship.....	150(14)
Sunday, April 26, 2026	
Sunday School Total.....	465
First Day Worship.....	357 (33)
11:00am Worship.....	132 (15)

L.I.F.E. Trip
We will be taking a group of adults to visit the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library on Monday, May 11. We will leave the church at 8:00am and return around 3:30pm.
Cost: lunch at The Little Dokey in Starkville, MS
We will visit the Grant Museum, The Abraham Lincoln Collection, and the Templeton Music Museum, all located in the MSU Library. If you'd like to go, please sign up in the church office ASAP.

SENIOR ADULTS
Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, May 18 at 12:00pm for our Senior Adult Luncheon. Heath & Lisa Westmoreland will be sharing about the local Fishes and Loaves Backpack Ministry. Bring a dish of food and join us! 

Family Night Supper will start back up in August 2026

11:00am USHERS for MAY 2026
(* indicates prayer door)
May 3-
*Micah Grubbs, Wally Henry, Rickey Hill, Jay Hughes, Matt Koon, Carey McMullan
May 10-
*Ellis Reeder, Rickey Littlejohn, Justin Moss, Jay Reeder, Jay Russell, Pete Reeder
May 17-
*Ben Howard, Clark Sexton, George Stegail, Michael Winter, Dee Atkins, Joe Austin
May 24-
*Steve Montgomery, Mike Bowen, Freddie Bridgman, Richie Chrestman, Phillip Cox, Roger Gentry
May 31-
*Randy Todd, Sam Dowdy, Howard Hill, Jody Stringer, Kevin Morrow, Chad Anthony
*If you are unable to usher, please find someone to take your place.