



THE OPEN DOOR

First Baptist Church
414 Pecan Avenue
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350
601-656-1507

"To the angel of the church of Philadelphia write...behold I have before thee a door having been open, which no one is able to close." Revelation 3:7-8

Volume 65

April 16, 2025

Number 64

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Celebrate Easter
• WITH US •

THURSDAY, APRIL 17
Lord's Supper at the Cross • 5-6:30 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 18
Good Friday • Church Office, CLC & CMC Closed

SATURDAY, APRIL 19
Children's Easter Egg Hunt • 10-11:30 am

SUNDAY, APRIL 20
Early Service • 8:00 am Sunday School • 9:45 am
Easter Breakfast • 8:30 am Worship Service • 11:00 am

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

We need several men on Easter Sunday to help set up chairs in the courtyard.
PLEASE be in the courtyard by **7:00 am**. Thank you!

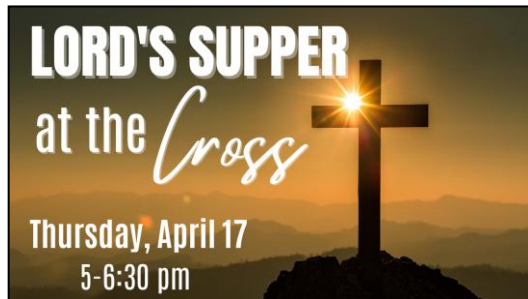


Church Family,

Easter Sunday is our biggest Sunday as a church. More people attend worship on Easter than on any other Sunday. For good reason, we are celebrating our risen Savior! We are reminded that Christ came down and died on the cross to pay for our sins, a debt we could not pay. Celebrating the life we have in Christ never gets old. He has redeemed and uses us for His glory. We will have many people here who are not regulars at FBC. I pray that those who are not followers of Christ will hear the good news of Christ and respond. I also pray that they will see our hope as followers of Christ and the love that exists at FBC. For those who are followers of Christ but have not gotten plugged into a church, I pray that they will feel welcomed and find a place to be a part of what God is doing. I want to challenge each of us to pray about who God wants us to invite this weekend.

Bro. William, choir, orchestra, praise team, and audio/visual team, y'all did another great job with the musical this past Sunday! I am always encouraged by the music each Sunday and the musicals y'all do throughout the year. Ephesians 5:19 says, "speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord." The way y'all lead us in song encourages us as a body of believers to make that melody in our hearts to the Lord.

In Christ,
Evan



This will be a silent, come and go Lord's Supper from 5-6:30 pm in the courtyard. Please come and partake of the Lord's Supper and remember what Jesus did for us on the cross.



**CHILDREN'S
Easter Egg Hunt**
Saturday, April 19
10:00 - 11:30 am
Christian Life Center

All children from birth to 5th grade are invited to attend. Each child should bring a dozen filled eggs and a basket for the egg hunt.

OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION

April 20

Younger: Ken & Patti Robey
Older: Beau & Bethany Alphin

April 27

Younger: Julie & Shelby Rudolph
Older: Austin & Whestley Harrison

DEACON OF THE WEEK

April 20

11 am Service – Tyler Rounsaville

April 27

11 am Service – David Bailey

HOSPITAL

Harry Carter

Swingbed, Neshoba



Sanctuary Flowers

*The flowers in the sanctuary this
Sunday are given in honor and to glorify
Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior.*

New Members Class Wednesday nights from
5:45-6:15 pm in the church parlor on floor 2A.

FRAMED PHOTOS NEEDED!!

***The 175th anniversary team is requesting
framed photos for tables at the luncheon.***
*Examples include-weddings, baptisms youth
or children activities/groups, former members,
events, etc. Please leave your photos in the
church office. You can collect your pictures
immediately following the lunch on May 4th.*



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

SERVED 4:45-5:45 PM



MENU FOR APRIL 23

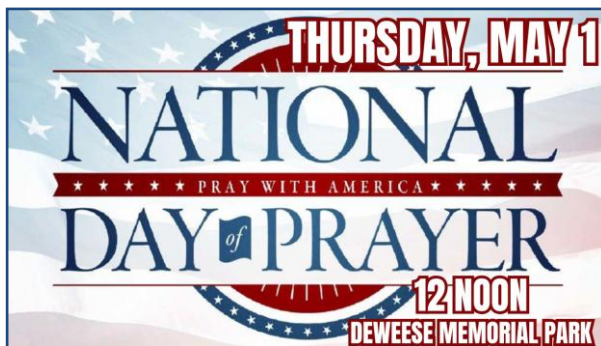
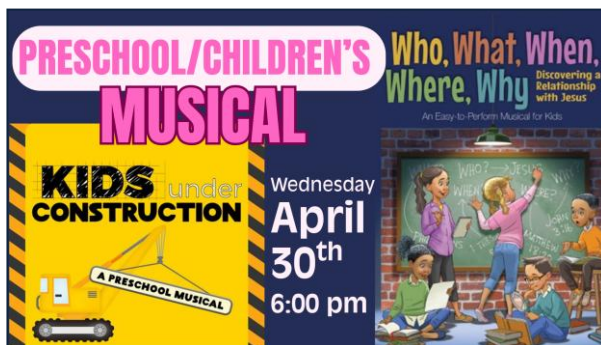
Chicken & Dressing
Butter Beans
Green Salad
Rolls
Dessert

Kids Menu: Chicken Nuggets

Servers: Debbie Stokes, Tiffney Loper

Cleanup: Chris Stokes, Ashley Richardson

Money Table: Patti Robey



Are You Focusing On the Right Thing?

Although I wish it wasn't true, I can often focus on the negative at the expense of the positive.

I tend to focus on: The "+" that was missing behind the "A" on the report card, rather than the A. The things that are going wrong, not the things that are going right (so we can fix them, of course). The problems I see, not the opportunities that present themselves. The cracks in my kids' character, not the good things so many others see.

About a decade ago, a colleague said something to me that I will never forget. She simply said: "What you focus on expands."

Those five words have changed so much for me in the last decade. I think this maxim is true, whether you want it to be or not: If you focus on the negative, guess what you end up seeing? More negative. If you focus on the faults in people, guess what you see? Their faults. Focus on someone's strengths and guess what you see? Their strengths.

I have to remind myself to choose my focus as a parent. Because if I'm not careful, I'll focus on the weaknesses I see around me, not the incredible strengths the people I love most possess.

I'm not saying you shouldn't work on weaknesses or pay attention to character cracks. But I am saying that if that's all you focus on, it expands. And often it creates a tension and dynamic you really don't want.

I mean, when I think about how I like to be treated (and even how I like to be led), I'd rather: hear praise than criticism; be encouraged; be told what's right than what's wrong; know someone is behind me; and know that they see how hard I'm trying. And when they see the good I'm trying to do, guess what I do? Try to do more good things.

If you feel like you're losing the battle in a relationship, adjust your focus: encourage more than you criticize; tell them what they did right, rather than everything they did wrong; trust, rather than suspect; believe, rather than doubt; hope, rather than despair.

As a parent, you have the incredible power to bring out the best or call out the worst in your family (not to mention in yourself). And so much of that gets determined by what you focus on.

So... what are you focusing on as a parent? Because what you focus on expands.

Source: parentcue.org/articles/are-you-focusing-on-the-right-thing

*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. **Philippians 4:8***

Austin

Parent/Child Dedication

Sunday, May 11 | Worship Service

If you have a baby/child who has not been dedicated, and you would like to participate in this service, please contact the church office NO Later than Monday, May 5.

WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Easter Sunday	
Early Service	8:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
Media Center	9:15 a.m.
Special Time of Prayer	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
NO Small Groups	5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 21

Revive Us Again Exercise Class	8:30 a.m.
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Revive Us Again Exercise Class	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Supper	4:45-5:45 p.m.
Media Center	5:30 p.m.
Children's/Preschool Choir	5:30 p.m.
New Members Class	5:45 p.m.
Chancel Choir	6:00 p.m.
Mission Friends	6:00 p.m.
Kids Blast	6:00 p.m.
Youth	6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

B.A.L.L. Outing (French Camp)	8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
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FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Revive Us Again Exercise Class	8:30 a.m.
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SUNDAY, APRIL 27

CMC Team Meeting	8:30 a.m.
Church Council	8:30 a.m.
Media Center	9:15 a.m.
Special Time of Prayer	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Small Groups	5:00 p.m.

CLC HOURS MONDAY – FRIDAY 7 AM – 12 NOON

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Evan Humphries	Pastor
William Smith	Minister of Music
Austin Aultman	Minister of Students
Jackie Cheatham	Minister of Children
Laura Thrash	Financial Ministry Assistant
Tiffney Loper	Education Ministry Assistant
Tiffany Long	Child Ministry Center Director
Linda Griffis	Christian Life Center Director
Michael Duke	Upward Director
Church Office	(601)656-1507
Fax	(601)656-3664
Church Email	fbphilly@netdoor.com
Church Website	www.fbcphilly.com
Kindergarten/Child Care	(601)656-5015

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

April 13, 2025

Budget	\$14,819.64
Wednesday Night Supper	\$484.00
Office Refund Postage	\$4.00
175 th Anniversary	\$25.00
Property/Main Refund	\$1,150.00
Music Designated	\$10.00
Annie Armstrong	\$3,813.16
Annie Armstrong Given to Date	\$10,773.16
Budget Offering Given to Date	\$791,697.02
Over Budget	\$93,469.49

WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:	\$21,408.68
BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 04/13/25:	\$14,819.64

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

April 13, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	35	25
Children	31	26
Youth	25	8
Adults	271	132
Total	362	191

SUNDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS

April 13, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	36	23
Children	35	29
Youth	34	18
Adults	105	95
Total	210	165